

# Cabinet (Resources) Panel

25 July 2017

<b>Report title</b>	Lighting Up the City Phase 1 – Showcasing the City using Lighting and Greenery	
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Steve Evans City Environment	
<b>Key decision</b>	Yes	
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes	
<b>Wards affected</b>	St Peters	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Ross Cook, City Environment	
<b>Originating service</b>	City Environment	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Ross Cook Tel Email	Service Director – City Environment 01902 552368 <a href="mailto:Ross.Cook@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Ross.Cook@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Place Leadership Team Strategic Executive Board	19 June 2017 27 June 2017

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## Recommendations for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Agree to the introduction of the Lighting Up the City Scheme at a total cost of £520,000 (£330,000 capital and £190,000 one-off revenue).
2. Approve the allocation of the capital provision of the Lighting Up the City works programme, totalling £330,000, to individual projects as detailed in appendix 1.
3. Approve a one-off allocation of £190,000 from the Regeneration reserve to meet the revenue element of the scheme.

4. Welcome opportunities to work with a number of partners across the city so as to build on existing lighting schemes, and to create greater opportunities to bring life and vibrancy to the city centre.
5. Support further promotion of the Lighting Up the City programme as part of ongoing regeneration within the City Centre
6. Approve the City Council promoted schemes, i.e. City Art Gallery, subject to a detailed report being considered by a future Cabinet (Resources) Panel; and
7. Receive a further report on opportunities to expand the scheme with detailed costings and external funding opportunities.

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 In December 2016 an initial proposal to introduce more lighting and greenery to the city centre was first presented as part of the developing Connected Places Strategy. The proposed scheme incorporated a 1.5 mile walking route (Appendix 2) in and around the city and aims to showcase some of the many architecturally interesting buildings in the city, to create a more interesting and attractive environment throughout the night and day, and to create a greener and more inviting environment.
- 1.2 There is a growing evidence base which suggests that green infrastructure can improve the Health and wellbeing of a population; buildings that feature and promote access to vegetation have been documented as having a greater positive human health impact than those without. Additional benefits of green infrastructure can include aesthetic and air quality improvements, noise reduction, and increased marketing potential. There is a clear association between good mental health and physical activity, and access to good quality green space can encourage people to take exercise (Department of Health, 2009). The inclusion of a walking route within the City is anticipated to contribute towards increasing physical activity participation levels within the City.
- 1.3 Similarly, national and local research indicates that well-lit areas can beneficially impact upon criminal activity with possible decreases in vandalism, street crimes and commercial burglaries (Fennelly, 1996). In creating a more inviting and safer environment it is anticipated that footfall will increase within the city resulting in economic benefits for the area. The experience of other cities has demonstrated that improvements to city lighting schemes can increase expenditure within the city centre and lead to a reinvigorated night time economy (Liverpool City Region LEP, 2005).
- 1.4 The Lighting Up the City scheme aims to create a more inviting city centre, that feels safe during both the day and night. These outcomes contribute to the corporate plan's objectives to 'developing a vibrant city' and 'promoting and enabling healthier lifestyles' respectively.

## **2.0 The Lighting Up the City Scheme**

- 2.1 The Lighting Up the City Scheme aims to create a brighter and more inviting city centre environment by introducing improved lighting and greenery to the street scene. Various lighting schemes already exist within the city centre street scene and we will look to incorporate and enhance these into the wider project. As part of the first phase of the overall project, we will look to retro-fit some of the existing schemes, as well as introduce new lighting schemes at a cost of £320,000, as set out in Appendix 1. As part of this initial works, to be carried out between August 2017 and February 2018, we will also look to invest £100,000 to enhance green space and introduce "pocket-parks" to the street scene. Pocket Parks are a way of creating welcoming, temporary green "lungs" to the existing street scene. Pocket Parks can be any size or design and we will look to create a different look and feel at each location.

- 2.2 Work has already been undertaken to retrofit some existing lighting schemes within the city, including the Cenotaph at St Peter's Square and the Ionic Order at Wednesfield Road/Ring Road St Patricks as shown in Appendix 3 and 4. The schemes demonstrate how the application of even small scale lighting can significantly enhance the city centre environment.
- 2.3 To progress the overall project, it is proposed that we appoint a Project Manager for three days per week from 1 August 2017 at a cost of £40,000. The role of the Project Manager will be to engage partners within the city, to stimulate funding applications and to manage day to day project activity. A further £60,000 will be required to provide up to 100 days of technical support to confirm the feasibility of lighting enhancements and lead project delivery for the lighting aspect of the scheme. The pocket park and landscape features of the scheme will be managed with a combination of resources including Landscape Design architects, Public Health Practitioners, Regeneration project managers and the Lighting Up the City Project Manager. The Project Manager's role will be to fully develop the scheme and bring forward the final proposals and project delivery plan for approval.
- 2.4 Some buildings and structures that have been identified for enhanced lighting will require agreement and support from several different partners. We have had initial discussions with partners such as Wolverhampton University, Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, House of Fraser, the Mander Centre, and will continue these discussions as we develop the final proposal. There is also an aspiration to light St George's church where an innovative and kinetic lighting scheme using LED, projections and colour could make the listed church look spectacular. Based on a quote from Phillips for the Lighting Up the City scheme this would cost between £30,000 and £40,000.
- 2.5 It is envisaged that the final scheme will include a mixture of lighting and green space enhancements. We will work with all partners to create the most exciting and interesting scheme. As well as introducing lighting, we will look to include aspects of animation to various locations, and further details will be presented as part of the final proposals.
- 2.6 Since introducing some of the earlier lighting schemes, technology has improved and created opportunities for a more interactive and integrated lighting scheme across the city. We are aware of the possibilities of linking the entire lighting scheme together and using technology to create differing looks at different times. We will work with partners, such as the BID, to look at different lighting schemes that will include Christmas and Diwali celebrations.
- 2.7 As well as looking to use existing buildings as a focal point of enhancing the street scene, we will also be looking to introduce lighting schemes as part of new developments, including Westside, and within forthcoming public realm improvement and connectivity projects which are being developed as part of the Connected Places Strategy Delivery plan. Efforts will also be made to introduce Planning conditions that require developers to bring forward "lighting schemes" as part of any future city centre sites. This will provide the opportunity of incorporating lighting schemes as part of the planning application. To support this proposal, we will look to promote the Lighting Up the City programme through our own schemes. For example, we would look to

encourage the proposals to improve the City Art Gallery to include a specific lighting scheme to enhance the main entrance and to showcase the many architectural aspects of the building.

- 2.8 To enable the Westside project to come forward Cabinet approved the relocation of Wolverhampton Market from its existing site at Market Square to a new location at Snow Hill (the site of the former Netto building). The decision to move the market to this location has been well received as it positions traders in the core retail centre where footfall is significantly higher than in its current location. It is considered that this location allows a platform for the market to grow and diversify.
- 2.9 This part of the city is very hard with a poor evening environment due in part to the inadequacy of human-scale lighting. The provision of high-quality soft landscaping including street trees allows a softening of the market and a greater feeling of permanence to the market in its new location. Enhanced and innovative lighting solutions will make this part of the city more inviting (particularly in the winter) whilst allowing more flexibility around evening events and specialist markets aligned to an emerging new management model for the markets. The synergies with the Lighting Up the City programme are evident.
- 2.10 With a full professional team engaged, included architects Greig & Stephenson (one of the UK's leading specialists in markets design), the markets relocation project is ready to deliver. Deadlines for relocating the market are late 2017 / early 2018. This project therefore provides an early opportunity to embody the principles of the Lighting Up the City scheme. It is proposed to include the Markets lighting scheme as part of phase 1 of the Lighting Up the City programme.

### **3.0 Next Steps**

- 3.1 Subject to approval, the first action will be to progress all the works as outlined in Appendix 1. These will be completed by the end of February 2018. At the same time, we will look to appoint a Project Manager to develop the final scheme for approval by Cabinet later this year. We will continue to work with partners across the city to identify locations for lighting schemes, as well as looking to deliver City Council promoted schemes.

## 4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The total estimated cost of the 'Lighting up the City' programme is £520,000 with a mixture of capital and revenue expenditure as set out in the table below.

<b>Project elements</b>	<b>Capital £000</b>	<b>Revenue £000</b>	<b>Total £000</b>
Phase one projects	250	70	320
Pocket parks and green space enhancements	-	100	100
Project management	20	20	40
Technical support	60	-	60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>520</b>

- 4.2 Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 27 June 2017, as part of the Capital Budget outturn 2016/17 including quarter one capital budget monitoring 2017/18 report, approved a capital virement of £330,000; from corporate contingency to meet the phase one capital elements of Lighting up the City.
- 4.3 Approval for the allocation of the £330,000 to individual capital projects is being sought from this meeting. Should the programme of works for Lighting up the City not be endorsed, the capital programme will be adjusted accordingly.
- 4.4 Approval is sought from this meeting for the one-off allocation of £190,000 from the Regeneration Reserve to fund the phase one revenue element of Lighting up the City.
- 4.5 Ongoing maintenance costs for the lighting schemes detailed in Appendix 1, excluding the lighting scheme at Wolverhampton Market, will be met from existing revenue budgets for Street Lighting. The ongoing maintenance cost for the Wolverhampton Market lighting scheme will be met through existing revenue budgets for the Markets. These costs are off-set by energy savings as a result of the upgrade to efficient LED lighting.
- 4.6 It is assumed that the lighting installations will have a useful life of at least 20 years after which time further capital investment will be required to fund replacement and will be the subject of future reports to Councillors for approval.
- 4.7 Where lighting schemes involve works to private land or buildings it will be necessary to reach agreement with the owners before any schemes are implemented and the arrangements for future maintenance and operational costs agreed. Until terms have been agreed it is not possible to provide an estimate of potential contributions to future maintenance costs. This income is not budgeted for but would reduce the net cost to the council of Lighting up the City.
- 4.8 Where lighting schemes are undertaken in conjunction with partners, funding may be given as a grant and the necessary approvals will be sought.

4.9 A city centre programme bid to the Black Country LEP is being developed which will incorporate several projects that are being developed as part of the Connected Places Strategy Delivery plan such as Molineux Subway improvements and Westside Link. These will be incorporated in a future report on the next phase of development which will identify the range of external funding opportunities to progress the programme over further areas of the city centre.  
[TT/23052017/P]

## **5.0 Legal implications**

5.1 Most of the lighting schemes will be on Council land or assets. However, where the schemes are part of private land or buildings, it will be necessary to reach agreement with the land owners before any schemes are installed and the arrangements for future maintenance and operational costs. Legal advice will be required on a case by case basis.  
[TS/26052017/Q]

## **6.0 Environmental implications**

6.1 The Lighting Up the City project looks to enhance the street scene and environment. By using LED lighting, there will be reduced energy demand and the ability to focus lighting direction. Consultation may be required with local residents where appropriate.

## **7.0 Human resources implications**

7.1 There are no human resources implications.

## **8.0 Corporate landlord implications**

8.1 The proposals will require us to update the asset register to ensure we can pinpoint the location of each individual lighting or landscape scheme, this may require the creation of new asset references or a variation to the detail linked with current asset references. This will help facilitate future maintenance of those installations, with details being held on our central asset database.

8.2 Corporate landlord will work with legal services where assets are not in council ownership to agree access for initial works and future maintenance arrangements. Where installations have a potential impact on the highway or street scape we will liaise with the appropriate internal departments. We will also involve our insurers and structural engineers given the potential loadings on those buildings utilised for installations. On-going revenue budgets will need to be agreed with finance and existing budget holders informed of those new repairing and maintenance obligations.

8.3 As the project is environmentally led, consideration to the incorporation of small photo voltaic arrays and the encouragement of these within the business areas should be given. The market area, could be a prime location for consideration of these, giving the

tenants pride and reducing some of their costs and those of the Council. By utilising LED lighting in combination with renewable energy and the incorporation of renewable energy sign posts into the scheme, will assist in delivering green energy visibly to the public and reducing the energy costs for the council.

## **9.0 Schedule of background papers**

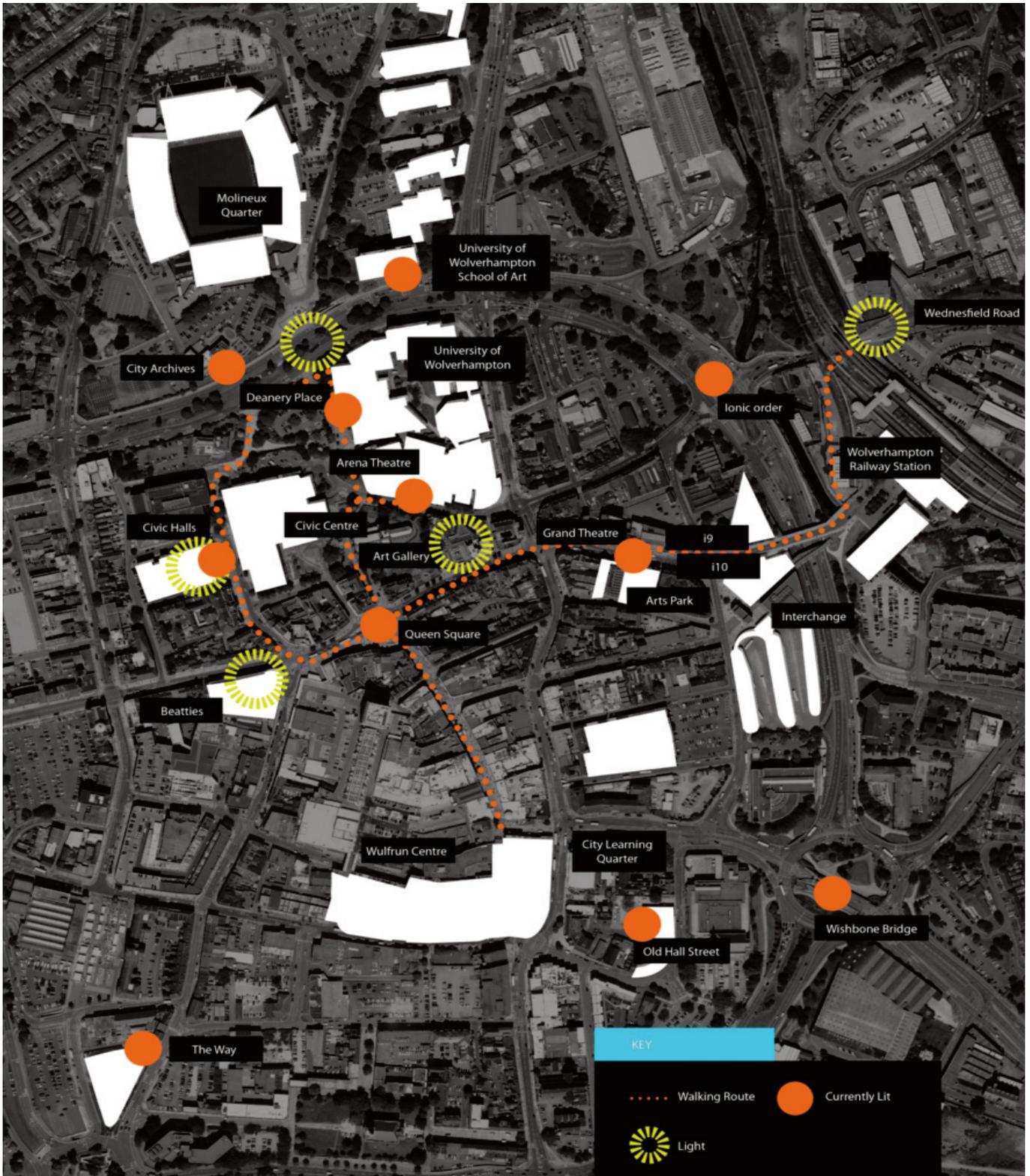
- 9.1 Capital Budget outturn 2016/17 including quarter one capital budget monitoring 2017/18 report - Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 27 June 2017.

## Appendix 1

<b>Phase 1 works, inclusive of Pocket Parks and management support costs</b>	<b>Cost £000</b>	<b>Capital £000</b>	<b>Revenue £000</b>
Wolverhampton Markets Lighting (Feature lighting, containment and installation)	60	60	-
Bollards (indirect units £2,000)	5	5	-
Queen Square fountain lights and pumps (Lower Queen Square five trees)	44	44	-
Queens Square (strip light to steps)	15	15	-
Dudley Street Light stacks and five street trees	30	30	-
Lady Wulfruna Statue	1	1	-
University of Wolverhampton Scheme - Deanery Place (seven trees Wulfruna Street)	20	-	20
Lock Street Open Space	5	-	5
Sainsbury's wishbone bridge	20	20	-
Interchange handrail	15	15	-
St Peters gardens uplighters to Harris bust and memorial (One large cedar plus St Peters Close and five trees Lichfield Street)	5	-	5
Civic halls refurb (live project)	20	20	-
Other minor works:			
Cheapside - seven trees			
Princess Street / Market Street - seven trees	25	0	25
Garrick Street / George Street - five trees			
Skinner Street - two trees			
Project contingency (20%)	55	40	15
<b>Total for Phase 1 works</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>70</b>
Pocket Parks and green space enhancement	80	-	80
Project contingency (20%)	20	-	20
<b>Total for Pocket Parks</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>
Project Management costs	40	20	20
Technical Support costs	60	60	
<b>Total Management support costs</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Phase 1 works, inclusive of Pocket Parks and management support costs</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>190</b>

## Appendix 2 – A Leaves and Light journey through the city centre

A 1.5m walk through the city centre, burning approximately 350 calories



### Appendix 3 – Cenotaph



## Appendix 4 – Ionic Order

