

LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS 8th FEBRUARY 2008

1. <u>Question from Mr Malcolm Loveday, of the Chertsey Society</u>

"Please could the Local Committee advise what is the likely timescale for replacement of the 6 remaining concrete lamp posts in the London Street Conservation Area in Chertsey, and can we be reassured that they will be replaced with some form of heritage style lamp post?"

Answer from Surrey County Council's local highways manager:

The County Council is in the final stages of negotiating a "Private Finance Initiative (PFI)" contract for Street Lighting. Tender evaluation is on going, with a decision due this spring. If the contract is awarded, it will commence in 2009.

Under PFI there will be a core investment programme, which will include replacing all non-compliant lamp columns within the first five years of the contract. The concrete columns in London Street will be replaced as part of this programme.

PFI has been calculated assuming standard columns across the County, but there is opportunity within the contract to upgrade to heritage style, subject to the additional funding being available.

Officers will ensure that at the time of any replacement, third parties will be given the opportunity to contribute.

Until any replacement the existing columns will continue to benefit from routine maintenance.