# Cabinet Response to Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations Completed Action Plan

#### **Street Lighting Review**

In accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within 2 months. In providing this response Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation	Officer Commentary		Action to be taken (if any) and timescale for completion
Recommendation 1: That Cabinet ask the Head of Finance and Commercial Services to explore the three different business models (identified in the Overview & Scrutiny Review Report) with a view to purchasing and implementing the Mayflower central management system across the residential areas of the borough.	<ul> <li>This recommendation is supported. The potential options for funding, the additional 9,500 Mayflower units required, that were identified were:-         <ol> <li>Authority to fund the purchase of the Mayflower units using money in the PFI Street Lighting Reserve.</li> </ol> </li> <li>SSEC to fund by drawing down money in the PFI financial model set aside for the column replacement programmes in 2019 and 2024.</li> <li>The Authority and / or SSEC to apply for funding from sources such as SALIX and green investment funds.</li> </ul>	Accept subject to the necessary funding being delivered.	A SALIX loan application to be submitted as soon as possible.  SALIX loans are interest free and are repayable on flexible terms matched to the profile of savings achieved.  We understand that a decision will be received back in a short timescale. If this is unsuccessful then the funding will be drawn down from the PFI reserve.

Officers have investigated the potential options further in discussion with SSEC and Local Partnerships. Their conclusion is that it will be too difficult to implement option two because of the need to get funder consent and changes that would be required under the change control mechanism to the PFI Contract.

Options three and one appear feasible approaches. It is recommended that a SALIX loan is pursued in the first instance and should this route prove unsuccessful then the money is taken from the PFI reserve.

Whichever route is chosen the savings generated will have to pay back the £500k loan under its terms or replenish the PFI reserve. The whole 10,700 lights scheme with dimming and trimming will generate annual savings of £203k at the current cost of energy. The CEI programme savings target of £195k anticipated the scheme would contribute £81.5k of the £195k.

	The accounting treatment of both routes will need careful consideration. A SALIX loan will be classed as borrowing and impact on the Capital Financing Requirements (CFR) of the Authority. Use of the PFI reserve will result in a loss of interest on the balance used. The Reserve will need to be re-profiled so that sufficient funds are available for the end of the PFI Contract in 2029.		
	The Central Management System enables the Authority to have total flexibility over the settings for the Street Lights and therefore to respond to events and residents wishes.		
	Savings will also be made from the remote monitoring and reporting. Central Management systems also qualify for marginally lower electricity price tariffs.		
Recommendation 2: That Cabinet considers as part of the new lighting strategy to gradually phase in the dimming of street lights in	This recommendation is supported A trial area was set up in the Rayleigh Drive area of Weetslade ward covering approximately 400	Accept	The evidence from the trials indicates that this lighting regime is suitable for our residential areas.

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residential areas across the borough to run at 75% power consumption from switch on and then reduce to 60% between midnight and 5.30am, and that street lights are trimmed in the evening and at dawn.  Recommendation 3: That Cabinet	street lights. Overview and Scrutiny Members from the Review group; Ward Members and the 2 Cabinet Members went out on site to see the lights dimmed at 75% and 60% levels. The lighting was of a good standard and the change in illumination levels from that achieved at 100% were not that noticeable to the naked eye.  Residents in the trial area were surveyed using a simple questionnaire and the results broadly supported the use of dimming.  Following the Cabinet meeting on 11 November the trial area has been left running with the dimming and trimming regime continuing to operate and 2 further pilot areas of 400 street lights have been installed and set up with the same dimming / trimming regime. One in St Mary's Ward and one in Monkseaton Ward. The Street Lighting section has not received any adverse correspondence from residents in these 3 areas.	Accont	It is therefore recommended that this is adopted as the North Tyneside Lighting policy for residential areas and that SSEC install the equipment in accordance with recommendation three below.
ask SSEC to accelerate the street	This recommendation is supported Dimming and trimming the entire	Accept	SSEC have devised a programme that will install the remaining 9,500

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lighting maintenance cycle so that dimming and trimming is in place across all residential areas in the borough by the end of 2014.	10,700 street lights in residential areas will save 2,784 tonnes of CO <sup>2</sup> annually and reduce energy consumption by 5.18 million kilowatt hours (kwh).		units at a rate of approximately 1,000 per month. This means the whole programme will be completed in 2014.
Recommendation 4: That Cabinet give further consideration to the option of part night switch off in non-residential areas.	This recommendation is supported 2,600 lights have been identified in the borough on footpaths and roads away from residential areas that are potentially suitable for part night switch off. For example the waggonways and roads on industrial estates.  Officers have been looking at solutions that are available from manufacturers and that have been deployed by other local authorities nationally.  For each of the footpaths and roads that make up the total 2,600 under consideration a decision will need to be taken to either:-  1. Turn off all of the lights along that road / path for part of the night as suggested; or  2. Turn off some of the lights along that road / path for part	Accept	It is recommended that Cabinet ask the Overview and Scrutiny study group to re-convene to work with officers to decide which of the options are suitable for the various locations covered by the 2,600 lights.  The study group can then report back to a future Cabinet with recommendations for the implementation of this initiative.

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of the night. For example a local manufacturer, Alternite, produce a switching device that will turn off half of the lights for the time period. Leaving some reduce lighting in place for anyone wishing the use the road or footpath after midnight. A variant of this theme to provide some illumination used by Cambridge City council is a special surface treatment (Glo-path) that makes the path fluoresce when it is dark but not be visible when it is light; or	
Leave on all night as at present.	