Local Partnerships is supporting local authorities to deliver LED street lighting initiatives – successful schemes could deliver up to 80 per cent energy savings and significant cuts to utility bills.

**Background**

Recent technological advances and the falling costs of light-emitting diode (LED) lighting (around 30 per cent a year) means that the case for switching to energy efficient lighting has never been stronger.

The much lower energy usage of LED lighting can dramatically reduce operating costs and CO₂ emissions as well as other benefits such as enhance public safety, minimise light pollution and making public spaces friendlier at night.

**Our approach**

We are working with a number of local authorities, including Manchester City Council and North Tyneside Council, to identify the significant savings that can be made from invest to save energy efficient street lighting projects.

Our approach has provided much needed support, helping local authorities to work through the challenges and opportunities of energy efficient lighting initiatives and develop a viable business case tailored to their needs.

Our multi-disciplinary team of experienced legal, financial and commercial
professionals delivers hands on support at a local level to provide the expertise and capacity required to navigate complex commercial contractual arrangements to maximise savings.

Local Partnerships provides:

- best practice knowledge and experience and a medium through which learnings from one authority can be shared with and applied to another
- a comprehensive project scrutiny process starting with the business case development and further ‘healthchecks’ as the project progresses
- specific advice to develop the commercial and negotiating strategies
- contract negotiation expertise to ensure new contract arrangements deliver the identified savings
- support in a range of other areas including project management, assurance, governance, systems and controls as well as contract management training.

Investing in efficient street lighting can enable local authorities to save up to 80% on their electricity bill, dramatically reduce their carbon emissions and help create safer communities.”

Joan Walley, MP, Joint-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Lighting Group

I have found Local Partnerships supportive and knowledgable, particularly on the technical and financial aspects of our streetlighting PFI – enabling us to make informed decisions and ensuring that we haven’t wasted effort in these areas on what is a challenging and complex contract change.”

Peter Woodward, Capital Programmes and Property, Manchester City Council
Outcomes

- Approval by Manchester City Council for the business case to install an authority wide centrally controlled (CMS) LED street lighting system, which will deliver around £750 thousand annual savings once fully operational.

- Renegotiation of the street lighting contract at North Tyneside Council to incorporate energy efficient lighting has delivered annual operational cost savings of £265 thousand to date. Retrofitting with LED lighting in the next phase will increase the savings as the programme becomes fully implemented.

Next steps

Given the significant cost and energy savings achieved from energy efficient lighting at a local level, Local Partnerships is developing a Street Lighting Toolkit, working closely with the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the Department for Transport and other stakeholders. This will provide guidelines and a structured approach and process to support councils with energy efficient street lighting projects.

Contact

To find out more about energy efficient street lighting, indicate an interest in receiving a copy of the Street Lighting Toolkit, or speak to Local Partnerships about how we could support you in other areas of local service delivery:

- Telephone: 020 7187 7379
- Email: LPenquiries@local.gov.uk
- Web: localpartnerships.org.uk

“Local Partnerships has provided support and expert guidance. They have helped with skills and knowledge transfer and their excellent technical knowledge has helped staff in North Tyneside broaden their own technical knowledge.”

Andrew Gate, Commercial Services Team, North Tyneside Council