



Equality Impact Assessment

Full assessment form v5 / 2013

www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Directorate:

Director of Transport, environment & business support

**Function e.g. HR,
IS, carers:**

Transport Planning

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old):

Street lighting strategy

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:

- New / proposed
 Changed
 Existing

Lead officer

Hayley Chivers

People involved with completing the EIA:

Hayley Chivers.
Michael Adams.

Introductory information (Optional)

Portsmouth City Council are looking to replace approximately 16,000 street lighting luminaries with Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology, in order to reduce its energy consumption, CO2 emissions, and costs. The street lighting network will be operated and managed remotely, via means of a Central Management System (CMS). The CMS coupled with LED technology will allow individual street lights or groups of street lights to be switched 'on or off', to vary the brightness of the street lights, and also to monitor the amount of energy being used.

Step 1 - Make sure you have clear aims and objectives

What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

The aims of the street lighting strategy are;

- An effective and energy efficient street lighting network
- A well maintained street lighting network
- A cost effective street lighting network that represent best value

Who is the policy, service, function, project or strategy going to benefit or have a detrimental effect on and how?

All road users and the wider community will benefit from the high standard of LED lighting, in terms of using a 'white' light source, with the ability to distinguish colours at night, which will aid and enhance CCTV picture quality, with the benefits of significantly reduced energy consumption, CO2 emissions, and costs.

The Central Management System (CMS) for street lighting provides the ability to vary street lighting levels and to control operational lighting times. Alterations to the existing street lighting service provision have not yet been determined, but we do understand that any future alterations could have a slight detrimental impact on certain groups who might feel more vulnerable to travel in reduced lighting levels, these include those in the following groups the elderly, ethnic minority, LGBT, women, transgender, religious and disabled. Reduced lighting levels may also have a detrimental impact on certain disability groups such as the visually impaired.

What outcomes do you want to achieve?

- 1) Promote and maintain the safety for all highway users.
- 2) Assist in the reduction of crime and the fear of crime
- 3) Deliver well-designed street lighting in keeping with the environment.

What barriers are there to achieving these outcomes?

- 4) Develop and implement a cost effective street lighting solution
- 5) Lead by example with a significant reduction in street lighting energy consumption minimising our carbon emissions.
- 6) Identify criteria for the duration and level of street lighting.
- 7) Maintain the street lighting network to a good standard
- 8) Use of state of the art technology and innovation for street lighting in the city

Step 2 - Collecting your information

What existing information / data do you have? (Local or national data) If you don't have any data contact the Equalities and diversity team for some ideas

The census 2011 states the usual resident population of Portsmouth is 205,025 with 88,091 dwellings and a density of 50.7 people per hectare.

From December 2012 to March 2013 a trial of Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting was undertaken in three residential roads; Augustine Road, Solent Road and Uplands Road in Drayton. The trial included a Central Management System (CMS). The trial experimented with several different options;

Dec-12,	Energy monitoring at pre-trial levels,	All lit hours
Jan-13,	Lighting dimmed by 25%,	Midnight to 5am
	Lighting dimmed by a further 25%	Midnight to 5am
Feb-13	Lighting dimmed to 50%	8pm to 5am
	Part night switch off on approximately 1/3 of lights.	Midnight to 5am
	Part night lighting with 100% lighting level.	Midnight to 5am
Mar-13	Part night switch off on all lights	Midnight to 5am
	Current All lights dimmed by 25%	8pm to 5am

Members of the public were informed about the trial prior to it starting. Two people confirmed their support for the initiative and commented about the pleasing aesthetics of the new LED lights. Aside from a query about the timing of the lighting, there have been no other comments from the public.

Using your existing data, what does it tell you?

There is not likely to be detrimental impact from the introduction of LED lighting or a CMS system.

Step 3 - Now you need to consult!

Who have you consulted with?

If you haven't consulted yet please list who you are going to consult with

A public consultation for the street lighting strategy will run following approval to consult by the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation at the meeting on 25 May 2017.

Please give examples of how you have or are going to consult with specific groups or communities e.g. meetings, surveys

Portsmouth City Council website
Email to key stakeholders such as Portsmouth Disability Forum, Emergency Services, Transport Operators, walking and cycling interest groups, signposting the consultation and offering an opportunity for meetings if required.

Step 4 - What's the impact?

Is there an impact on some groups in the community? (think about race, gender, disability, age, transgender, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and other socially excluded communities or groups)

Generic information that covers all equality strands (Optional)

Potential increased fear of crime through reduced lighting levels leading to social isolation.

At this stage the full impacts this could have on the protected characteristics are unknown. Once the public consultation has finished more information will have been collected on this issue.

Ethnicity or race

Personal security issues may arise for ethnic minority residents, similar to those mentioned under age. However, it is expected that the 'White' light source will improve visibility and hence personal safety.

Gender including transgender

Personal security issues may arise for transgender residents, similar to those mentioned under age. However, it is expected that the 'White' light source will improve visibility and hence personal safety.

Age

LED luminaries tend to provide a more focused beam or cone of light on to the road surface than the existing street lights. This might cause some personal security concerns for some elderly residents as there may be darker areas between lighting columns. However it is expected that greater security will be perceived by most people.

Disability

Potential detrimental impact of reduced lighting to those who have visual impairment.

The more restricted beam or cone of light may give greater contrast between lit and unlit areas, and darker intervals between lighting columns. This may cause difficulties for the partially sighted. However, the 'White' light source should make it easier to recognise colours, and objects for most people with a visual impairment.

Religion or belief

It is expected that greater personal security will be perceived by most residents, producing a less insecure environment for faith groups of distinctive appearance.

Sexual orientation

Personal security issues may arise for LGBT residents, similar to those mentioned under age. However, it is expected that the 'White' light source will improve visibility and hence personal safety.

Pregnancy and maternity

Personal security issues may arise for women residents, similar to those mentioned under age. However, it is expected that the 'White' light source will improve visibility and hence personal safety.

Other socially excluded groups or communities e.g. carers, areas of deprivation, low literacy skills

Health Impact

Have you referred to the Joint Needs Assessment (www.jsna.portsmouth.gov.uk) to identify any associated health and well-being needs?

Yes No

What are the health impacts, positive and / or negative? For example, is there a positive impact on enabling healthier lifestyles or promoting positive mental health? Could it prevent spread of infection or disease? Will it reduce any inequalities in health and well-being experienced by some localities, groups, ages etc? On the other hand, could it restrict opportunities for health and well-being?

It has been suggested that the higher content of 'Blue' in the 'White' LED light source can have adverse effects on health, through the suppression of melatonin during the hours of darkness.

However, studies have shown that this effect is produced by prolonged and intense exposure in an 'indoor' environment. It has been shown that melatonin suppression peaks at a colour temperature of 6,500K, and can also increase below 3,000K: the specified colour temperature for the proposed LED street lighting is between 4,000K 'Neutral White', which is well outside the high-risk range.

Furthermore, the more control and directional nature of the LED lighting will reduce the amount of light spillage into adjacent homes.

Health inequalities are strongly associated with deprivation and income inequalities in the city. Have you referred to Portsmouth's Tackling Poverty Needs Assessment and strategy (available on the JSNA website above), which identifies those groups or geographical areas that are vulnerable to poverty? Does this have a disproportionately negative impact, on any of these groups and if so how? Are there any positive impacts?, if so what are they?

Step 5 - What are the differences?

Are any groups affected in a different way to others as a result of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

Visually impaired individuals may find reduced lighting levels worsen the impact of their disability.

Does your policy, service, function, project or strategy either directly or indirectly discriminate?

Yes No

If you are either directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to change this or mitigate the negative impact?

Step 6 - Make a recommendation based on steps 2 - 5

If you are in a position to make a recommendation to change or introduce the policy, service, project or strategy clearly show how it was decided on

Not possible until after consultation period

What changes or benefits have been highlighted as a result of your consultation?

Not possible to complete until after consultation

If you are not in a position to go ahead what actions are you going to take?

(Please complete the fields below)

Action

Timescale

Responsible officer

How are you going to review the policy, service, project or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?

Step 7 - Now just publish your results

This EIA has been approved by:

Contact number:

Date:

Please email a copy of your completed EIA to the Equality and diversity team. We will contact you with any comments or queries about your full EIA.

Telephone: 023 9283 4789

Email: equalities@portsmouthcc.gov.uk