

## **Maintenance of Council-owned street light columns on housing estates – Edward Njenje – 1/4/20**

### **1 Who maintains Council-owned street lights on our housing estates?**

Estates and Facilities have appointed a contractor (TSG Building Services) to service, maintain and repair the street lights on housing estates so as to keep them in satisfactory working order.

### **2 How are street lights on our housing estates maintained?**

The contractor attends to site and rectifies minor defects and faults including replacement lamps and other components such as ballast, photocell, ignitor, capacitor and fuses. The contractor normally responds to outage repairs within five days of receiving notification of the failure or breakdown from the Customer Service Centre. Where there are power supply failures, our contractor may be dependent on others (the local electricity power network provider) before the light can be fixed.

### **3 How frequently are street lights on our estates checked?**

The Contractor inspects all street lamp columns monthly to check they are working.

The contractor keeps a log detailing all repairs carried out and reports to CCC on a monthly basis. Issues are discussed at contract meetings. Some street lights have more repairs per year due to their age, exposure to traffic, weather elements and vandalism.

### **4 Why a bulb can't be replaced as soon as it is reported?**

The contractor normally responds to outage repairs within five days of receiving notification of the failure or breakdown.

Many of the street lamp columns on our housing estates were installed when the houses were built. The old sodium and mercury type bulbs are now obsolete and difficult to source. Suppliers have an eight to ten week lead-in time to provide new LED lanterns.

Sometimes there are delays because we are not given accurate details of lighting faults or street light locations; also not all lights that are reported belong to the City Council.

### **5 Why do some street lights not work for a long time?**

Many of our street lights on housing estates were installed over fifty years ago and are now due for replacement because the plastic housing is cracked and the rubber seals are no longer water-tight.

Sometimes there are electricity supply issues and the electricity network operator has to be involved. This can lead to long delays.

We have funds available this year to replace all our street lamp columns with new LED lights. The first phase of 100 lights is in progress and we are procuring a contractor to replace a further 500 later this year. All new columns will be clearly numbered so they can be more easily identified in future.