



**Prosperous Communities
Committee**

Tuesday, 6 December 2022

Subject: Response to Motion - Street Lighting in West Lindsey

Report by:

Leader of the Council

Contact Officer:

Ady Selby
Director of Commercial & Operational Services

ady.selby@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Purpose / Summary:

A response to a Motion to Council on 28 June 2021 regarding street lighting in West Lindsey

RECOMMENDATION(S): Prosperous Communities Committee notes the response to the Motion to Council made on 28 June 2021 regarding street lighting in West Lindsey

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: No implications from this report

Financial : No implications from this report

Staffing : No implications from this report

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : As there is no proposal for any change, there will be no implications from this report

Data Protection Implications : No implications from this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: As there is no proposal for any change, there will be no implications from this report. Lincolnshire County Council report that to date, the policy of part-night operation of street lights has saved around 6,200 tonnes of CO2.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: The LCC Scrutiny Review referred to in the report identifies that turning off the street lights for night time periods may have impacted on the fear of crime rather than actual rates of recorded crime. They have therefore introduced a protocol for Town and Parish Councils to apply to pay to have lights turned back on. To date, only four lights in Lincolnshire have been turned back on with no other outstanding applications.

Health Implications: As there is no proposal for any change, there will be no implications from this report

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :

Wherever possible please provide a hyperlink to the background paper/s
If a document is confidential and not for public viewing it should not be listed.

Risk Assessment :

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

☐

No

x

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

☐

No

x

1 Introduction

1.1 On 28 June 2021 a Motion was made to Council proposing that;

(a) The Leader of the Council to commence robust discussions with leading Members of the County Council with a view to seeking the re-introduction of street lighting in parts of West Lindsey, particularly into those communities we ourselves have deemed to be vulnerable;

and

(b) the Leader feed back to this Council, by way of reporting to Prosperous Communities the outcome of these discussions, potential options which could be investigated and their associated costs.

2. Update

2.1 A written approach was made to the Leader and relevant portfolio holder of LCC requesting further discussion on this matter in August 2021. This was followed up with further requests in July and August 2022.

2.2 A written response was received from Councillor Davies on 25 August 2022.

2.3 The response started by reiterating the financial and environmental reasons for turning off lights during the early hours of each morning.

2.4 It went on to state that Lincolnshire County Council had worked with the Police and found no demonstrable increase in crime across the county and that, despite a couple of specific requests from Police, there was no general request from them to turn lights back on.

2.5 The response then referred to a scrutiny review which included consultation with police, the general public and other stakeholders. This review concluded that there was no demonstrable link with changes in crime levels; in some areas, crime had reduced.

2.6 The Scrutiny Review also found that the introduction of part-night lighting impacted the fear of crime, as opposed to actual crime. In response, LCC have introduced a protocol by which Parish and Town Councils can pay for the conversion of lights to all-night operation. The protocol can be found at Appendix 1.

2.7 LCC state that this demonstrates that they have re-considered the position. However, to date, only four lights in the county have been converted to all-night lighting at the expense of other authorities, and no other requests are pending.

2.8 In conclusion, it is not the role of West Lindsey to decide on street lighting provision in its area. Town and Parish Councils should decide whether they wish to reintroduce all-night street lighting and if so, they should apply through the agreed Lincolnshire County Council protocol.

