



Regeneration, Communities and Customer Services

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m/r Street Lighting 2015/Part Night

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y/r

Date 5 October 2015

The person dealing with this matter is. Nigel Threadgold

Part Night Lighting Scheme Trial – Welling

Avondale Road, Balliol Road, Elsa Road, Farnham Road, Hazeldene Road,
Ivedon Road, Kenmere Road, Lynmere Road, Northdown Road, Somerhill Road,
Stevedale Road, Sutcliffe Road, Swanley Road, Teignmouth Road, Wrotham Road,
Park Approach

Dear Occupier,

You may have noticed in the recent edition of the Bexley Magazine that the Council has taken the decision to make savings on the amount it spends on electricity for the borough's street lights.

Following a recent price increase, the energy bill for the 20,000 street lights the Council currently maintains is expected to reach £1 million a year. The Council is looking at various options for reducing these costs including part night lighting which would mean switching off some lights from midnight until 0530hrs.

Following consultation with the emergency services and other key stakeholders the council is going to carry out a trial for part night lighting within a selected area within the Borough.

We have selected the streets named above and within the area shown on the attached plan to be part of this pilot study for part night lighting. The work to convert these streets lights to part night lighting is planned to start during week commencing Monday 12th October and is expected to take up to 2 days to complete.

If it proves successful then the scheme will be extended across the Borough. The pilot will be left to operate for four to six months. Your opinions are very important to the Council and those within the pilot area will be given the opportunity after this period to give us your views on the experience.

If you require further information please email streetlighting@bexley.gov.uk. Alternatively, visit the Council's web site at www.bexley.gov.uk/partnightlighting. Attached are some 'Frequently Asked Questions' which you may find helpful.

I would like to thank those taking part in the pilot study and look forward to receiving your feedback, which is important, at the end of the trial period.

Yours faithfully,

Nigel Threadgold

Highways Manager

Engineering Services and Major Projects

Frequently Asked Questions

Is it legal to turn off lights?

Yes, the London Borough of Bexley is a lighting authority and is empowered to light roads which in their opinion should be lit. The Council is not duty bound to provide street lighting.

Won't crime levels increase?

Evidence from elsewhere where the same pilot has taken place suggests that there will be no increase in crime levels. Road accidents are not expected to increase. However this will be monitored over the trial period.

Will I get a reduction in my council tax?

No - however this initiative will help reduce future council tax increases.

Why can't you use energy efficient lighting such as LED?

The Council will invest in LED lighting for its busier roads but the capital cost of this is very expensive. Part night lighting provides less light pollution and currently offers greater savings. The Council will continue to monitor and trial new technologies that are carbon and cost effective.

How much will all this save the Council?

The Council is expected to have to find at least another £37m of savings by 2018, on top of the £90m we have saved since 2007.

In response to this challenge, the Council is reviewing every aspect of its work.

These measures if introduced across the borough will save over £300,000 in energy and maintenance costs.

How many street lights are you planning to switch off?

Subject to the outcome of the pilot study, the Council is looking to switch off around half of its street lights which is approximately 10,000.



Part Night Lighting Scheme Pilot Area - Welling