

This report will be made public on 9 October 2018.

Report Number **C/18/40**

**To:** Leader of the council  
**Date:** 9 October 2018  
**Status:** Non - Key Decision  
**Head of Service:** Andy Blaszkwicz, Head of Commercial and Technical Services  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor David Monk, leader of the council

**SUBJECT: STREET LIGHTING AND POWER SUPPLY FOR FOLKESTONE HIGH STREET.**

**SUMMARY:** To provide funding to upgrade and make safe the street lighting and power connections for Christmas lights and market traders on Sandgate Road and Guildhall Street.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

*The leader* is asked to agree the recommendations set out below because:

- a) The current street lighting and power connection installations are unsafe and should not be used.
- b) Failing to provide a means of power for the new Christmas lights is considered a political risk and goes against the Councils corporate objective of "appearance matters".

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. To receive and note report C/18/40.
2. To engage the council's contractor to fit high level power connections that supply electricity to the Town Councils Christmas lights. At a cost of £10,136.00.
3. To engage the council's contractor to install feeder pillars to supply the market traders with power. At a cost of £7,783.00.
4. To engage the council's contractor to upgrade the faulty and unsafe lights found on Guildhall Street and Sandgate Road. At a cost of £19,792.30.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 As part of routine fault reporting UK Power Networks were asked to investigate a power failure to columns on Sandgate Road. This visit highlighted significant concerns of unsafe electrics within the columns, unsatisfactory power take offs for the Christmas lights and damaged reflector hoods to columns, UKPN refused to reinstate power without immediate temporary repairs and further extensive works.
- 1.2 FHDC commissioned C.S. Mitchell Ltd to carry out a detailed inspection and report on all columns on Sandgate Road & Guildhall Street, which has highlighted extensive repair requirements.
- 1.3 On Guildhall Street there are 5 working lights, and 8 broken lights. On Sandgate Road there are 9 broken lights and 9 working lights. All of the lampposts have a live supply to the column, and a visual inspection has confirmed the columns themselves are structurally sound at present. All lights need some remedial work to make safe, and at present none are deemed satisfactory to have a compliant Electrical Installation Certificate.
- 1.4 On the streetlights columns there are a total of 18 power take offs for market use and the town councils Christmas lights. There are 19 flagpole holders, 24 banner bars, and various signs on each pole. There are also 6 feeder pillars in the area, none of which have a power supply to them.
- 1.5 The current method of supplying power to the market is not safe, the commando plugs used are of the wrong type and are dangerous, either through the mechanical fitting or the location of them.
- 1.6 The Christmas lights are currently fed from a range of commando sockets fitted to the columns at varying levels, these sockets are also unsafe.

## **2. SCHEDULE OF WORKS**

- 2.1 The works will include disconnection and removal of 35 lanterns and brackets to reflector hoods, supply and installation of new ASD highway post top LED lanterns, 31 new compliant commando sockets plus isolators and ground level feeder pillars for market stall holder power.
- 2.2 The total cost for the works is £37,711.36. The cost breakdown for the work is as follows;  
  
£10,136.00 - to fit high level power connections to supply electricity to the Town Councils Christmas lights and remove the unsafe lower level ones that are being used by the Market traders.

£7,783.00 - install feeder pillars to supply the market traders with power.

£19,792.30 - upgrade the faulty and unsafe lights found on Guildhall Street and Sandgate Road.

2.3 Funding will be provided from the following sources:

- Misc. Corporate Property £5,000
- Folkestone Town Council £10,000 (TBC)
- ED Reserve £22,800

### 3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

3.1 The perceived risks are as follows:

Perceived risk	Seriousness	Likelihood	Preventative action
Failure to carry out works leaving lights in dangerous condition	High	low	Provide funding to carry out necessary works
Failure to provide power supply to the Christmas lights	High	low	Provide funding to carry out necessary works
Failure to light up high street area	Medium	Low	Provide funding to carry out necessary works
Failure to supply power to market traders	Medium	Medium	Provide funding to carry out necessary works

### 4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

#### 4.1 Legal Officer's Comments (DK)

There are no legal implications arising directly out of this report. A waiver of obligation to obtain at least 3 quotations from alternative contractors for the services and works will need to be obtained in accordance with paragraph 13 of the Contract Standing Orders. Legal Services will (upon instruction) advise upon suitable terms and conditions of contract.

#### 4.2 Finance Officer's Comments (CS)

Section 2.2 and 2.3 outline the financial implications of this report. The Virement policy (within the Financial Procedure rules) allows for the transfer of funds from the market and corporate property budgets. Assuming Folkestone Town Council approves the £10k funding, then the remaining £22,800 can be met from the Economic Development reserve.

## **5. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

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