

Member questions to Environment and Infrastructure Select Committee - 29 November 2017

1. In the light of the recent statement by the Cabinet Member for Highways in which he refers to “considering using LED lights because with technology advances and falling prices the savings they offer could outweigh the cost of installing them”, would he clarify (a) the timescale for this work and (b) the intended outcome for the streetlight switch-off policy should the LED lighting savings outweigh the cost of installing them.
2. In the absence of any immediate change of policy will SCC agree to keep the streetlights on all night across Surrey on New Year’s Eve into New Year’s Day to enable residents to enjoy their New Year’s celebrations and ensure that people feel safe when travelling home late at night or early morning?

Submitted by Eber Kington

1. When the PFI contract was let and awarded in 2009, LED technology in street lighting was in its infancy and not suitable for SCC although the Council was able to take advantage of a Central Management System (the largest installation by far at the outset in 2010) to enable dynamic control including the ability to dim lights and change profiles with minimal costs.

LED lighting has made significant advances across all sectors including domestic, office, automotive lighting and of course Street Lighting in the intervening years. With a need to reduce our energy consumption and CO2 emissions we are investigating options to upgrade the street lighting to this technology.

These investigations are at an early stage and will require more detailed analysis on the type of lighting and options for funding the replacement. An outline report was recently submitted to the county council Investment Panel for consideration. Subject to Panel and Cabinet approval, a detailed programme will be developed and shared with Members in due course.

Any changes to the part night lighting policy will be considered if the LED project moves forward.

2. This is something that the Council is already considering, we are working with our technology suppliers to see whether it is practicable.

Colin Kemp, Cabinet Member for Highways

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