REPORT TO: **PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2009**

REPORT ON: **STREET LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

REPORT NO: **135-2009**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to extend the existing partnership with Dundee City Council, Perth & Kinross Council and Tayside Contracts for the shared service delivery of Street Lighting across the geographical areas of both councils.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee note the contents of this report and agree:

i To the 3 year extension of the Partnership scheme to 31 March 2012.
ii That the Director of Planning and Transportation be remitted to report back annually to Committee advising on progress and performance.
iii That further discussions take place with Angus Council to encourage them to become part of the Partnership which would then cover the whole of Tayside.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Reference is made to Article V of the Planning and Transport Committee of 13 February 2006 when approval was given to extend the Street Lighting Partnership with Tayside Contracts to include Perth and Kinross Council for an initial period of three years.

4.2 The Partnership operates as an integrated team under a single Street Lighting Partnership Manager covering both Dundee City Council and Perth and Kinross Council and has many benefits for both Councils and Tayside Contracts:

- The larger team is more adaptable in dealing with peaks and troughs in workload.
- The production of a common specification has reduced the costs of storage of materials, and encourages cost savings through bulk purchase. This approach is supported by Scottish Government initiatives, Procurement Scotland, Scotland Excel and the Tayside Procurement Consortium (TPC)
- The arrangement also meets the Scottish Governments objectives in increased partnership working in line with the Efficient Government Agenda.
- It gives scope for further development of such a partnership, for example by other Councils considering joining, as experience grows over time.
- The new structure has provided opportunities for efficiencies and reduced staff costs for both Councils and Tayside Contracts.

4.3 The present Partnering Agreement ends on the 31 March 2009 following a very successful three year period. Over the last 3 years the Partnership has consistently performed well against its various objectives and its key service performance indicators. A summary of results from the SCOTS Lighting Cities benchmarking exercise for 06/07 and 07/08 is attached in Appendix 1 whilst key performance indicators measured over the life of the partnership are shown in Appendix 2. In summary, the Street Lighting Partnership has continually improved in performance over the period. Street Lights in Dundee have fewer faults and are fixed more quickly than in any other major Scottish city. The comparisons also shows that on any one evening, Dundee has only three lights per 1000 not working compared to ten times as many in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

4.4 The Partnership has also gained national recognition of its levels of service and service approach through the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) 2008 awards. The Street Lighting Partnership was a successful finalist in the Public/Public Partnership category, the only street lighting organisation nationally to have reached the finals of this years awards.

4.5 There are still opportunities for improvement and the Partnership is actively investigating a number of initiatives and development projects to further enhance and build on the successes that have been realised to date. Listed below are the main areas of work where the Partnership is hoping to realise further improvements.

- Introduce the development of LED light technology into street lighting applications to reduce electricity consumption and further improve reliability and extend the operational life of the lamps.
- Reduce the impact of the cities street lighting on the environment. It is proposed to carry out a trial of new technologies which would give the potential to dim selected street lights outwith peak social hours and hence reduce electricity consumption and carbon emissions.
- Reduce fuel and repair costs by adopting a city wide policy of changing from the a traditional burn to extinction reactive maintenance approach, to a system of proactive maintenance which involves changing all lamps in an area just prior to their expected end of life.
- Continue to improve best value in the procurement of street lighting equipment by standardising the use of equipment across Tayside and achieving economies of scale.

Some of these initiatives and projects will take time to develop and taking account of this and the evidence of the successes achieved to date, it is recommended that this successful Partnership be extended for a further period of 3 years

4.6 Dialogue is ongoing with representatives of Angus Council with a view to them becoming part of the Partnership to deliver a Street Lighting service across the whole of Tayside.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and Managing Director Tayside Contracts have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Report No. 89-2006 to the Planning and Transport Committee of 13 February 2006.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation

Fergus Wilson
City Engineer

FW/LMcG/EH

17 February 2009

Dundee City Council
Tayside House
Dundee

SCOTS Street Lighting Working Group

Cities Benchmarking Group
Benchmarking Parameters for 06/07 & 07/08

		Aberdeen	Dundee		Edinburgh	Glasgow	Dundee Ranking
		2006/07	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	
No	Number of Street Lights	28164	22316	22287	54991	68648	
Proactive Inspection	Number of Night Inspections Annually	16	48	48	6	10.4	
	Individual Cost of night inspecting a Street Light	4.1p	3.4p	3.4p	n/a	17.4p	1st
	Percentage of Columns over 30 years old. Statutory PI	38.6%	33.3%	31.4%	27.6%	46.46%	
Reliability	Percentage of Street Lights not working as planned on any one evening	1.3%	0.3%	0.3%	3.3%	3.6%	1st
	Total Number of Street Lighting Faults	10298	5167	4650	21149	23672	
	Fault as a % of Street Lighting Stock	36.6%	23.2%	20.9%	38.5%	34.48	1st
Repair Time	Average time taken to repair (days)	5 days	1.6 days	1.8 days	3.5 days	3.03 days	1st
	Percentage of repairs within 7 days. Statutory PI	87.42%	96.8%	95.5%	92.71%	94.78%	1st
Public Perception	Number of Public reports per annum including out of hours	4780	1219	1117	9314	14260	
	Public calls as a % of faults	46.4%	23.6%	24%	44%	60.2%	1st
	Public calls as a % of Street Lights	14%	5.5%	5%	15.5%	21%	1st
Financial Cost	Average cost (client) of repairing routine faults (eg component replacement)	£26.21	£25.53	£24.84	£37.36	Not available to breakdown	1st
Financial Investment	Revenue allocation per street light excluding electricity cost	n/a	£31.42	£29.22	n/a	£80.20	
	Capital allocation per Street Light	£149.12	£11.04	£8.92	£51.74	£18.52	
	Percentage of Street Lights modern white light APSE	n/a	39.9%	42%	n/a	12%	
Carbon Footprint	Average Load Connection per Street Light	120w	104w	104w	111w	111w	1st
	Average annual electricity consumption per street light (kwHrs)	n/a	n/a	409	n/a	457	

Yearly Comparison of Service Performance Indicators
Since the Formation of the Partnership

		02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08
Reliability	Total Number of Street Lighting Faults	9532	7716	7744	6368	5168	4650
	Mean time between Faults (MTBF) averaged over 3 years	2y 108d	2y 146d	2y 211d	2y 358d	3y 171d	4y 48d
Repair Time	Percentage of repairs within 7 days. Statutory PI	97.85%	97.5%	96.6%	95.7%	96.85%	95.5%
Public Perception	Number of Public reports per annum including out of hours	2252	1630	1229	1335	1219	1117
Financial Cost	Average cost (client) of repairing routine faults (eg component replacement)	£37.79	£34.37	£30.68	£28.64	£25.53	£24.84
Carbon Footprint	Energy Losses	20%	18%	14.4%	13.5%	13%	13%
	Average load connection per street light	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	104w	104w