

Appendix 2



Street Lighting Policy

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to detail where the Council will provide and maintain street lighting and to what standard on the adopted highway subject to available funding.
- 1.2 The term “street lighting” encompasses all illuminated assets on the adopted highway including street lights, signs, bollards and other street furniture.
- 1.3 Under the Highway Act 1980 the Council has the power but not the duty to light.
- 1.4 The Council currently manages and maintains over 80,000 street lights and 5,000 illuminated signs on the adopted highway. The inventory grows each year as new developments are adopted.
- 1.5 Where the existing adopted highway is below the standards set in this policy it will only be upgraded to the standards set in this policy where there is existing lighting which is life expired and due to be replaced.
- 1.6 This is the Council's Second Edition of its “Street Lighting Policy” document. It supersedes the original policy published in 2010.

2. Benefits and Costs of Street Lighting

- 2.1 The benefits of street lighting are:
 - Reduce road traffic accidents
 - Reduce the severity of road traffic accidents
 - Reduce the fear of crime
 - Promote the night time economy
- 2.2 The costs of street lighting are:
 - Financial : Capital, maintenance and energy costs
 - Environmental : Carbon emissions and light pollution
 - Amenity : Visual and aesthetic impact
- 2.3 The policy strikes a balance between the benefits and costs of street lighting by applying British Standards.

3. Lighting Provision

- 3.1 The need for street lighting varies by location. It is generally accepted that urban and residential areas should be provided with street lighting.

However, the level and standard of lighting provided will be dependent upon a number of factors.

- 3.2 For example, city and large urban areas may have relatively higher crime rates and may benefit from the provision of a high level of street public lighting whereas environmental factors in rural areas may constrain the level and type of lighting considered necessary.
- 3.3 Therefore, in accordance with national standards each locality in the County is placed into one of four Environmental Zones as shown in appendix 1.

4. **Environmental Zones**

The four Environmental Zones are as follows:

Zone E1 : National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Sites of Special Scientific Importance and other Dark Areas

- 4.1 Roads in Zone E1 are defined as all roads within designated boundaries excluding roads in urban areas.
- 4.2 The general presumption is that street lighting should not be provided in Zone E1 areas due to light pollution and loss of amenity unless there is an overriding road safety issue which cannot be overcome by other means such as improvements to the carriageway delineation by reflective road studs, carriageway markings and improved signing.

Zone E2 - Areas of Low District Brightness (Rural Locations outside Zone E1)

- 4.3 Residential areas of villages and settlements within a Zone E2 area are generally provided with lighting in accordance with the relevant minimum British Standard applicable to the type and use of the adopted highway.
- 4.4 Adopted footpaths and cycle tracks will only be lit where there is high night-time use, fear of crime issues and no alternative route.
- 4.5 On roads between villages and settlements in Zone E2 areas, lighting will only be provided where there is a known night-time road safety problem that cannot be controlled by other methods such as improvements to the carriageway delineation by reflective road studs, carriageway markings and improved signing.

Zone E3 - Areas of Medium District Brightness (Urban Locations)

- 4.6 Urban roads within a Zone E3 area are generally provided with lighting in accordance with the relevant minimum British Standard applicable to the type and use of the adopted highway.
- 4.7 Adopted footpaths and cycle tracks will only be lit where there is high night-time use, fear of crime issues and no alternative route.

Zone E4 - Areas of High District Brightness (urban Centres with high night-time usage)

- 4.8 Urban centres within a Zone E4 area are generally provided with lighting in accordance with the relevant minimum British Standard applicable to the type and use of the adopted highway.
- 4.9 Roads in such areas that carry high traffic volumes will be treated as traffic routes and lit accordingly.

Removal of Street Lighting

- 5.1 This policy sets out where street lighting will be provided and to what standard on the adopted highway subject to available funding.
- 5.2 Where there is existing street lighting that is not specifically required by this policy then this will be removed, where it is safe to do so, based on a risk assessment of road safety and the fear of crime.
- 5.3 The street lights that are not required by the Policy are mainly those on link roads with a de-restricted speed limit between settlements in rural areas. We estimate that there are 7,000 street lights that are not required by this Policy in County Durham. These lights are not required by statute or under British Standards and similar roads are not usually lit in other areas of the North East and the rest of the United Kingdom.
- 5.4 Local Members will be consulted on the proposed removal of any street light and will be provided with details and locations of any street lights identified for possible removal.
- 5.5 Illuminated signs will be removed or de-illuminated where permitted by the Department for Transport's traffic sign regulations.

Dimming

- 6.1 Where the street lighting equipment installed allows, lighting levels will be dimmed as follows:
- 10.00 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. - 25% downwards
 - 12.00 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. - 50% downwards
- 6.2 The above reflects the reduction in road traffic and pedestrians late in the evening and early in the morning. However, it will still provide a reasonable level of lighting.

Use of New and Emerging Technologies

- 7.1 This policy is output based on where street lighting will be provided and to what standard on the adopted highway subject to available funding.
- 7.2 The Council will constantly review new and emerging technologies to ensure that the most technically and economically advantageous street lighting technology is utilised.
- 7.3 The Council already utilises LED (Light Emitting Diodes) light sources and a Central Management System (CMS) to facilitate dimming and remote monitoring.

New Developments and Adoptions

- 8.1 The Council requires developers to follow this policy should they wish the Council to adopt street lighting. Further guidance for developers is provided in the Council's Highway Design and Commuted Sums Policy.

Appendix 1: County Durham Environmental Zones

The following table shows the numbers of existing street lighting columns situated by Environmental Zones:

Area	Parish	Zone			Total
		E1	E2	E3/E4	
Derwentside	Cornsay		87	131	218
	Esh		249	533	782
	Healeyfield	3	204		207
	Hedleyhope		43		43
	Lanchester		588		588
	Langley		288		288
	Satley		21		21
	Consett		1633	4413	6046
	Stanley		1217	5950	7167
Chester le Street	Chester le Street		288	3320	3608
	Bournmoor		361		361
	Emondsley		137		137
	Great Lumley		592		592
	Little Lumley		286		286
	North Lodge			469	469
	Ouston		66	680	746
	Pelton		447	936	1383
	Plawsworth		221		221
	Sacriston		36	722	758
	Urpeth		341		341
	Waldridge		59		59
	A167		224	211	435
Wear Valley	Stanhope	457	418		875
	Emundbyers	36			36
	Bishop Auckland		430	4958	5388
	Tow Law		280		280
	Crook & Willington		1417	2615	4032
	Hunstanworth	4			4
	Wolsingham		338		338

Area	Parish	Zone			
		E1	E2	E3/E4	Total
Durham	Durham City		150	1929	2079
	Bearpark		318		318
	Belmont		50	1225	1275
	Brancepeth		79		79
	Brandon & Byshottles		1423	1804	3227
	Cassop Cum Quarrington		986		986
	Coxhoe		633		633
	Framwellgate Moor		35	1783	1818
	Kelloe		201		201
	Gilesgate			643	643
	Pittington		217		217
	Shadforth		307		307
	Sherburn		420		420
	Shincliffe		373		373
	Sunderland Bridge & Hett		113		113
	West Rainton		456		456
A167		155	236	391	
Easington	Castle Eden		177		177
	Easington Village		1053		1053
	Dalton le Dale		68	206	274
	East Murton		990		990
	Haswell		320		320
	Hawthorn		119		119
	Horden			1094	1094
	Hutton Henry		293		293
	Monk Hesledon		840		840
	Peterlee			3371	3371
	Seaton with Slingley		48	93	141
	Sheraton with Hulam		20		20
	Shotton		258	849	1107
	Thornley		448		448
	Wingate		458		458
	Seaham		73	2751	2824
	Trimdon Foundry		165		165
	Wheatley Hill		466		466
South Hetton		399		399	

Area	Parish	Zone			Total
		E1	E2	E3/E4	
Teesdale	Barnard Castle			686	686
	Barningham		13		13
	Bolam		9		9
	Boldron		10		10
	Bowes		65		65
	Cleatlam		1		1
	Cockfield		231		231
	Cotherstone		76		76
	Eggleston	3	65		68
	Etherley		316		316
	Evenwood & Barony		425		425
	Forest & Frith	7			7
	Gainford		165		165
	Gilmonby	1	3		4
	Hamsterley		58		58
	Headlam		1		1
	Hilton	21			21
	Hunderthwaite		4		4
	Hutton Magna		5		5
	Ingleton		62		62
	Langton		5		5
	Lartington		20		20
	Lynsack & Softley		245		245
	Marwood		46		46
	Mickleton		52		52
	Middleton In Teesdale	50	133		183
	Raby with Keverstone		5		5
	Newbiggen	19			19
	Ovington		17		17
	Rokeby		8		8
	Romaldkirk		40		40
	Staindrop		194		194
	Startforth		26	134	160
Stainton		99		99	
Wackerfield		25		25	
Westwick		2		2	
Whorlton		10		10	
Winston		50		50	
Woodland		36		36	

Area	Parish	Zone			Total
		E1	E2	E3/E4	
Sedgefield	Bishop Middleham		175		175
	Bradbury & The Isle		9		9
	Chilton		667		667
	Cornforth		465		465
	Ferryhill		142	1224	1366
	Fishburn		313		313
	Great Aycliffe		204	3918	4122
	Middridge Village		79		79
	Mordon		10		10
	Sedgefield		87	931	1018
	Shildon			1648	1648
	Spennymoor		247	2699	2946
	TRA167		149	297	446
	Trimdon		731		731
	Windleston		30		30
Woodham			659	659	
Total		601	28,212	53,118	81,931