

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member – Environment and Transport
<b>Date:</b>	11 September, 2012
<b>Title:</b>	Use of LED Lights in National Parks
<b>Reference:</b>	4267
<b>Report From:</b>	Director, Economy, Transport and Environment

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#### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek Executive approval for the allocation of all the remaining £1 million Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative (PFI) LED fund to promote the extensive use of LED lanterns in the New Forest and South Downs National Parks in the interests of reducing light pollution in these rural areas.

#### 2. Contextual Information

2.1 As part of its added value bid for the PFI, the service provider, SSE Contracting, has included a £1 million LED fund for use by the Authority to fund the extra cost of LED lanterns (as compared with conventional lanterns, which have been specified for the PFI in general) in locations to be determined by the Authority. The cost of an LED lantern is generally twice that of a conventional street lighting lantern.

2.2 Thus far, LED lanterns have only been used in locations where light intrusion issues have needed to be resolved, or else they have been used as bespoke solutions within heritage lanterns. LED lanterns, by virtue of their design, offer improved optical control over their standard counterparts. A trial system for residential lighting has been installed in Stanier Way, Hedge End, which has proven very effective in controlling light distribution onto the highway.

2.3 The core investment programme is now entering its third year and it is important to identify the appropriate use of this fund to ensure it is fully utilised, maximising the benefit of LED technology.

2.4 The PFI is about to enter the rural stages of the Core Investment Programme, including the National Parks. Given the sensitivity of lighting issues in the National Parks it is considered that the use of LED lanterns in these areas

would be appropriate. This type of lighting will reduce light pollution and be able to be dimmed, where appropriate, providing further energy savings.

- 2.5 There are approximately 3,600 lanterns in residential areas within both the New Forest and South Downs National Parks, including the towns and villages of Brockenhurst, Sway, Beaulieu, Petersfield and Liss which could benefit from this proposal. The proposal therefore only extends to residential streets and not to principal roads.
- 2.6 To date approximately £100,000 of this fund has already been used, or is planned to be used, the most significant being the proposed solution to Staunton Railway Bridge (£92,000).
- 2.7 The proposal to install 3,600 lanterns would utilise the remainder of the £1 million LED fund. The proposal would involve the use of two different LED lanterns of different costs: firstly the Urbis Nano LED lantern, which is modern in appearance and cheaper; and secondly the WRTL Stella LED lantern which is traditional and decorative and more appropriate for certain areas within the National Parks.
- 2.8 The proposal would also lead to further energy savings of approximately 257,000 kWhs per annum when compared to conventional lanterns. This will deliver an estimated financial saving of £24,000, though this is subject to any future changes in the cost of electricity. This reduction in energy consumption would further realise an annual reduction of 138 metric tonnes of carbon emissions.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 That the remainder of the £1 million LED fund set aside as part of the Street Lighting PFI be used to install 3,600 LED lanterns in residential roads in the New Forest and South Downs National Parks.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- 1.1 The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. An assessment of the impacts in this service area can be found at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/cx-pu-eqimpact-envi.htm> .

It is considered that the issues covered by this report will not have impacts requiring further specific actions by the Council above those already established in its existing policies and working procedures.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

- 2.1. Reduction in crime and disorder as part of the key strategic aims of the County Council in the output specification of the PFI.

### **3. Climate Change:**

- (a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Reduction in energy consumption and carbon emissions.

- (b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The further reduction in energy and carbon emissions will support the climate change agenda.