

Annex C The Funding Of Lighting Programmes

CYC revenue (street lighting repairs, maintenance and energy)

The budget, for repairs and maintenance, is £308K and it is set by Members at the level that reflects the needs of the service and the financial pressures that exist at the time.

The budget for energy is £467K and reflects what the council expects to have to pay. Energy charges will be subject to considerable market forces until a suitable fixed term arrangement can be negotiated

LTP maintenance expenditure (street lighting renewals)

The Department for Transport (DfT) do not specifically provide a separate allocation for street lighting and instead it is included within a block allocation for highway maintenance. Across the country 92% of the funding block was distributed formulaically, with the 8% allocated in response to bids, for exceptional maintenance schemes for example. The formulaic approach means that many factors are taken into consideration such as carriageway and footway conditions and lengths, but there is no specific measure of street lighting. CYC's allocation for highway maintenance is £1.386 million and this includes an element for street lighting. Over recent years CYC has provided a sum of £80K for the replacement of structurally unsound street lights. The Council has the discretion to alter the split between the structural requirements of its surfaces and its street lights. DfT is very clear that it expects the full allocation to be spent for the purposes for which the money is intended, whilst at the same time providing councils with the discretion to make decisions locally about expenditure needs. There are no firm intentions to ring-fence any of this funding at the present time, although DfT are now asking for street lighting inventory information for the first time.

CYC Capital (completely new installations)

CYC capital is provided to the Ward Committees to enable them to carry out a range of projects including the provision of new street lights. The amount that Wards wish to spend on street lighting varies from year to year but typically this can be in the region of £60K. No CYC capital is directly available to the Street Lighting budgets within City Strategy.

Where new roads are being built then the developer will fund the cost of street lighting. If the road is being promoted by CYC then the funding for

the roadworks, including the street lighting, may come from a variety of sources such as developer contributions and capital receipts.