

Committee(s): Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee – for decision	Dated: 03 July 2023
Subject: Considerate Lighting Charter adoption by Operational Property	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 5,11,12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: City Surveyor	For Decision
Report author: Edmund Tran, City Surveyors	

Summary

The Considerate Lighting Charter document is an Appendix to the City of London Lighting Supplementary Planning Document. The Considerate Lighting Charter gives an opportunity for building owners, operators and occupiers to make a strong commitment to manage their lighting systems in ways that make a positive contribution to the City.

It is recommend to formally adopt the Considerate Lighting Charter, as it aligns closely with the aims of Climate Action Strategy and aims to undertake the actions within a reasonable timeframe.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report and contents of the Considerate Lighting Charter
- Approve and adopt the Considerate Lighting Charter

Main Report

Background

In November 2022, the City of London Lighting Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was drafted and approved by the Planning and Transportation Committee for a public consultation exercise.

The Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) provides guidance for developers on lighting buildings and the spaces between them. It will help developers to meet the requirements of the Development Plan policies that relate to lighting. It covers the design, delivery, operation, and maintenance of artificial light within the City of London.

As part of the SPD, a Considerate Lighting Charter has also been drafted. The Considerate Lighting Charter gives an opportunity for building owners, operators and occupiers to make a strong commitment to manage their lighting systems in ways that make a positive contribution to the City.

For existing buildings where no new development is proposed, the City Corporation has no legal powers to enforce adherence with the Charter. Building owners, managers and occupiers would, however, incur reputational damage if they were to sign up to the Charter but not adhere to the commitments it contains. The Charter does not change or in any way undermine the City's Environmental Health function, which will continue to investigate complaints of intrusive light and take enforcement action where necessary.

In January 2020, the City of London Corporation (City Corporation) set out on a fast-paced, cross-City Corporation journey to develop an ambitious Climate Action Strategy (CAS). The Considerate Lighting Charter broadly aligns with the aims of the CAS and provides additional strategic support.

Current Position

The consultation has been completed and a final version of the SPD has been prepared, for approval at the Planning and Transportation Committee on the 18th July 2023. A final version of the Considerate Lighting Charter has also been produced and will be submitted for final approval alongside the SPD.

Officers are intending to promote the Charter and the SPD to owners, managers and occupiers of existing buildings in the Square Mile. This will be done through working with partners such as Business Improvement Districts and major landowners in the City, as well as engagement with small and medium sized businesses through the Climate Action Strategy's Heart of the City programme.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications: The Lighting SPD and Considerate Lighting Charter is in line with the aims and objectives of the City of London Corporate Plan 2018-23. This SPD will support the delivery of the Corporate Plan including by ensuring that land-use decisions fully incorporate measures to ensure people are safe and feel safe, people enjoy good health and wellbeing, and our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained through the planning system (Corporate Plan, Outcomes 1, 2, 5, 11 and 12).

Financial implications: The Considerate Lighting Charter includes recommendations, many of which constitute best practice for lighting. This will have an individual impact on future projects, for which these recommendations will serve as guidance. In many

cases, the recommendations will result in a lower operational costs. There are no commitments to fund works as part of adopting the Considerate Lighting Charter.

Resource implication: There are no resource implications arising from this report.

Equalities implications: The Lighting SPD will contribute to the delivery of the City Corporation's Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 by improving health and wellbeing outcomes for all people who are protected by existing equalities legislation. The SPD has been subject to an initial screening exercise which concluded a detailed Equality Impact Assessment was not needed as the SPD would not have any negative impacts on those who share a protected characteristic.

Climate implications: The Lighting SPD and Considerate Lighting Charter will contribute to the delivery of the Climate Action Strategy.

Legal implications: The Lighting SPD has been developed in line with the statutory requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Risk implications: There are no additional new risks arising from this report.

Security implications: There are no security implications arising from this report. Additional lighting as part of security measures are considered carefully before being implemented.

Conclusion

The Considerate Lighting Charter is considered to be reflective of current best practice for lighting in modern buildings. The targets are aspirational and commit to undertaking the actions within a reasonable timeframe – allowing departments time to adjust to these guidelines. The City of London is also preparing to promote the Considerate Lighting Charter within the square mile, and as such it is recommended that the City adopt the Considerate Lighting Charter as a leader in policy.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Considerate Lighting Charter

Background Papers

Draft Lighting SPD, Planning and Transportation, 1st November 2022

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