

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: A part night lighting pilot involving switching off a total of 133 street lighting lanterns across 7 locations within the borough between the hours of 01:00 – 05:00 during the month of November 2024
Service Area: Public Lighting
Directorate: Environment & Regeneration

2. Does the initiative affect:

	Yes	No
Service users	X	
Staff	X (as service users)	
Wider community	X	
Internal administrative process only		X

3. Does the initiative impact on people because of their:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't Know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence)/How might it impact?
Age		X	See caveat			There is expected to be little to no adverse effect on people if the part night lighting pilot is approved, however this limited pilot is to help inform a fuller assessment. Some concerns have been raised regarding older persons and how the lighting might affect house calls during the night. The pilot will help explore this issues.
Disability		X	See caveat			There is expected to be little to no adverse effect on people if the part night lighting pilot is approved,

					however this limited pilot is to help inform a fuller assessment. Some concerns have been raised regarding effects on the mobility of those with disabilities. The pilot will help explore this issues.
Gender Reassignment		X			There is expected to be no adverse effect on people if the initiatives are implemented
Marriage/Civil Partnership		X			There is expected to be no adverse effect on people if the initiatives are implemented
Pregnancy/Maternity		X			Due to the sample size of the trial and the 1 month duration there is expected to be no substantial impact.
Race		X			There is expected to be no adverse effect on people if the initiatives are implemented
Religion/Belief		X			There is expected to be no adverse effect on people if the initiatives are implemented. If there are issues regarding lighting levels outside particular places of worship this can be looked at.
Sex		X	See caveat		Taking account of crime and fear of crime concerns, due to the sample size of the trial, the 1 month duration and the switch of times of 01:00 – 05:00 there is expected to be no substantial impact. The charity “Thrive Woman’s Aid” have however raised concerns regarding the removal of lighting in the small hours and that there may be greater impacts on women. The pilot will help explore any sex related issues. Consultation with the Police, Thrive Woman’s Aid, and the Community Safety Team will be ongoing as part of the trial
Sexual orientation		X			There is expected to be no adverse effect on people if the initiatives are implemented

4. Does the initiative impact on:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence used) / How might it impact?
People's opportunities to use the Welsh language		X				A part night lighting pilot would have no impact on people's opportunities to communicate in Welsh.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English		X				A part night lighting pilot would have no impact on the treatment of the Welsh language.

5. Does the initiative impact on biodiversity:

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
To maintain and enhance biodiversity		X				As the pilot is only proposed for 1 month, this is not deemed long enough to have a substantial impact on maintaining and enhancing biodiversity. Although, removing light pollution from locations would likely have a positive impact as opposed to a negative one on local wildlife.
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.		X				Part night lighting would reduce light pollution during periods when the lighting is switched off.

6. Does the initiative embrace the sustainable development principle (5 ways of working):

	Yes	No	Details
Long term - how the initiative supports the long term well-being of people	X		Part night lighting will reduce financial risk and make street lighting more resilient/sustainable in the context of future energy increases. Also, as we move to a low carbon future, the initiatives would reduce energy demand in the evening when renewal energy such as solar is not available. This pilot would provide valuable insight into the affects and sustainability of a permanent part night lighting regime.
Integration - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives	X		The initiative would assist moving to a low carbon future. Impacts in relation to crime and fear of crime generally, or the effects on those with protected characteristics such as older people, need more detailed assessment should the Council wish to implement part night lighting permanently, which the pilot will assist with.
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	X		Some formal public consultation on street lighting energy and associated measure has been undertaken and results presented to Members. To date there has been a mixed response from the public regarding part-night lighting.
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	X		Consultees have included the Police, the Community Safety and Road Safety Team and Thrive Woman's Aid. These consultations will be ongoing through the pilot along with local residents.
Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	X		The more energy public lighting uses, and the more fossil fuel based energy in particular, the greater the future financial and environmental risks. Consultation responses have indicated concerns that part night lighting may lead to greater antisocial behaviour/crime/fear of crime, which the pilot exercise will assist with exploring. It is noted that Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that all relevant authorities – which includes Neath Port Talbot Council – have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area.

			This pilot will assist in fulfilling this general duty. As above, consultation with the Police, Thrive Woman's Aid, and the Community Safety Team will be ongoing as part of the trial alongside consultation with residents, and the trial at any particular location can be stopped at any time should that become necessary. Some general comfort can be taken from the fact that 7 of the 22 Local Authorities in Wales are already successfully implementing Part Night Lighting.
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7. Declaration - based on above assessment (tick as appropriate):

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required at this time, however it we be required should Member wish to consider permanent part time arrangements and the proposed time limited pilot exercise will assist in such assessment.	√
Reasons for this conclusion	
There is a need to explore in further detail any potential impacts on older people, people with disabilities and women. It is noted part-night lighting will have a positive impact on energy usage, financial risk and service sustainability, whilst it is hoped providing little or no adverse impact on service users including those with protected characteristics. There may be also be a wildlife benefit when lights are off.	

A full impact assessment (second stage) is required	
Reasons for this conclusion	

	Name	Position	Date
Completed by	Steve Owen	Lighting & Building Services Manager	20/8/24
Signed off by	Mike Roberts	Highways & Drainage Manager	21/8/24