1. How - Planning your Impact Assessment.

What are you EIAeing? Street Lighting service

Lead officer for this EIA:

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Job Title: Street Lighting Engineer

Describe what you are EIAing. This might be a service or function, a policy or working procedure. It might be a 'health check' on a current service; or due to a policy change or review; or it might be in response to new guidance issued by central government. Explain what the purpose of your EIA is. This bit will be made public therefore you need to describe your service (or whatever it is you're EIAing) in a clear and easy to understand way. Don't use jargon or technical terms, or, if you have to, explain what they mean.

The entire Street Lighting Service for the City of York Council.

The Street lighting service is currently responsible for all aspects of the design, installation, maintenance, and advice on street lighting signs and lit bollards.

Date of EIA: (or review date)

20th April 2010

EIA signed off by: e.g. DMT, CMT, Partnership Board etc.

2. Issues/Positives - identifying the issues and positives and finding evidence.

List all the issues/positives: (copy and paste the titles below for each separate issue)

Positive :

Design Service of new lighting schemes takes best advantage of improved technologies and improvements in understanding of lightings effects across all areas of the population. Innovative technologies are often trialled to gauge public opinion and views over the effectiveness of the service. How often and how are their opinions canvassed? Opinions are canvassed as and when a new technology is trialled that is a significant change from the norm.

Evidence to support this:

All designs are undertaken to the minimum UK and EU specifications. The specifications are set to encompass all areas of the population at the time. Historically columns were placed at the front of footways, currently all columns are put at the rear of footways away from the path usually taken by highway users. This way the visually impaired have less obstacles, along with mobility impaired (carriage, frame and wheelchair users). Current schemes are also more frequently designed to utilise a whiter light source where there is a large pedestrian usage. Recent studies have shown that a light with higher colour recognition appears much brighter and the human eye performs better under these conditions particularly helping older generations and the visually impaired. As such the current UK design standards allow for the use of a lower level of light when the colour rendering is high.

There is also a good body of evidence nationally showing that a well-lit area reduces crime and the fear of crime allowing a larger number of people in the community to benefit from the nighttime environment.

Which of the 6 strands does this issue affect?

All six strands as they all make use of the service.

Issue / Positive [delete as appropriate]:

Installations are undertaken in a considerate manner, with hours or operation restricted, and all works well barriered and sign posted in accordance with street works codes of practice.

Evidence to support this:

All works are undertaken in full accordance with the relevant standards ensuring that the work areas are safely segregated with appropriate barrier and, where needed, walkway planks to allow the mobility impaired use of the highway. Hours of operation are restricted in each area to take account of public usage and requirements i.e. daytime weekday works in a residential area. All pre planned schemes are notified via letter drops and, where required, available in any necessary languages, Braille or for description verbally.

Which of the 6 strands does this issue affect?

All areas as the schemes take place in the public highway, which is accessible by all.

Issue / Positive [delete as appropriate]:

Fault attendance service is available for the reporting of lighting and highway electrical faults in a wide number of ways. The public are able to inform the authority of any lighting problems via phone, fax, letter and access to specialist services, such as those for the hearing impaired via text typing etc. All faults are attended within tight timelines (usually two working days for simple faults, and 1 hour for emergencies, difficult to get to and electricity board faults will take longer) to reduce the impact on areas of the population where the lack of light can have a detrimental effect i.e. older people generally feel less safe in their own homes when street lighting is inoperative.

Evidence to support this:

The public are able to inform the authority of any lighting problems via phone, fax, letter, and access to specialist services, such as those for the hearing impaired via text typing etc. All faults are attended within tight timelines to reduce the impact on areas of the population where the lack of light can have a detrimental effect i.e. older people generally feel less safe in their own homes when the street lighting is inoperative.

Which of the 6 strands does this issue affect?

All as all six strands utilise the service.

Issue / Positive [delete as appropriate]:

Talking Signs Network In York

Evidence to support this:

Currently in conjunction with York Blind and Partially Sighted Society, City of York Council run a network of talking signs to aid the visually impaired. These signs are intended to be used by visitors to the city with an electronic trigger that helps them to find certain facilities and sights e.g. bus stops and the Minster.

Which of the 6 strands does this issue affect?

Disability

3. Consultation - Get stakeholder/customer feedback on your service.

Consultation. Who did you consult? How did you consult them? What did you find out?
There is a large body of public evidence with regards to design standards and installations along with set rules and regulations to help guide the service to be fully inclusive. With new proposed schemes full consultation is done a number of times through ward processes via a number of communications methods and languages. Where highlighted works undertaken are adapted to work around the needs of those immediately affected. Do you consult with any specific strand groups? No all groups irrespective are consulted How is their feedback fed into the process? On a location and needs basis e.g. if a person has a specific disability, the exact issues surrounding that disability are taken into account , and where reasonable alterations are made.

4. Actions - Develop an improvement plan.

What actions are you going to take to address the issues identified? Add these actions to your service/directorate plan.	By when?
Continue to develop the service to fit all members of the community	Constant

Add more rows as needed

5. **Summary -** Summarise the key issues and actions (this bit will be made public).

Please summarise the **key issues** that you have identified (add more if you wish).	1. Development of the use of new technologies and methods to enable the best service for all.
	2. Continue to fit works and methods to fit the needs of all users of the service and highways where reasonably possible.
	3. Continue to work with minority groups to enable separate systems for non-users of lighting i.e. visually impaired.
	4. Make available consultation and feedback methods to all member of the community where reasonably possible.
	5.

Please summarise the **key actions** that you have identified (add more if you wish).	1. Continue to trial new innovations in lighting to help improve the nighttime environment of the city.
	2. Continuously adapt working timescales and methods to best fit the requirements of the service and general public.
	3. Develop further systems in place with strand groups for alternatives to lighting i.e. talking signs.
	4.
	5.