

From: Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport
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To: **Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee – 4 May 2016**

Subject: **LED Street Light Conversion Project Update**

Date: **4 May 2016**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Electoral Division: **All**

Summary:

Following the award of the Street Lighting Term Services Contract to Bouygues E & S Infrastructure UK Ltd, this paper provides an update of the project. Following a three month mobilisation period, works commenced on the 14 March 2016 in the Borough of Ashford.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to consider and note the report.

1. Background

- 1.1 Kent County Council is one of the largest lighting authorities in the UK and has 118,000 street lights and some 25,000 lit signs and bollards
- 1.2 The Authority awarded a 15 year contract to Bouygues E & S Infrastructure UK Ltd where all of its street lights will be converted to Light Emitting Diode (LED) products. Additionally a Central Management System (CMS) will be provided and this will enable complete management of street lighting including dimming, switch on/off, fault reporting, metering, etc.
- 1.3 This conversion works will reduce energy and Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) costs by 65% and significantly reduce maintenance costs. The conversion works will cost around £40m and deliver a significant savings annually up to £5.2m.
- 1.4 On the 12 February 2016, it was endorsed by the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee to return to 'Optimised' All Night Lighting. This decision was taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport on the 4 March 2016 (16/00018).
- 1.5 This paper provides an update on the project and outlines the next steps.

2 Mobilisation Period

- 2.1 The contract was awarded on the 14 December 2015 following a successful procurement process.
- 2.2 The mobilisation period was scheduled to take three months to complete. Working with Bouygues during this period the following tasks were completed:
 - Programming of the residential phase of the works
 - Product approval of the lanterns to be used within the residential phase
 - Project team recruitment
 - Configuration of ICT systems
 - Setting up of advance works information

3 Programme

- 3.1 The phasing of the programme was a complex matter, with the stipulation that the contractor could only work within three districts at the same time. This would minimise disruption and centralise their operations to allow them to respond to any faults quickly, maximise their installation output and reduce carbon emissions by not driving all over the county.
- 3.2 The contractors appointed for this work are experts within the industry and have taken into consideration a number of factors when programming this work that including the number, type, age and location of assets
- 3.3 The residential programme is to be completed within 14 months and has been scheduled as follows:
 - Phase 1 – **Ashford/Shepway/Dover**
 - March to June 2016
 - Phase 2 – **Gravesham/Dartford/Sevenoaks**
 - June to September 2016
 - Phase 3 – **Maidstone/Tonbridge & Malling/Tunbridge Wells**
 - August to November 2016
 - Phase 4 – **Swale/Canterbury/Thanet**
 - October 2016 to May 2017
- 3.4 It is expected that these dates may change throughout the programme. Any changes will be communicated to stakeholders.
- 3.5 The second part of the project will see LED conversions to the main routes and town centres. This will be completed within 25 months and a programme for this is currently being developed and will be communicated once agreed.

4. Progress

- 4.1 Work commenced in rural areas within the Borough of Ashford on the 14 March 2016. 3,629 lanterns have been converted by 22 April.
- 4.2 The default profile of the lanterns is to operate all night. The Authority is working with Bouygues to scope out the 'Optimised' All Night Lighting policy. This will

include analysing the assets on a street by street level, as each road has its own design specification which will enable different optimal illumination levels.

- 4.3 Once this has been completed, each individual street will revert to the new profile once the lanterns have been converted to LED and commissioned to the CMS.
- 4.4 The first member briefing for County Members representing areas in the Ashford/Shepway/Dover districts was held in March 2016. A member briefing for all the other phases will take place prior to the work commencing in these areas.
- 4.5 The Authority has published the anticipated programme on www.kent.gov.uk/streetlights. This will be updated as the programme moves from a district to district, and, should there be any changes that affect the published dates. Following the award of the contract there have been a number of press releases which have been reported via the KCC Media Hub and reports in the local media.
- 4.6 Working with Bouygues, a number of streets have been assessed to determine their suitability to film the difference between the old style lanterns and new LED's. In addition to this, the Authority will film what the works will entail for an individual street light. These will be completed in May and uploaded to the website to show residents the benefits of the technology and what the work entails.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Good progress has been made so far, with the conversion working through the Borough of Ashford.
- 5.2 There have been minimal enquiries with regards to the work completed, but these will continually be monitored to learn from these lessons and work towards a fit right, first time approach.
- 5.3 Further updates will be reported at future Cabinet Committee in due course.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 Members are asked to consider and note the report.

7. Contact details

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