

Time began 6.00pm
Time ended 6.38pm

**COUNCIL CABINET
15 DECEMBER 2009**

Present: Councillor Jones (Chair)
Councillors Allen, Carr, Naitta and Troup

In attendance Councillors Holmes and Williamson

139/09 Street Lighting Efficiencies

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Street Lighting Efficiencies. The issue of reducing street lighting energy consumption had been raised by the Street Lighting PFI Managing Board, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, and the Climate Change Board. The key drivers for reducing energy consumption were linked to reducing the increasing costs of energy supply and reducing the Council's carbon footprint. Street lighting officers had developed a number of options for reducing energy consumption and these were presented to a meeting of the Climate Change Board in September. Since then, street lighting officers and climate change officers had further considered the options, and were of the opinion that a Central Management System was the best long term way of achieving a significant reduction in energy consumption that would help the Council to meet its commitment to reducing its carbon footprint, whilst retaining flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and risks associated with road safety, crime and disorder, and public perception. Further work was required to assess the systems available as well as the necessary up front investment and likely savings in cost and energy, but potential savings in installation costs could be made by installing necessary equipment in new lighting being provided as part of the remainder of the 5 year Core Investment Period of the PFI contract. It was recommended that Cabinet approve this approach in principle to allow further development of the detailed Business Case. The PFI contract specifies various standards and levels of lighting to be achieved by the Contractor. Regardless of whether a Central Management System was adopted, it was considered that other energy efficiencies could be achieved by appropriately reducing the specified standards and levels. These changes in Specification would require a formal Contract change following negotiation with the PFI contractors, Connect Roads Derby Limited, and it was recommended that the Director of Regeneration and Community in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, be authorised to instruct the changes with immediate effect by an exchange of letters, but subject to formal contract changes being subsequently negotiated with the contractor.

Options Considered

1. Installing fixed dimming and switching off facilities, but discounted because of lack of flexibility. Any changes to timing of dimming levels would have to be carried out manually to each column.
2. Lowering the contract specified lighting levels on some roads for the remainder of the CIP had been considered. It had been decided not to pursue this option as it would result in different standard lighting levels across the city, and with the introduction of CMS, lighting levels could be reduced as, when and where required.
3. Minor changes to lighting equipment on illuminated signs and bollards, which were being implemented within the contract, which result in small savings in energy usage.

Decision

1. To approve in principle that the Council should work towards the implementation of a Central Management System of the city's street lighting and that a detailed Business Case be developed to clearly set out costs and benefits.
2. To approve in principle the proposals to reduce energy consumption as set out in paragraphs 4.7 and 4.8 of the report and to delegate powers to the Director of Regeneration and Community, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Transportation and Planning to authorise amendments to the Street Lighting PFI Contract Specification with immediate effect, so as to reduce energy consumption, and to approve the subsequent negotiation with the contractor of a formal contract change.

Reasons

1. A Central Management System was considered to be the best approach for the Council to achieve significant savings in energy costs and reductions in the Council's carbon footprint from street lighting whilst maintaining flexibility in the street lighting provision across the city.
2. Regardless of a Central Management System being introduced, other energy efficiencies could be achieved by making appropriate changes to the lighting levels specified within the PFI contract, which would require a formal Contract change. Negotiation on formal contract changes may take considerable time, but savings could be maximised by putting the changes into immediate effect.

