

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

STREETSCENE SERVICE

Highways & Engineering Group

London Boroughs Street Lighting Benchmarking Group

Notes of meeting held on Monday 23rd May 2005

1) Present

Eric Blakeman	Camden
Alan Shields	Enfield
Donna Kelly	Hammersmith & Fulham
Demos Ketteris	Haringey
Steven Lain	Haringey
John Bowdery	Harrow
Tim Edwards	Hillingdon
Tissa Liyanage	Hounslow
Andrew Porter	Hounslow
Annette Bowdery	Islington
Terry Felstead	Kensington & Chelsea
Brian Elliot	Corporation of London
Ian Buckingham	Newham
Chris Warner	Waltham Forest
Gillian Stuart	City of Westminster
Steve Carroll	Hackney
Trevor Rawson	Hackney

2) Frequency/location of meetings

To be held in Hackney, at the end of September. Agreed that meetings are preferred to communication by e-mail.

3) BVPI215

TF to mail to TJR the current definition of BV215 and the data collected in the Camden Benchmarking exercise.

TF advised that BV215 was written by the UK Lighting Board and highlighted that their definition makes no differentiation between estate lighting and street lighting.

4) Processes and Data

The elements were suggested for inclusion in the current exercise :-

- Scouting frequency
- Cost of service
- Volume of outages repaired

- Percentage working
- Cost of routine maintenance
- Bulk to extinct or bulk lamp change and clean
- Contractors response times
- Proportion or numbers of white light units

Redbridge warned against the dangers of producing too many meaningless figures.

A level playing field is vital in any benchmarking exercise.

An audit trail needs to be established for any processes and the data produced.

The Audit Commission have previously quoted to Hackney that they will be concentrating on processes rather than the data itself in the future.

Benchmarking results can be used as a lever for extra funding.

5) Discussion on what we all want from this group and what we want to share.

The Group seeks to promote comparing and sharing of BVPI monthly data between boroughs.

Data collected in the Camden exercise to be appended to these notes. Decision required on what information to collect.

6) New SLA Agreement with EDF Energy

Draft SLA still being developed.

DNO required to complete performance stats for this.

CW on London working group with EDF and Eastern

CW acts as conduit for authorities view etc.

Balanced score card in preparation, information will be passed to Ofgem.

BV215b requirements included.

Agreed that balanced scorecard results could be “bolted” onto the results from this group.

Data of common format across their customers is seen as a key benefit by EDF.

EDF to change connection charges from April 06 – some up and some down, with some bulk discounts.

EDF currently restructuring, LBs to have one co-ordinator in one EDF area.

Figures to be “bolted” onto this group.

7) Hackney’s recent simple benchmarking exercise

Results will be circulated with notes of this meeting. *Post meeting note: a number of errors in the collation have been found and will be corrected. The results will be circulated at the next meeting.*

In the recent survey-questionnaire, some figures were returned in various forms. It is important that an agreed, common standard, including the basis of calculation, is used, otherwise comparisons would not be valid.

8) AOB

Hounslow are doing extensive work on Asset Management and the Plan (AMP) required. They will share information. They hope to have an outline AMP ready for Oct '05. Final version by April '07.

AP asked if the group could suggest any ways of raising funds for the replacement of 2,000 to 2,500 columns in Hounslow out of a stock of 16,000 and is looking for dedicated funding. The Group mentioned :-

- Members need to be on board with such issues as crime, local police, community safety, night time accidents, SRB, LIP
- Get Hounslow members talking to Haringey or Hackney members

- Whole street / holistic approach.
- Insurance claims
- This forum could give leverage

TF carrying out a night scouting comparison – to be collated via this group.

Recycling lamps – invite TfL to help provide a co-ordinating role and to request their involvement in upgrading schemes

Benefit of Pioneering – the group hopes that successful schemes will win support for more street lighting projects if social benefits e.g. lower crime, of upgrades and better maintenance, can be proven.

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Appendix 1 – Data collected via the Camden exercise

Population
Road length
No. of lighting units, lit signs and bollards
Type of Contract – performance based or Schedule of Rates
Expiry date
In-house or external contractor
Sub-contractors
Response times for repair and replacement of street light, regulatory signs, bollards, and non-regulatory signs.
Emergency call out within and outside of office hours
Scouting, done by client or contractor, and frequency
Column materials and ages. Percentage to BS 5489
Electrical testing, type, method and frequency
Budgets for lighting units, signs and bollards
Energy, type of agreement, if tendered, negotiator, kW total, average unit charge
Staffing, proportions and costs
Lamp sources
Painting, % done annually
Lamp replacement policy
Burning hours used for SOX and SON lamps
Maintenance costs for lighting, sign, item of lit furniture
Client costs for item of lit furniture
Percentage of street lights conforming to BS 5489, over 30 years and not working.
Working days to repair street light
Night scout frequency
Emergency call out period in hours