

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 7 MARCH 2023**

**LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT EXTENSION**

**REPORT BY GRAEME DAILLY, DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**ABSTRACT**

The report seeks approval to extend the existing Street Lighting Partnership with Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council for a further 5 years to 31 March 2028.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) agrees to the extension of the Street Lighting Partnership Agreement with Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council for a further 5 years to 31 March 2028

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN**

Priority 1: Economy – We want Angus to be a 'go-to' area for businesses

- We will support business and economic growth by improving the physical and digital infrastructure.

Our Council – We want Angus Council to be efficient and effective

- We will develop a commercial approach where appropriate, to make the most of our limited resources.

**3. BACKGROUND**

Angus Council provides a full range of services associated with the installation, upgrading and day-to-day maintenance of street lighting infrastructure. The lighting service encompasses illuminated traffic signs, other electrical street furniture and their maintenance.

The Infrastructure Services Committee at their meeting of 25 August 2009 approved the proposal to enter into a lighting partnership between Angus Council and Tayside Contracts for an initial trial period of two years commencing 1 April 2010 (Report No 581/09). There were extensions to the partnership agreed in 2012 (Report No 44/12) and 2015 (Report No 99/15).

At the Special Arrangements Committee meeting of 26 May 2020, the committee agreed to extend the lighting partnership for a further three years (Report No 149/20) to 31 March 2023, and to establish a single Lighting Partnership agreement between Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council.

**4. CURRENT POSITION**

A sole Lighting Partnership Manager is employed by Dundee City Council but acts on behalf of all the partner councils. They have responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the partnership and line management of staff and each partner council contribute proportionally to their salary costs. They are also responsible for preparing an annual service plan and five-year service improvement plan.

An Executive Board comprising of senior officers from the three partner councils and Tayside Contracts provide governance of the Partnership and meet on a quarterly basis to review performance and service delivery.

The Partnership has worked effectively and has reduced duplication between the partner councils. It is considered the partnership continues to be the best model for delivering the street lighting service and driving further efficiencies and improvements.

The street lighting performance information for 2021/22 is shown in Table 1 below. This indicates that the partnership has been performing well comparative to other Scottish local authorities. There were a high number of staff vacancies during 2022/23 which will have impacted performance, but it is still likely that performance remained above the national average on most measures and staffing issues have now been mostly addressed.

**Table 1 – SCOTs (Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland) Rural Benchmarking Group Key Performance Indicators for 2021/22**

		<b>Angus Council</b>	Council A	Council B	Council C	Scottish Average 2021
Customer Service	% of repairs within 7 days	<b>93.80%</b>	76.00%	54.00%	98.00%	79.60%
Repair Times & Public Perception	Average time taken to repair (days)	<b>3.1</b>	10.83	15.36	2.84	10.30
	Public calls as a % of faults	<b>97%</b>	169.40%	192%	73%	128%
	Public calls as a % of street lights	<b>0.2%</b>	8.4%	4.2%	8.6%	7.1%
	% of street lights giving white light	<b>98.0%</b>	64.0%	98.0%	75.0%	88.0%
	% of street lights which are LED	<b>98.0%</b>	77.3%	97.7%	61.2%	79.7%
	Number of night inspections annually	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	1.4
Financial Investment	Capital Investment per street light	<b>£24.34</b>	£17.92	£19.37	£31.97	£37.31
Environmental	Average annual electricity consumption per street light (kWhrs)	<b>140.55</b>	157.75	110.12	200.94	201.80
Energy Consumption	% change in energy consumption from year to year (kWh)	<b>-2.60%</b>	-20.00%	-0.80%	-9.50	-8.20%

## 5. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the existing lighting partnership agreement with Tayside Contracts, Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council is extended for a further 5 years to 31 March 2028.

This will ensure that lighting services are continued to be delivered in the Angus area and takes into consideration the benchmarking information in Table 1 which shows the partnership is performing above the national average. It also recognises the benefits the partnership brings in terms of shared overheads.

This aligns with recommendations going to the relevant committees of Dundee City and Perth & Kinross councils for the extension of the partnership for the same period.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The shared staffing costs for the sole Lighting Partnership Manager, which has been agreed between the three councils, can be met from the existing staffing budget of the Roads & Transportation service. It is estimated that the sharing of staffing costs by the Partnership saves the Council approximately £60,000 per year.

Continuation of the partnership provides the opportunity to balance service improvements with the drive to reduce costs and improve productivity. The partnership will endeavour to identify opportunities for future efficiency savings through more effective and efficient use of resources.

**7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached.

**8. CONSULTATION (IF APPLICABLE)**

The Director of Finance and Director of Legal and Democratic Services were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**NOTE:** The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No 581/09
- Report No 44/12
- Report No 99/15
- Report No 149/20

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## Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

### Step 1

**Name of Proposal** (includes e. g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions):

*Street Lighting Partnership agreement extension*

### Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment

No

**(A)** If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people

Yes/No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics

Yes/No

(iii) It is for information only

Yes/No

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year

Yes/No

(v) It is technical

Yes/No

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

**(B)** If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment

Yes

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

No

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

### Step 3

(i)Lead Directorate/Service:

*Infrastructure and Environment / Roads and Transportation*

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

*Statutory duties required by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and Electricity at Work Regulations 1989*

(iii)What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

*To extend the existing agreement by a further 5 years and continue delivery of street lighting associated services.*

(iv)Is it a new proposal?      Yes Please indicate      OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function?      Yes/No      Please indicate

### Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees	Yes
Job Applicants	No
Service users	Yes
Members of the public	Yes

**Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:**

**Internal data** (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

**Internal consultation** (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

**External data** (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

**External consultation** (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils.

**Other** (general information as appropriate).

**Step 6: Evidence Gaps.**

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold?      Yes/No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

**Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups?** Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.**

Age

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Disability

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Gender reassignment

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Marriage and Civil Partnership

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Pregnancy/Maternity

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Religion or Belief

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Sex

**Impact**

*Neutral*

Sexual orientation

**Impact**

*Neutral*

### **Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected**

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

### **Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?**

**Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.**

**Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to:** eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

**Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?**

### **Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY**

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

**Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?**

**Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.**

**Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings?** Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.**

**Low and/or No Wealth** (e.g. those with enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future.

#### **Impact**

**Material Deprivation** (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

#### **Impact**



**Area Deprivation** (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport).

**Impact**

**Socio-economic Background** i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

**Impact**

**Other** – please indicate

**Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.**

**Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?**

**Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?**

**Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation.** Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Graeme Dailly, Director of Infrastructure and Environment, 26.01.23

Reviewed by: Susanne Austin, Team Leader – Waste Strategy and Compliance, 01.03.23

Approved by: Graeme Dailly, Director of Infrastructure and Environment, 01.03.23

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.

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