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Your ref:
Our ref: SLERP63

Councillors Rob Crute, Lynn Pounder, Parish Clerk Joanne Collins

13th June 2016

Dear Members

Consultation on Proposal to Remove Street Lights

I am writing to consult you on the proposal to remove street lights in your locality.

Street Lighting Energy Reduction Project

The Street Lighting Energy Reduction Project was approved by Cabinet on 12 December 2012. This "invest to save" project involves retrofitting 41,000 street lights with new energy efficient LED street lights. It also involves the removal of 7,000 street lights which are not required by British Standards where it is safe to do so.

The project will achieve major savings in energy and maintenance costs that will help meet the unprecedented reductions in central government funding whilst renewing street lights. The project will also significantly reduce the Council's carbon emissions. Please see the following link for details of the report approved by Cabinet:

<http://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s26556/StreetLightingEnergyReductionProject.pdf>

Street Lighting Policy

On 20 November 2012 Cabinet approved the Street Lighting Policy which facilitates the removal of street lights. The policy confirms that no street lights will be removed in residential areas. Street lights will only be removed where they are not required by British Standards and it is safe to do so based on a risk assessment of:

- Fear of crime; and
- Road safety.

Neighbourhood Services

Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UQ
Main Tel 03000 260 000 Minicom (0191) 383 3802 Text 07786 026 956

Please see the following link for details of the report approved by Cabinet:

<http://democracy.durham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=154&MId=7294&Ver=4>

Please note that the Street Lighting Policy was subject to public consultation which overall was supportive of the policy.

Proposed Locations

The proposed locations for removal of street lighting under this package of work are summarised as follows:

Road No	Location	Risk Assessment No's	No of lighting columns to be removed	Mitigation Measures/Comments
Stockton Road, Castle Eden	From a point 39m south of the B1281 junction midpoint, heading in a southerly direction for 526m.	RA 413	12	Rationalise road signs, road markings
B1281	From a point 126m east of the junction with the C22 Stockton Road, heading in an easterly direction for 815m.	RA 414	17	Rationalise road signs, road markings, cut back vegetation

Risk Assessments

The proposed locations for removal of street lights have been subjected to a rigorous risk assessment process taking into account

- Traffic flows
- Accident statistics
- Crime rates
- Cost effective mitigation measures such as traffic signs and road markings

Therefore, we believe that it is safe to remove street lights from these locations. Please find enclosed copies of all the risk assessments.

Consultation Feedback

The Street Lighting Energy Reduction Project has been approved by Cabinet.

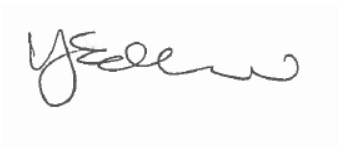
The Street Lighting Policy has been approved by Cabinet and was subject to public consultation which overall was supportive of the policy. Therefore, we do not intend to consult on the project or the policy.

However, we would be grateful for any further information which may inform the risk assessments within the next 28 calendar days.

Please provide any feedback directly to myself and this will be fully considered before a final decision is made.

If you would like to discuss further please contact me on telephone number 03000 265280 or by email at yvonne.edwards@durham.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne Edwards', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

Yvonne Edwards
Senior Programme Manager
Construction Programme and Project Management Unit
Technical Services
Neighbourhoods

Enc.
RSR Reports 413, 414