

# COUNCIL CABINET Date April 15, 2015

**ITEM 11** 

Report of the Cabinet Member for Planning, Environment and Regeneration

## **Derby After Dark-Lighting Strategy for Derby City Centre**

## **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Regeneration Projects team working in partnership with Streetpride and Derby Live, commissioned the preparation of a lighting strategy for Derby City Centre in August 2013.
- 1.2 The commission included
  - a) A lighting strategy for the city centre to include a deliverable action plan and mechanism for long term management and maintenance.
  - b) Concept and detailed technical design for:
    - St Peter's Street
    - The Strand + Wardwick + Museum Square
    - Riverside (Silk Mill to Riverlights)
  - c) Design and implementation of one temporary lighting demonstration as an engagement tool.
- 1.3 The Strategy outlines the underlying aspirational themes and key design principles regarding the use of artificial light in Derby city centre's public realm and buildings.
- 1.4 A series of consultation events were organised to engage residents and various stakeholders in the process. The 'Derby After Dark' Strategy and the summary booklet will be available online.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 To approve the Derby After Dark Lighting Strategy for Derby City Centre and recommend to Council the adoption of the Strategy as material consideration for the determination of city centre planning applications.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Strategy demonstrates the Council's commitment to deliver sustainable lighting solutions in the future and provides a sound base for future funding bids.
- 3.2 The strategy proposes sample design guide and specification that are proposed to be used to assess planning applications as well as guide DCC's future investment in

lighting and lighting infrastructure in the city.



## COUNCIL CABINET Date

Report of the Acting Chief Executive

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Strategy has been jointly prepared by officers from the Regeneration Projects and Streetpride team, through extensive consultation with Council's PFI partner Balfour Beatty, Derby Live as well as both Cathedral Quarter and St Peters Quarter Business Improvement Districts.
- 4.2 The key objectives of the 'Derby After Dark' Strategy are:
  - a) Create a positive and safe image for the city centre after dark and attract people to the areas of evening and night time cultural and social activities.
  - b) Redistribute excessive street lighting to architectural and landscape features to create good ambience and distinctive character.
  - c) Draw upon and promote Derby's reputation as a city of innovation use lighting technology to save energy, reduce long term maintenance cost, help protect ecology and improve accessibility.
- 4.3 The strategy proposes measures to create an attractive skyline and aid orientation after dark by lighting a number of buildings, landmarks, meeting places and the paths connecting them.
- 4.4 Strategic principles and design guidelines are proposed for four character areas:
  - Cathedral Quarter,
  - Riverside,
  - St Peters Quarter + Westfield,
  - Residential areas.
- 4.5 Primary evening and night-time paths have been identified for consistent and characteristic lighting making them feel safer and attractive. Lighting streets to specific brightness levels to ensure that they are in line with the latest British Standards and are balanced with each other so that no one street appears too bright or too dark compared to those around it.
- 4.6 Other key recommendations of the strategy are:
  - A series of building frontages are identified to be lit to help draw people through to key destinations and reveal the heritage of the city.
  - Lighting of meeting places to form the focus of social and cultural activities.

- Guidelines for shop frontages to enhance the retail offer.
- Recommendations for activating 'dead', currently empty frontages through light.
- Preserving areas along the river with low but safe level of illumination to help protect ecology and allow natural light to be enjoyed.
- 4.7 Technical design specifications are produced as a guideline for a range of streets that can be replicated citywide. The key design elements include:
  - lighting intensities,
  - light source types,
  - mounting heights,
  - mounting styles,
  - luminaire angle,
  - colour temperature,
  - control mechanism.
- 4.8 The Strategy is only a guide for implementation of lighting projects in the city centre. The action Plan identifies a wide range of projects. There is no budget currently identified for implementation of these. It is intended to deliver these projects as part of the wider solutions for public realm or other regeneration projects.
- 4.9 St Peter's Street lighting is designed as part of the pilot project for the strategy and is being delivered as an integrated element of the wider public realm project of St Peter's Street. The lighting of the church and the landscaping in the churchyard has been installed by the Council's PFI partner Balfour Beatty. The use of LED technology has led to reduction in energy cost by over 70%.
- 4.10 A funding bid to D2N2 LEP for Local Growth Fund 1 (LGF1) of £700k for implementation of projects identified in the strategy has been approved in principle, subject to approval of the final business cases.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Do nothing is an option, but it will mean there will be no progressive input in the way we plan, deliver and manage light and lighting infrastructure in the city.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer
Financial officer
Human Resources officer
Estates/Property officer
Service Director(s)
Other(s)

Stephen Teasdale
Amanda Fletcher
Phil Derbyshire
Richard Williams
Christine Durrant, Dave Bartram, Paul Clarke, Peter Ireson

For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:

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None

Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2- Summary document

## **IMPLICATIONS**

## **Financial and Value for Money**

1.1 The Strategy is a guide for implementation of lighting projects in the city centre. It is intended to fund the Strategy through each project as part of the wider solutions for public realm or other regeneration projects.

There is a potential for reducing ongoing revenue costs if a reduction in energy usage is achieved, but this can't be quantified at this time.

## Legal

2.1 Whilst not part of the Development Plan, following cabinet approval, the Derby After Dark Lighting Strategy will be a material consideration in determining future planning applications in the City Centre.

#### Personnel

3.1 None

## IT

4.1 None

## **Equalities Impact**

5.1 The design of the guidance takes into account the need of people with various levels of disability.

## **Health and Safety**

6.1 None

## **Environmental Sustainability**

7.1 The strategy identifies measures that can be implemented to reduce energy use and protect ecology.

## **Property and Asset Management**

8.1 None

## **Risk Management**

9.1 The key risk is not having access to funding to deliver the projects. The projects are designed to be delivered as part of wider development projects and officers will explore the opportunity of external funding bids.

## Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 This Strategy will contribute towards creating for the people of Derby:
  - An inspiring start in life by improving educational attainment
  - An inspiring working life by improving skills and creating jobs
  - An inspiring place to live by improving inner city areas