

Dimming / Trimming / Switching off street lighting

A. Summary Details		
1	Title of EIA:	Dimming / Trimming / Switching off street lighting
2	Person responsible for the assessment:	Sharon Walls
3	Contact details:	Sharon.walls@trafford.gov.uk
4	Section & Directorate:	Place
5	Name and roles of other officers involved in the EIA, if applicable:	One Trafford Partnership (OTP) street lighting representatives

B. Policy or Function		
1	Is this EIA for a policy or function?	Policy Function X
2	Is this EIA for a new or existing policy or function?	New <input type="checkbox"/> Existing X Change to an existing function
3	What is the main purpose of the policy/function?	Trafford through its partnership contract with Amey manage and maintain the street lighting assets that are present on the highway network. Lighting of streets traditionally contributes to and assists all road users by lighting up the streets in the hours of darkness and can contribute to reducing road safety and fear of crime Following the installation of LED street lights across the Borough the levels and quality of lighting has improved significantly, with more immediate switch on times and improved colour rendition due to the whiter light and

		<p>technological advancements in the operation of the lanterns.</p> <p>The more modern LED lanterns give off very different lighting intensities and has changed what can be visible on the street due to the range of colours that can now be seen on a street at night compared to the operation and functionality of the older yellow SON/SOX lanterns which allows alternative lighting times and dimming strategies to be introduced.</p> <p>This proposal is focused on taking advantage of the new technology by reducing consumption of energy associated with the new LED street lighting and central management system (CMS) that control the lights. The CMS system will allow responsive dimming, trimming times to be introduced that can control the lighting intensity and times that the lights are lit by altering illumination levels and switch on/off times of the lights. This will contribute to reducing carbon and budget pressures associated with cost of energy and will directly contribute the corporate objective of tackling the climate emergency</p>
4	Is the policy/function associated with any other policies of the Authority?	Road Safety Crime Reduction Community safety
5	Do any written procedures exist to enable delivery of this policy/function?	No
6	Are there elements of common practice not clearly defined within the written procedures? If yes, please state.	Yes. The One Trafford Partnership already operates dimming and trimming in some locations.
7	Who are the main stakeholders of the policy? How are they expected to benefit?	Road users will be affected by the proposals. The proposals seek to tackle the climate emergency by reducing energy consumption that will be achieved by dimming and trimming lighting levels in lower risk areas.
8	How will the policy/function (or change/improvement), be implemented?	It is not planned to dim, trim and reduce the lighting levels to a level that will be low enough to have adverse impacts on the ability of people to move around safely. The rollout of the strategy will be on a gradual dimming basis

		<p>with ongoing monitoring of the impacts of the change allowing for adjustments to be made as they arise.</p> <p>Lighting levels can be programmed to dim on a gradual basis on a street-by-street basis to ensure changes are less noticeable to users of the highway. In areas of known high night-time activity, critical junctions on the key route network, shopping malls, hospitals and for events such as match nights lighting levels will be programmed and adjusted accordingly in agreement with the police and community safety team to ensure the lighting levels meets the requirements based on the classification and usage of streets and areas.</p> <p>The lighting levels can be adjusted to suit to environment and hence dimming and trimming will be continually monitored and adjusted as necessary where lighting levels become a concern for safety i.e. in areas where there are reported high crime or safety issues.</p>
9	What factors could contribute or detract from achieving these outcomes for service users?	Lack of political and public buy in to the proposals
10	Is the responsibility for the proposed policy or function shared with another department or authority or organisation? If so, please state?	The One Trafford Partnership will be responsible for managing the central management system (CMS) that is used to alter lighting levels. The Council will also work closely with the Greater Manchester Police and Road Safety team to ensure crime and road safety hot spots are not adversely affected.

C. Data Collection

1	Do you have monitoring data on the number of people (from different equality groups) who are using or are potentially impacted upon by your policy/ function?	<p>No – although a localised trial of reducing energy in an area of Old Trafford was undertaken during Sept / Nov 2022 to determine any adverse reactions to the change in lighting levels.</p> <p>Further monitoring of lighting levels and any local impacts will be undertaken to ensure that adverse impacts can be dealt with quickly. The CMS system</p>
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		allows lighting levels to be increased locally very quickly and reverse the dimming of lanterns in areas of concern
2	Please specify monitoring information you have available and attach relevant information*	There is a CMS system that contains data relevant to all lanterns that have been converted to LED across Trafford = approx. 24,000 lanterns. This system allows lighting to be monitored in a live situation. The C360 system is used to log any complaints about lighting levels and lights that are reported as not working. No enquiries or complaints relative to the change in lighting levels introduced for the trial have been received. Monthly reports will be produced that will allow monitoring of enquiries, complaints or concerns to be easily investigated where lighting levels may need re-adjusting.
3	If monitoring has NOT been undertaken, will it be done in the future or do you have access to relevant monitoring data?	Trials of dimming and trimming at the beginning and end of the day has been undertaken on a small number of streets to monitor any impacts as identified above. There were no contacts made with regard to change in lighting levels being noticed or having adverse effects on the lighting in the area that could contribute to any fear of safety concerns. Ongoing monitoring will take place to manage any impacts as explained above.

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D. Consultation & Involvement		
1	Are you using information from any previous consultations and/or local/national consultations, research or practical guidance that will assist you in completing this EIA?	<p>Other Local Authorities in GM and across the country are introducing dimming / trimming / lights off scenarios to assist with addressing the climate emergencies and energy crisis impacts.</p> <p>Public Consultation undertaken in 2020/21 and 22/23 on the proposals to alter street lighting levels has identified overall support for the proposals but with some concern obviously about how this will affect safety.</p> <p>Nationally there are challenging targets to tackle energy consumption that tackles the climate emergency. Dimming and trimming of street lights has been an adopted strategy across the country since the introduction of LED technology with little or no impact.</p>

2	Please list any consultations planned, methods used and groups you plan to target. (If applicable)	<p>The budget consultation process was used as a means to engage with all that may be affected by the proposals.</p> <p>Engagement with relevant stakeholders including the community safety team, GMP will be undertaken to ensure crime hot spots are identified and any dimming / trimming proposals are agreed and monitored. High risk areas in agreement with community safety and GMP will not be included in this proposal.</p>
3	**What barriers, if any, exist to effective consultation with these groups and how will you overcome them?	We will utilise internal community engagement teams in Trafford to overcome any potential barriers to engagement on this proposal

E: The Impact – Identify the potential impact of the policy/function on different equality target groups

The potential impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you have assessed negative potential impact for any of the target groups you will also need to assess whether that negative potential impact is high, medium or low

	Positive	Negative (please specify if High, Medium or Low)	Neutral	Reason
Gender – both men and women, and transgender;			x	Street lighting is a universal function that is offered based on location and street design. Although there are links to fear of crime for women which is being looked at as part of the 'safer streets' initiative that will be taken into account as part of this proposal

Pregnant women & women on maternity leave			x	As above
Gender Reassignment			x	As above
Marriage & Civil Partnership			x	As above
Race- include race, nationality & ethnicity (NB: the experiences may be different for different groups)			x	As above
Disability – physical, sensory & mental impairments		x		Lighting level reductions in some areas may make it more challenging for some individuals to travel on the public highway. It is not planned to dim, trim and reduce the lighting levels to a level that will be low enough to have adverse impacts on the ability of people to move around safely
Age Group - specify eg; older, younger etc)		x		As above lighting levels may affect perception of safety in elderly people.
Sexual Orientation – Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay Men, Bisexual people			x	Street lighting is a universal function that is offered based on location and street design
Religious/Faith groups (specify)			x	Street lighting is a universal function that is offered based on location and street design

As a result of completing the above what is the potential negative impact of your policy?

High

Medium

Low

Neutral

F. Could you minimise or remove any negative potential impact? If yes, explain how.	
Race:	n/a
Gender, including pregnancy & maternity, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership	n/a
Disability:	Lighting levels can be altered quickly if there are localised issues that when brought to our attention warrant increased lighting
Age:	
Sexual Orientation:	n/a
Religious/Faith groups:	n/a
Also consider the following:	
1	If there is an adverse impact, can it be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for a particular equality group or for another legitimate reason?
	n/a
2	Could the policy have an adverse impact on relations between different groups?
	No
3	If there is no evidence that the policy <i>promotes</i> equal opportunity, could it be adapted so that it does? If yes, how?
	n/a

G. EIA Action Plan

Recommendation	Key activity	When	Officer Responsible	Progress milestones
Continue to monitor lighting levels and liaise with stakeholders in community safety, GMP and road safety	To identify any hot spots that would warrant an increase or change in lighting levels	ongoing	John Fulton (One Trafford Partnership)	

Signed



Sharon Walls

Lead Officer

Date

2 February 2023

Signed



Richard Roe

Corporate Director Place

Date

3 February 2023