



To: South Area Committee
Report by: Safer Communities Manager, Cambridge City Council

Street Lighting – County Council Proposals

Please note that South Area Committee will not be discussing this report as an agenda item. It will be a consultation item only.

1. Introduction

1.1 Following major budgetary reviews, the County Council proposes to dim street lighting and to turn off lights in a number of areas across the County overnight, with midnight to 6am the current proposed hours.

1.2 As the proposals will have a significant impact in Cambridge City, the City Council has raised, with the County, a number of concerns around the safety of the public, if the planned lighting goes through as currently proposed.

1.3 A report by the Director of Customer and Community Services was presented to Strategy and Resources Committee in July last, setting out the framework of the lighting proposal and detailing the areas of significant concern in the City and suggesting considerations for negotiation with the County Council.

1.4 Despite the recognition that the County Council need to make savings, the City Council does not feel that an adequate case has yet been made by the County Council as lighting authority for switching off lights from midnight to 6am.

1.5 This view is based on crime reduction, road safety, public safety and preventing the fear of crime for Cambridge residents and the large population of students, tourists and international visitors that are drawn to the City each year, a situation which is unique in the County.

1.6 The County Council have agreed to an extended consultation period and the input from the 4 Area Committees is welcomed on the lighting proposal in order to inform the planned future negotiation with the County.

Recommendations

2.1 The area committee is asked to note the Strategy and Resources Committee Report on the County Council lighting proposal and to comment on any areas of concern that they would like taken up with the County in the planned negotiations.

2. Background

3.1 The background and details are set out in the Strategy and Resources Committee report entitled 'Street Lighting – County Council Proposals' attached as Appendix A.

Note: Link to County Council website information on street lighting proposal.

http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20081/roads_and_pathways/604/street_lighting

Responses to the proposal can be sent directly to the County Council or through the Safer Communities Team at the City Council at Safer.communities@cambridge.gov.uk