



Democratic Services

Location: Phase II
DDI: 01895 277655
CMD No: 2026/1762

**To: COUNCILLOR WAYNE BRIDGES
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS SERVICES**

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

c.c. All Members of the Corporate Resources &
Infrastructure
c.c. Dan Kennedy, Corporate Director of Residents
Services
c.c. Roy Thabrew, Residents Services

Date: 5 August 2026

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

STREET LIGHTING PROGRAMME 2026/27

Dear Cabinet Members,

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Thursday 13 August 2026** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Anisha Teji
Democratic Services

Title of Report: STREET LIGHTING PROGRAMME 2026/27

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed Date.....

Cabinet Member for Residents Services/Cabinet Member for Finance

STREET LIGHTING PROGRAMME 2026/27

Cabinet Member & Portfolio	Councillor Wayne Bridges, Cabinet Member for Residents Services Councillor Eddie Lavery, Cabinet Member for Finance
Responsible Officer	Dan Kennedy – Corporate Director of Resident Services
Report Author & Directorate	Roy Thabrew – Resident Services
Papers with report	Appendix A – Capital Release Request for Approval Appendix B – Lighting Columns Replacement Programme Appendix C – Lighting Columns Painting Programme

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds.
Putting our Residents First Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026	This report supports our ambition for residents/ the Council of: Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities This report supports our commitments to residents of: Safe and Strong Communities
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £300k from the 2026/27 street lighting column replacement capital budget. The first phase of works (Phase 1) will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by 31 October 2026.
Select Committee	Corporate Resources and Infrastructure Select Committee
Ward(s)	Borough-wide

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resident Services agree to the capital release request of £300k (phase 1) from the Street Lighting Replacement Programme 2026/27 capital budget for the funding of replacing lighting columns that have reached the end of their useful economic life (Appendix B) and column painting (Appendix C).

Reasons for recommendation

A current major issue is the structural deterioration of the ageing lighting column stock. The vast majority of columns in the Borough are galvanised mild steel which tend to corrode below ground level, resulting in a high risk of structural failure if continued investment is not programmed.

The project consists of the prioritised based replacement of lighting columns that have reached the end of their life expectancy. The priority is determined from structural testing and inspections. The 452-column replacement programme for 2026/27 is based on the results of structural testing of 2,500 columns completed in 2019 and the condition of street lighting assets recorded by the contractor during maintenance work determined on current street lighting asset life expectancy data. Furthermore, complaints, petitions and members enquiries were reviewed and factored into the proposal for replacement due to the condition of the columns and inadequate lighting levels.

To assist the Council's commitment to the climate emergency, the columns replacement programme has been reviewed to consider the potential of the provision for the electric vehicle charging point where the driveway facilities are unavailable, if the demand arises in the future.

The project also consists of the lighting column painting to prolong the life of the asset.

These works will be undertaken by the Council's Street lighting term service contractor J McCann. This capital scheme will deliver:

- Improved asset condition, resulting in a significantly reduced risk of failure due to poor condition.
- Assurance that lighting columns installed across the Borough is consistent and adheres with current guidance and standards.
- Value-for-money and reduced maintenance costs, thus reducing the ongoing cost of routine maintenance and non-routine maintenance.
- Improved lighting levels for the safety of residents
- Ensure we fulfil our responsibilities for the provision and maintenance of safe street lighting in the public domain, in accordance with the Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP) guidance.

The street lighting team will continue to monitor and compile a non-compliant road list when identified as a result night lamp scout checks, members enquiries, complaints, or petition reports.

Details of the replacement lighting columns that have reached the end of their useful economic life is in Appendix B to the report. Those where column painting is required and proposed are shown in Appendix C to the report.

Alternative options considered / risk management

- To make safe columns identified as defective and in need of replacement by cutting them down without replacement - this would leave roads without street lighting.
- To follow the previous maintenance policy by carrying out reactive maintenance work only without a planned column replacement programme.
- To find alternative funding.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. The cost of the column replacement programme is to be funded from the capital programme for street lighting improvement. The column replacement programme of work was originally estimated to be a total of £5,345k, phased across the five years 2021 to 2027.
2. The scope of this contract will include the delivery of:
 - Prioritised based column replacement programme.
 - Painting of columns to prolong the life of the asset.
3. All costs have been calculated using the current term service contract contractual rates 2026/27 (J McCann).
4. Lighting levels in all roads for planned 2026/27 column replacements is compliant therefore, only one for one column replacement is assumed.

Table 1: Street Lighting - Column Replacement Cost Plan

Phase 1

Description	Amount (£)
Planned column replacement of 214 No. of columns from 2019 testing results of 2500 columns and existing information on the asset life expectancy (Appendix B).	236,300
Column painting (Appendix C).	6,000
Project Contingency	27,700
Street Lighting Engineers Fees	30,000
Total Project Cost	£300,000

Phase 2

Description	Amount (£)
Planned column replacement of 237 No. of columns from 2019 testing results of 2500 columns and existing information on the asset life expectancy (Appendix B).	262,300
Project Contingency	27,700
Street Lighting Engineers Fees	10,000
Total Project Cost	£300,000

Financial Implications

Street Lighting Replacement/Painting Programme 2026/27 Budget £600k, Previously Released Nil, Capital Release Requested £300k – Appendix A

The 2026/27 capital programme approved by the Cabinet and Council in February 2026 includes a budget of £600k for the street lighting replacement/painting programme funded from Council resources.

This report seeks the release of £300k for Phase 1 of the street lighting replacement/painting programme from the 2026/27 Street Lighting budget to meet the costs of replacing/painting lighting columns across the Borough that have reached their useful economic life. The replacements/painting will be prioritised based on information from results of structural inspection and the testing of lighting columns.

The release request is based on the street lighting term contractor (J McCann's) quoted costs and includes contingency and internal fees of 11% and 8% respectively of the quoted costs.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities

- To ensure that the Borough's street lighting is kept in a safe condition, thereby minimising the risk of damage or injury to road users.
- To ensure continuity of street lighting by installing replacement columns where defective units have had to be cut down or to prevent them from falling down in high winds.
- It will also ensure that the replacement/painting of lighting is undertaken according to requirements before there are any premature structural failures.

Consultation & Engagement carried out (or required)

None required.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and concurs with the financial implications set out above, noting that the recommended action to agree a release of £300k for the first phase of the street lighting column replacement/painting across the Borough will be funded from the approved 2026/27 Street Lighting Replacement Programme capital budget

Legal

Legal Services confirms that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to section 97 of the Highways Act 1980. Thus, there are no legal impediments to the capital release

requested in this report being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES

Appendix A – Street Lighting Replacement Programme 2026/27 (CR No 1)

Appendix B – Lighting columns replacement programme

Appendix C – Lighting columns painting programme

APPENDIX A

Appendix A – Street Lighting Replacement Programme 2026/27 (CR No 1)

Location	Project	Information	Funds Release Sought £000s	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Borough Wide	Column Replacement Including Column Painting	Replacement of street light columns that have reached the end of their life expectancy	600			
Total seeking release			300			
Previously released			0			
Budget			600			
Remaining budget			300			