

## **Street Lighting Strategy - Part Night Operation South Gloucestershire Council - June 2014**

South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) currently has approximately 29,500 street lights and 3500 lit road traffic signs and bollards. These cost the Council around £1.25million each year and create around 8000 tones of CO<sub>2</sub>.

SGC needs to make significant financial savings and reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the coming years. This is to meet local and national spending targets as well as our commitment to reduce the Council's carbon footprint under European legislation.

As a contribution to the savings required in both financial and CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions, the standard hours of illumination for street lighting will now be 01:00am (+/- 15 minutes) until 05:00am (+/- 15 minutes). This methodology of switching is subject to variation throughout the year. Additionally they are also susceptible to fluctuations in the electricity supply which can cause the lights to switch less accurately for a short period of time.

The benefits of these conversions are two-fold:

- a) reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- b) reduced energy consumption and costs.

It is estimated that for each individual street light conversion there will be a reduction of 40% in both CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy consumption.

The Council has made a decision to part-night street lighting across the district. We follow an assessment criteria ([below](#)) when identifying which streetlights within each area should be turned off.

Communication with local communities, Parish and Town Councils and South Gloucestershire Councillors can be found on the following webpage.

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/partnightlighting>

Residents are invited to comment on our plans for this area and to tell us if any specific lights that have been identified to be turned off conflict with our assessment criteria.

**We are not inviting comments on the council's part-night lighting policy overall.**

The streetlights not considered appropriate for part night lighting must meet the criteria below.

### **The criteria for part night lighting**

All street lighting will be part nighted except where it is specifically deemed by South Gloucestershire Council to be an area

- Previously identified with crime, antisocial behaviour, or traffic accident issue.
- Have CCTV local authority/police surveillance equipment reliant on street lighting. (not private CCTV)
- In close proximity of 24hr operational emergency services sites including hospitals.
- Have formal pedestrian crossings and traffic light controlled junctions (zebra, pelican, toucan, etc).
- Have traffic calming features (e.g. chicanes, speed humps, etc) where lighting is mandatory
- Designated on-site warden supported sheltered housing.
- Some enclosed (e.g. fenced on both sides) footpaths that South Gloucestershire Council considers all night lighting significantly reduces risk to users.

Future changes to the highway or its use that involves any of the above will be assessed and reviewed in line with the criteria at that time.

Additionally South Gloucestershire Council will consider concerns that are identified through discussion with the Parish or Town Council and/or local interest groups, the Police, and teams within SGC, will be considered on their respective merits and in accordance with policy.

The final decision rests with South Gloucestershire Council to part night.

### **Options for PC's/TC's**

In order to allow local representatives to consider local priorities, South Gloucestershire Council will consider a request from a Parish or Town Council to maintain all night lighting in a specified area: provided there is sustainable funding available from the Parish or Town Council to do so. This will form the mechanism to allow Parish and Town Councils to buy back the illumination of a part night lit unit or a selection of units.

For this to be considered the PC/TC or Local Community Group / Organization will need:

- to consider the request internally and decide on their own criteria to back such a request.
- to approach SGC and ask for their application to be implemented.
- for SGC to produce a cost of the works including future energy commitments.
- to make an order to SGC to progress the application.