

ADEPT Street Lighting Working Group update July 2020

The Lighting Group met on 8th July as an on-line video meeting.

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how the on-line system worked.

Following an initial cessation of most works at the start of UK lockdown, most are now delivering all services, albeit with regard to social distancing. All regions reported a stop in Distribution Network Operator service deliveries at the start of lockdown and few were delivering their range of services within service level agreement timescales.

The first item discussed was safety alerts and those recently received. There was a discussion about how these were distributed. HEA have a page of their web site dedicated to posting alerts and ILP are introducing a system for safety alert distribution.

The meeting then went on to discuss the agenda items:

- Most, if not all regions reported advanced LED replacement schemes that are showing considerable energy consumption reductions.
- Electric vehicle charging points either on the highway or mounted on lighting columns are being installed at an increasing pace. Where such facilities are installed there can be issues with earthing arrangements that can be a considerable expense to implement. The London Boroughs are working on a process for dealing with this matter that includes funding sources and agreements for shared use.
- The competence of lighting designers and the quality of lighting designs submitted by developers was discussed.
- In London, research has shown there is a £1bn backlog in the replacement of lighting assets.
- There have been a number of Freedom of Information requests from campaign groups opposed to 5G installations. In addition, there were reports of misinformation being distributed regarding central management systems apparatus being mistaken for 5G equipment.

The matter of representation was next on the agenda. Each area representative was requested to review their area membership and suggest amendments. The chair reiterated his aim to get all areas fully represented for the benefit of the industry.

With regard to regional meetings; the regional representatives expressed concern that it was difficult to get members of their respective regions to attend. There were of course exceptions to this with one or two reporting good attendance.

Asset Management Toolkit (ATOMS), issues were discussed. Peter Harrison gave a short review of the current situation and demonstrated a revised spreadsheet model that now has a line-by-line assessment, a feature requested through consultation with practitioners. A long-hand calculation for CCI has also been received and is currently being peer reviewed. A list of questions regarding the additional work involved collecting data and the cost of this was presented. Peter is aware of these issues and responded that the inspection process required each element to be assessed and rated for deterioration and extent. The previous TR22 process also required each element to be inspected individually and assessed for deterioration only. Any additional work was minimal. However, if

authorities were just collecting a single assessment of the overall asset condition (something that was not compliant with TR22) then there would be an additional cost.

There was some concern expressed regarding shared use of lighting columns and 5G apparatus where the telecoms installers were taking the view that the columns were an extension of the highway and they therefore did not require permission to install their equipment provided structural inspections and testing showed sufficient strength. There is a need to understand the process for actions in relation to switching off the supply or emergency situations.

On other matters, significant differences in the cost of electrical energy were reported, with recent contracts reporting increases of between 10% and 25%. Changes were reporting at ELEXON in relation to 100kW trading arrangements where moves to half hourly were being encouraged. Difficulties were reported in getting information from Distribution Network Operators relating to understanding the mix of quantities and types of lighting apparatus across the UK.

The date of the next meeting was agreed for the 17th September 2020 as another on-line event.