



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	Street Lighting Upgrades – Update and permission to appoint a contractor
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	July 2019
Key Decision:	YES
Within Policy:	YES
Policy Document:	NO
Service Area:	Economy, Assets and Culture.
Accountable Cabinet Members:	Cllr. Phil Larratt, Deputy Leader
Ward(s)	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the Street Lighting project.
- 1.2 To seek approval to appoint Balfour Beatty Street Lighting Ltd (BBSL) to carry out the upgrading of all Northampton Borough Council Street lights to LED energy efficient lights and bring the lights to a maintainable standard.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Cabinet delegates authority to the Chief Executive, Northampton Borough Council, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and the Chief Finance Officer (s151), to enter into a contract with Balfour Beatty Street Lighting Ltd to undertake a scheme of column replacements and lamp renewals to street lighting in the Borough.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 In 2018, the Borough Council appointed an electrical contractor to undertake a comprehensive survey of all 1300 streetlights. All lights were located, marked up and given a unique reference number, plotted onto a Borough wide map and various data was obtained regarding the condition of the lamps and columns and if they complied with the necessary statutory electrical regulations.
- 3.1.2 An electrical installation condition report advised that numerous lights had serious faults. The serious faults were immediately made safe (turned off) and priority 1 lights repaired over a 12-week period between December 2018 and February 2019.
- 3.1.3 A significant number of street lamps were found to be obsolete and the lamps inefficient in Lux terms and energy usage terms. New LED lamps will be more energy efficient, provide better light levels than the existing lights, the lights will assist with public safety matters and be more cost effective to maintain in the future.
- 3.1.4 Finance have agreed that the 2019 - 2020 capital programme and following years expenditure totalling £1.05m can be spent on street lights this financial year. This is based on the report that went to Cabinet February 2019 and revised once the condition of the lighting was fully determined.
- 3.1.5 Asset Management and Blueprint Ltd have been working with Balfour Beatty Ltd to agree the scope of works and obtain a fully costed offer via the SCAPE framework. These costs have been market tested to ensure the Council are getting good value for money. Balfour Beatty also support the wider Northamptonshire County Council street lighting maintenance contract.
- 3.1.6 Balfour Beatty Ltd (BBSL) have been surveying the light columns to ensure that they are suitable to go onto their maintenance programme in the future. This is an option that NBC may wish to take up in the coming years at a cost of £33,250 per annum at current pricing rates. A further paper regarding the ongoing maintenance of the lighting assets will be coming forward for consideration later in the year.
- 3.1.7 Northampton Borough Council is adopting a policy of introducing LED lighting as this will benefit the climate and reduce energy costs.
- 3.1.8 A reduction in CO2 emissions of 72,130kgs per annum is expected as a result of these works.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 It is important that street lighting is turned back on as soon as possible in certain areas where there is a risk of crime.

3.2.2 Moving forward it is important that the lights are inspected and maintained to a satisfactory standard. This is a statutory requirement. An annual maintenance budget of £33,250 has been budgeted for once the lights are out of the 12 month warranty.

3.3 Choices (Options)

3.3.1 Cabinet could choose to bring the project to a close. This could result in public safety issues in areas of high crime. This option is not recommended.

3.3.2 Cabinet could choose not to procure a contractor via the SCAPE framework and go out to tender. This may or may not result in a more competitive price. This option is not recommended as it delays programme, prices are open book on the framework and have been checked by our consultant. The Council would not benefit from economies of scale from BBSL who have installed the same lighting in Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Oxfordshire and also maintain these on an annual/agreed contract.

3.3.3 Cabinet could approve the recommendation to enter into a contract with BBSL and proceed with the project. This option is recommended to ensure that the scheme is delivered in the current year.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

4.2 Resources and Risk

The Council has a fully costed schedule of works at this stage. Once the Council enters into the contract there is an inherent amount of risk as with any capital scheme. There has been a sensible contingency placed on the scheme and it is intended that cost pressures above the contingencies will be met through Value Engineering.

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 The implementation of this report will require Legal Services to draw up and enter into legal binding agreements with the relevant company.

4.4 Equality and Health

4.4.1 The proposed works will bring positive benefits to residents and the wider community. The scheme will introduce safer community space after dark, better lighting, reduction in CO2 and a reduction in energy bills.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

4.5.1 Consultation was carried out with the Member/Officer group, NCC Highways, Northampton Partnership Homes and Northants Police.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

- 4.6.1 This project delivers under various corporate objectives. The new LED lights make the best use of our assets, keep the town and people safe by having brighter lights in specific areas. This scheme reduces energy costs therefore spending your money wisely.

4.7 Other Implications

- 4.7.1 None

5. Background Papers

Please see attached breakdown of costs from BBSL.

Report from Blueprint Services Solutions Ltd

5.1 Detailed Plans from BBSL

5.2 Report from Blueprint Services Solutions Ltd

6. Next Steps

6.1 Key dates for the next steps are as follows:

- Appointment of contractor Aug 2019
- Start on site Oct 2019
- Targeted completion Mar 2020 (to be agreed with contractor)

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Service Areas – Economy, Assets and Culture

Heads of Service area: Economy, Assets and Culture