

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> June 2011</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposal for Trial of part night switch off of street lighting.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

**5. Summary**

The report proposes that a trial to switch off street lighting for part of the night at a set time be conducted to help reduce energy costs.

**6. Recommendations**

**That Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services approves the trial for switching off street lights on the site outlined in this report.**

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## **7. Proposals and Details**

As part of the street lighting strategy within Rotherham, new technology, products and initiatives are monitored and advantage taken, whenever possible, to reduce the environmental impact of street lighting. In addition, the Council has set a savings target of £35,000 from the street lighting energy budget in 2011/12 to be achieved by switching off selected street lights for part of the night.

In addition to saving energy costs, the effect of the proposal would be to:

- Reduce energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; and
- Extend the life of the lamp.

The proposed site for the trial is on Aston Way at Swallownest between Fence roundabout and Chesterfield Road roundabout. There is no footpath along this stretch of highway and therefore should be no pedestrian footfall, however there is a lay-by on this section of Aston Way which will remain lit throughout this trial.

A road safety audit of the highway has been carried out and the police and the council's legal department will be consulted prior to the initiation of the trial.

It is intended to install a central management system to control the lighting during this trial. If there are any objections or problems during the trial this system is flexible and can revert the lighting back to normal operation. It is also intended to fit signs at the extents of the scheme to inform the public that a trial switch off at set times is to be implemented.

The effect of switching off the lighting between midnight and 6 a.m. will reduce power consumption to zero at that part of the night and on these units will mean a saving in monetary terms of around £25 per unit per annum.

The trial will be monitored and stakeholders consulted on its effect with a view to using the knowledge gained to select other routes where energy consumption can be reduced.

## **8. Finance**

Fitting of the control gear to allow a trial of part night switch off will be accommodated within the capital funds available for the asset replacement and upgrade of street lighting equipment through Local Transport Plan funding.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

There is a risk of public dissatisfaction which may arise from part night switching off of street lighting.

There are associated risks identified in the safety audit, although there are mitigating circumstances as the installation is to be done on a trial basis.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Part night switch off of street lighting supports the following Corporate Plan themes:

**Sustainable Development** – by reducing energy and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Liaison with other Local Authorities that have carried out trials of part night switch off.

Sustainable energy action plan.

## **12 Contact Name:**

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