

**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL****Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee****1 June 2016****Sustainable Lighting Strategy and Lighting Action Plan for Perth****Report by Director (Environment)**

This report advises the Committee of new approaches to the delivery of statutory and amenity lighting in the city and the contribution it can make to sustainable growth of the city by enhancing the visitor and night time economy. The report recommends that the Committee adopt the Sustainable Lighting Strategy for Perth, the Perth Lighting Action Plan and the Street Lighting Policy as frameworks to secure investment and collaboration through a cohesive approach to lighting in the City of Perth.

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Street lighting in Perth and Kinross makes a large, positive contribution to the streetscape, traffic and public safety and remains an essential service that is delivered by Perth and Kinross Council, Tayside Contracts and Dundee City Council through the Street Lighting Partnership.
- 1.2 Under current legislation, the responsibility to provide street lighting within Perth and Kinross is given to the Council as the statutory local roads authority. Section 35 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 sets out the powers and duties covered by this legislation.
- 1.3 The act does not directly impose an obligation on the Council to provide street lighting. It does, however, require the Council to consider what lighting is appropriate in terms of road safety and accident reduction. Once street lighting has been provided, it is the Council's statutory duty to ensure that it is functioning correctly, as well as inspected and maintained to a safe standard.
- 1.4 A *Street Lighting Policy* (Appendix 1) has been developed which identifies a range of different lighting standards, depending on the type and location of the street and/or space. The Policy provides a planning and technical framework for lighting designs and sets out the level of information required by the Council and planning authority for any new scheme.
- 1.5 Street lighting can account for up to 25% of local authorities' electricity spend and related carbon emissions. There is increasing recognition that investment in low energy street lighting reduces the carbon footprint and generates savings by reducing significant energy costs that street lighting generates. This has resulted in the Council's commitment to a £9.4m programme to replace 17,000 existing lights with LED street lights.

- 1.6 There are additional opportunities to link with renewable energy sources and emerging technologies to use lighting infrastructure itself as a means of generating energy from wind and solar. There is a growing movement Europe-wide to see street lighting columns as a strategic asset for the enhancement of cities and the provision of other services such as Wi-Fi, transport & parking information, security and potentially renewable energy.
- 1.7 It should be noted, however, that as this approach develops, the street lighting infrastructure will need to be replaced with equipment which is more suitable for carrying additional loads.
- 1.8 The implementation of intelligent street lighting in Scotland has been pioneered by Glasgow City Council. It is being furthered with other cities including Aberdeen and Perth as part of the Scottish Cities Alliance Smart Cities Scotland initiative.
- 1.9 When combined with the provision of wireless communication, this can deliver the potential for income generation via concession models and could contribute to economic growth via enhanced digital connectivity, as well as improved management of public infrastructure and services. This achieves the strategic objectives of the Perth City Plan which identifies the requirement for infrastructure investment to support smart growth<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.10 The Council also has discretionary powers to augment the statutory street lighting provision by supporting the lighting of events, buildings and features to enhance the night time economy. Aligned with the opportunities outlined above, there is significant untapped potential here which is beginning to be realised by many other European cities. For example Ghent has developed a comprehensive City Lighting Plan to illuminate public areas and buildings to enhance quality of life for residents and visitors.
- 1.11 Evidence from previous retail studies<sup>2</sup> suggests that the city is not visited regularly by the majority of residents within the area (57% of those surveyed have never visited Perth City Centre after 6pm). This provides opportunity for enhanced turnover if more people can be encouraged to visit and businesses stay open longer.
- 1.12 There are numerous examples globally of how decorative lighting can make a powerful statement of a city's ambition and generate increased evening economic activity. Examples within the UK are the Durham Lumiere Festival, Aberdeen's Spectra Festival of Light and, closer to home, The Enchanted Forest at Pitlochry and Perth Christmas Lights switch on. These have delivered significant economic impact. In trailing the bid for the City of Culture, the Lighting Strategy has been identified as a significant component.
- 1.13 This report, therefore, brings together these various strands in a comprehensive Sustainable Lighting Strategy (Appendix 2) and Lighting Action Plan (Appendix 3), linked to the Street Lighting Policy.

---

<sup>1</sup> Perth City Plan – *Infrastructure for Smart Growth & Big Move 5* (City Centre Placemaking)

<sup>2</sup> Perth & Kinross Town Centre Retail Study 2014 (Roderick MacLean Associates Ltd)

## **2. SUSTAINABLE LIGHTING STRATEGY FOR PERTH**

- 2.1 Perth & Kinross Council has a significant role to play in providing lighting in the city for public safety and supporting the night time economy as part of events, as well as highlighting key buildings and spaces. Greater value and consistency will be achieved by developing a strategic and integrated framework for lighting across the city. This will provide opportunities for collaboration with private property owners, event operators and securing commercial sponsorship to promote the city, individual businesses and events to visitors and investors.
- 2.2 This will bring Perth to the forefront of cities across the United Kingdom and Europe, where investment in lighting is being developed to help promotion and drive economic growth through enhancement of the tourist and evening economies. They improve safety, highlight landmarks, encourage light as an art form, add focus to regeneration projects and enhance amenity.
- 2.3 A Sustainable Lighting Strategy for Perth has been developed (Appendix 2). The overall aim of the strategy is to reinforce the attractiveness and ambience within the city, improving the balance between lighting and darkness. It also provides a safe and sustainable environment for its use and enjoyment by achieving coherent lighting schemes that are well conceived, designed and maintained.
- 2.4 The strategy will also help achieve the aim of Perth becoming a sustainable, smart city and one of the great small cities of Europe, as outlined in the Perth City Plan.
- 2.5 In order to achieve the aim, three key objectives have been identified within the strategy. These are to:
  - a) develop a Lighting Action Plan which outlines an innovative approach to design, so lighting becomes an attractive part of the street and place, promotes community safety and assists orientation for both pedestrians and road users.
  - b) continue to prioritise lighting designs in line with the Street Lighting Policy which will reduce energy use and cost, cost as well as minimise light pollution. It will also contribute to making Perth and Kinross a smarter and more sustainable place.
  - c) develop and augment Perth's character, and help achieve the ambition of Perth becoming one of Europe's most attractive small cities.

## **3. PERTH LIGHTING ACTION PLAN**

- 3.1 The Perth Lighting Action Plan (Appendix 3) has been prepared to provide a framework for developing significantly enhanced feature and decorative lighting to grow the city's evening and night time economy.

- 3.2 The Perth Lighting Action Plan identifies specific potential lighting schemes which provide a consistent approach to implementing enhanced amenity and feature lighting, along with the elements which fall outside of the statutory role of the Street Lighting Partnership (SLP).
- 3.3 Elements of the Perth Lighting Action Plan have been developed with the SLP. It outlines opportunities to integrate lighting schemes with initiatives which are being delivered by the SLP i.e. new feature lighting columns can be integrated as part of the Smart Cities project.
- 3.4 The prospect of integrating developing technology, such as intelligent street lighting, into urban realm projects such as Mill Street, will provide the Council and SLP with an opportunity to access potential resources via funding streams, such as the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Smart City Strategic Intervention supported by Scottish Government.

#### **4. PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 It is clear the role of lighting will continue to have a significant impact on the way the city functions and performs at night. The Sustainable Lighting Strategy encourages the integration of statutory lighting requirements with opportunities to reduce the impact of lighting on energy use through renewable energy sources and low carbon technology; the use of lighting infrastructure as a platform for the development of smart technology; and using amenity and feature lighting to generate interest in, and use of, the city at night to support economic growth.
- 4.2 The Sustainable Lighting Strategy will deliver a series of initiatives which combine both public and private sector investment. The Perth Lighting Action Plan builds on this. It also outlines a cohesive approach to lighting of the city in order to encourage both residents and visitors to come to specific events and retail areas during the night time to support growth of the city economy.
- 4.3 The Perth Lighting Action Plan has been developed following grant assistance from the Scottish Government and will form part of its Town Centre Toolkit (Planning Pilots). This outlines best practice for improving the vibrancy and vitality of Town and City Centres across Scotland.
- 4.4 The Perth Lighting Action Plan highlights a number of key areas including; the marking of key gateways into Perth; key retail areas; architectural lighting of individual iconic public and private buildings; events lighting and natural features and public spaces.

- 4.5 A series of priority projects addressing those areas have been identified as;
- a) Kinnoull Hill/Tower – *Potentially create a gateway to the east of the City Centre which is unrivalled in Scotland and capable of being lit to reflect national events*
  - b) *2 High Street – create a gateway to the High Street and Tay Street. To be implemented as part of the refurbishment project.*
  - c) *1-5 High Street – create a gateway to the High Street, by complementing the scheme at 2 High Street.*
  - d) Tay Street streetscape and properties including St Mathews, the Sheriff Court and the Fergusson Gallery – *Promote the river as a destination within the City Centre.*
  - e) Broxden and Inveralmond roundabouts – *Promote the City of Perth as a destination from key transport networks to the west.*
  - f) Mill Street Cultural Quarter, Broxden Park & Ride and South Inch Car Park – *these will be trial sites for intelligent street lighting and Wi-Fi as part of the ERDF Smart City Projects*
- 4.6 The Council, at its meeting on 11 February 2016, agreed to provide £100,000 of funding to support the Lighting Strategy. This funding will be used to progress one of the projects outlined above.
- 4.7 There is an opportunity stemming from emerging technologies to develop new business models for smart and sustainable lighting. These would link energy and operational/maintenance cost savings with potential revenue generation through the delivery of other services from assets such as street lights. This would allow investment to take place in new infrastructure on the basis of operational savings and revenue generation.
- 4.8 In addition, current revenue funding to support for events and festivals should be used as a lever to attract commercial sponsorship. This should also promote a procurement framework which moves from capital investment in fixtures and fittings to revenue funding and support for the rental of temporary installations and replacement of lighting fittings. The provision of a constantly evolving and changing offer to night time customers and visitors will help maintain interest and generate repeat visits and custom.

- 4.9 Proposals for feature and decorative lighting of private property will be taken forward by property owners. This can be encouraged through promotion of the potential benefits using evidence of returns from similar investments, advice on the design and installation of fixtures and fittings; and potential grant assistance from external sources such as the Perth City Heritage Fund for properties of architectural and historic interest. The Council will not be responsible for funding, installing or maintaining lighting schemes on private properties. As such, a commitment to maintain lighting schemes should be obtained through terms and conditions associated with external funding streams.
- 4.10 The Street Lighting Partnership is currently rolling out the LED replacement programme across the city and city region. There are opportunities for savings and reinvestment in similar dated feature lighting as part of this programme, notably the Perth Bridge, as a spend to save initiative. Efforts should continue to further offset carbon impacts through the use of renewable energy sources or energy generation from lighting infrastructure.
- 4.11 Ongoing maintenance of lighting schemes will be required to ensure that quality is maintained and that benefits are sustained. Maintenance requirements and costs will be identified within the development of business plans for lighting projects. A commuted sum should be included to provide ongoing resource for maintenance and required as part of any offer of grant assistance .
- 4.12 The Street Lighting Partnership will continue to provide maintenance and management of the improvement programme for street lighting and the maintenance of public lighting assets. Property Services will continue to maintain lighting on public buildings. This could be offered as a paid for service to private owners if desired. A City Centre Management and Maintenance Plan, will provide a framework for managing and maintaining all assets in the city including lighting and power points. This will be the subject of a future report to this Committee.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 An integrated approach to lighting is critical if the ambitions of the Perth City Plan, to support growth of the evening and visitor economy, are to be achieved.
- 5.2 The Sustainable Lighting Strategy for Perth outlines a strategic approach to development and investment in lighting infrastructure in Perth to support the growth of the city.
- 5.3 The Street Lighting Policy sets out the varying lighting standards depending on the proposals and location, as well as providing the planning and technical framework for lighting designs.

5.4 The complementary Perth Lighting Action Plan identifies specific lighting schemes and projects to provide a framework for investment in lighting by the public and private sector. It focusses on promoting the city's cultural and heritage assets and retail and leisure offer. It also ensures the implementation links with other infrastructure investment and does not come at a cost to the natural environment.

5.5 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) adopts the Street Lighting Policy, Sustainable Lighting Strategy for Perth and the Perth Lighting Action Plan as a policy, strategy and framework to secure investment and collaboration to lighting in the City of Perth to support growth of the city and the tourist and evening economy.
- (ii) notes the allocation of £100,000 through the budget process to take forward one of the projects identified in paragraph 4.5.
- (iii) requests the Director (Environment) to seek out additional funding and sponsorship to implement the projects highlighted within the Action Plan

#### Authors

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Michael Morgan	Regeneration Projects Officer	01738 477929
John McCrone	City Development Manager	01738 475385

#### Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Director (Environment)	2 May 2016

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion, only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01738 475000.

You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes/None</b>
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement /Perth City Plan	<b>Yes</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>Yes</b>
Workforce	<b>None</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>None</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>None</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>None</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>None</b>
Risk	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>Yes</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement in terms identifies the following priorities:
- (i) Giving every child the best start in life
  - (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
  - (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
  - (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
  - (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations
- 1.2 The activities contribute to the Community Plan's strategic objectives of 'Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy', and a 'Safe Welcoming Environment' and the outcomes of 'a thriving, expanding economy' and 'employment opportunities for all'.



## Corporate Plan

1.3 Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013/2018 sets out five strategic objectives:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

1.4 This report relates to Objective No (iii) 'Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy' and the outcome of 'Thriving, expanding economy' by encouraging and supporting business growth and Objective No (v) 'Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations'.

## **2. Resource Implications**

### Financial

2.1 Significant public and private funding will be required to implement lighting schemes and projects and requires a phased programme of investment utilising different funding streams. Council revenue funding could be used for replacement of existing feature lighting at reduced costs as a spend to save initiative, and Council capital investment through integration of lighting proposals in the public realm, commercial sponsorship and external grant funding.

### Workforce

2.2 There are no workforce implications as a result of this report.

### Asset Management

2.3 The report identifies the need for maintenance of both public and privately owned lighting assets and recommends this is provided for via commuted sums and grant conditions and that operational responsibility remains with the Street Lighting Partnership and Property Services

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

3.2 This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS). The proposals have been considered under the Act and pre-screening has identified that the PPS will have no or minimal environmental effects, it is therefore exempt and the SEA Gateway has been notified. The reason(s) for concluding that the PPS will have no or minimal environmental effects is that it is part of a strategic approach to minimise energy use and link with future capacity to generate renewable energy as part of broader collaborative action across Scotland's cities via the Scottish Cities Alliance which have already been environmentally assessed.

#### Sustainability

3.4 The proposals have been considered under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 and the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 using the Integrated Appraisal Toolkit and will contribute to the sustainable development of Perth and Kinross where it supports promotion of.

#### Legal and Governance

3.5 No issues as the proposals will use established procurement and contract measures.

#### Risk

3.6 Risks and the controls required to mitigate any risks will be reported through the Council's risk management process where the Council is the lead on individual projects.

### **4. Consultation**

#### Internal

4.1 The Heads of Legal and Governance, Democratic Services and Finance have been consulted in preparation of this report.

#### External

4.2 Initial proposals were considered and supported as part of the consultation with the public and businesses on the Perth City Plan.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 Communications promoting opportunities for participation will be undertaken via Perth City Centre Management media channels and amendment of promotional material in relation to the repair and improvement of property.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 Perth and Kinross Council, Report on Perth City Plan, 24 February 2016.

## **3. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Street Lighting Policy

Appendix 2 - A Sustainable Lighting Strategy for Perth

Appendix 3 - Lighting Action Plan (full colour copies of this document will be available in the Members' Lounge and also under the 'Meeting Documents' section below the Agenda online).

