

## QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## 1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR DEWHIRST Re: Conversion to LED Lamps in Ward

Residents in Ipplepen and Abbotskerswell were delighted to hear at the beginning of November that their streetlights would be converted to energy efficient LED lamps.

Officers oversaw a swift roll out of the new lighting system and helped deal with some of the concerns and issues raised by the new lights. These included concerns about Bluetooth radiation, the intense white of the new lights and "shields" to stop the light entering people's homes.

Officer feedback was exemplary for the first week but has since stopped. Despite requests to the Head of Highways there are still many issues to be resolved and the remaining old streetlights still to be converted.

Please can the Cabinet Member for Highway Management indicate who is now in charge of the roll out of the LED streetlights programme? Can he also ensure that communications are maintained between Officers and Members on this important project so that residents are kept informed?

## REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HUGHES

The role out of the LED Street Light programme is being overseen at a senior level by Ian James. Ian assures me that he will take the lead on ensuring communications between Officers and Members is maintained. Roads and transport faults, including street lighting, should continue to be reported where possible on-line at <a href="https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/">https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/</a>.

The Street Lighting Team are in the early stages of the new 10 year contract with SSE. This is placing considerable pressures on the team in ensuring the mobilisation and new computer system setup is completed effectively. The team are however working hard with the Contractor to complete the remaining replacements.