



STREET LIGHTING POLICY

Carbon Reduction Strategy – Part-Night Lighting

POLICY REVISION NO. 1

STREET LIGHTING

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this Policy revision is to ensure that the following objectives are met:

- Savings in energy consumption are actively pursued to reduce carbon emissions and the effect of rising energy costs
- That the night-time safety of road users and members of the community is considered at all times.
- That street lighting assists in the reduction of crime and fear of crime.
- That good street lighting design minimises the effect on the environment whilst enhancing the night-time ambience.
- To provide public lighting that is cost effective, taking into account energy conservation and sustainability.
- To identify criteria for the provision of street lighting and for duration and timing of lighting operation.

This policy is set within the context of the County Council's Strategic Plan and recognises the potential for lighting energy savings, given that lighting currently accounts for a significant amount of the County's carbon emissions.

Policy Statements.

In its strategic plan 2006-2011 the County Council sets out the overarching aim of “making Devon England’s Greenest County”. It goes on to say that this will be achieved by using energy more efficiently and pursuing a strategy to combat global warming and reducing our carbon footprint.

A study in 2006 of the County Councils activities shows that street lighting is responsible for a significant proportion of its carbon footprint

Devon County Councils has over 75,000 street lights 8,000 illuminated traffic signs and 2,600 illuminated traffic bollards.

This street lighting policy reflects the County Councils strategic aim and sets out a range of energy saving and environmental policies. The complementary street lighting strategy and guidance document describes how the County Council will deliver its street lighting policy objectives

Energy Savings:

- Remove non-essential street lighting, illuminated bollards and illuminated signs.
- Electronic control gear will be used on all new works to provide operational flexibility and save energy.
- Operational switching times will be changed from the current switch regime for all-night lighting, known as 821, (which has a switch on lighting level of 70 lux and switch off lighting level of 35 lux), to a new regime, 757, (which has a switch on lighting level of 35 lux and switch off lighting level of 18 lux), which will result in lighting switching on a couple of minutes later and switching off a couple of minutes earlier each day.
- Hours of operation will be changed from all-night to part-night on all non-main road lighting and all new residential developments. Typically lighting will be switched off between 00.30 and 05.30am.
- Low level lighting bollards will not normally be used.
- Existing part night lighting areas will not be changed to all night lighting except where there is evidence of night time crime occurring due to no street lighting.
- Existing all night lighting will be maintained on designated A and B roads and other routes as agreed from time to time with local police and parish and town councils. Where appropriate, reduced lighting using dimming technology will be considered, together with part-night operation of certain routes subject to a risk-management approach.
- Reduce lighting levels on specific traffic routes by replacement of 250w lamps with 150w lamps.
- New technology will be evaluated and trials carried out.
- The aim of the County Council is to procure green energy if sufficient is available and when this is competitively priced.

Environmental:

- Full cut off luminaires are installed as standard for all County Council works including maintenance and new developments.
- Only specific lighting scheme installations will be painted, for example town centre enhancement projects and sensitive replacement schemes eg Esplanades

All other lighting schemes will consist of non painted galvanised columns

Maintenance:

- High Pressure Sodium (SON) lighting forms the greater part of the existing lighting stock, however advances in technology means that lower wattage white light sources are being extensively used, resulting in new installations being lit to lower levels.
- Existing cast iron columns (painted) will be retained (or replaced with similar) wherever possible in conservation areas.
- Columns and luminaires will normally be cleaned and visually inspected every three years.
- Cyclic maintenance will take place at a maximum of 6 years.
- Electrical testing and certification will be carried out at a maximum 6 year interval.
- Existing Low Pressure Sodium (SOX) lamps will be removed and replaced by either a High Pressure Sodium (SON) or white light source.

Design Standards:

- All new lighting schemes will be designed in accordance with the requirements of European lighting Codes (prEN13201 or the revised BS5489 parts 1 and 2), but consideration will be given to non-standard designs that meet the minimum requirements for the class of road in question.
- Consideration will be given to the non-provision of lighting on new developments where this is deemed appropriate by local parish and town councils, local police and County Councillor(s).
- Lighting on new developments will be part-night operation in accordance with the above energy saving guidelines.
- Where appropriate LED and other low energy alternatives will be considered.
- Unpainted galvanised columns will be used as standard.
- New development agreements will require the payment of a commuted sum to cover all additional maintenance costs of any **non-standard** street lighting furniture installed by developers.

- All festive lighting installations must comply with the councils' festive lighting policy which requires columns to be tested and certified before allowing installation to take place.
- The structural survey of columns by visual and load testing will continue to comply with the requirements of Technical Report; "TR22 - Lighting Columns and Sign Posts: Planned Inspection Regime" (or its successor) and enable County Surveyors Society indicators for action age and age profile to be produced.
- Deteriorated columns will be replaced according to the outcome of condition surveys.