Well – lit Highways

Code of Practice for Highway Lighting Management

Complementary Guidance

Well-lit Highways was published in November 2004. Since then, Government Policy in respect to highway lighting has developed and evolved in a number of areas. There have also been a number of changes, including the introduction of new statutory duties on highways authorities.

To assist users of this Code, the Roads Liaison Group has prepared this complementary guidance to advise and direct users to where they may find more up to date information to assist them in implementing best practice and the recommendations of the Code.

Users of the Code should treat this complementary guidance as up to date and having the same status as the Code. Where paragraphs have been amended, they supersede the ones in the Code.

Last Updated: 7 May 2010

Chapter 3
Provision of the Service

Section 3.1 – Legal Powers and Duties

New Paragraph
Added 7 August 2009

The recent and rapid increases in electrical energy charges have placed additional burdens on Local Authority budgets. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that some Authorities have responded by reducing the period of operation of their highway lighting installations (for example instead of from dusk until dawn to perhaps dusk until midnight and then from 05:00hrs to dawn) or in some cases by switching off parts of the installation completely. Without firm data on the effects this might have on night-time accidents crime the fear of crime and other social and domestic activities the Institution of Lighting Engineers sought to widen the debate by publishing its Street Lighting – Invest to Save document. This seeks to consider alternatives to the reduction or removal of street lighting and can be downloaded from:

http://ile.org.uk/uploads/File/Street%20Lighting%20- %20 I nvest%20to%20Save. pdf.

Subsequent work funded by the County Surveyors Society, Transport Scotland, SCOTS and TfL resulted in detailed case studies which have been published as free downloads from the TRL website:-

http://www.trl.co.uk/onlinestore/reportspublications/trlreports/cattrafficengineering/report invest to save sustainable street lighting.htm

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

The current Code of Practice document refers to the need for Local Authorities to carry out any work on their public lighting installation in a safe and proper manner and makes reference to the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 which is a statutory instrument. Local Authorities should be aware that whilst those duties still remain the detail has been up-dated in the revised version of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 guidance information on which can be downloaded from:

http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/cdm.htm.

The Regulations themselves can be found at the following link:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi20070320en1.

New Paragraph
Added 7 August 2009

In England and Wales the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 applies and Section 102 of the legislation now makes artificial light a potential statutory nuisance. The Act may be downloaded from:
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2005/ukpga20050016en11

In England and Wales street lighting is not specifically exempt from the legislation, but it is unlikely to qualify as a statutory nuisance as generally speaking it is not found on 'premises'.

In Scotland the Public Health etc (Scotland)Act 2008 now applies. The Act may be downloaded from:
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2008/asp20080005en1 In Scotland street lighting is more exposed to complaint of statutory nuisance, as in addition to defining 'premises' as a source of potential statutory nuisance the Scottish Act also includes artificial light from 'any stationary object'.

Guidance documents have been published by:

DEFRA
http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/legislation/cnea/statnuisance.pdf
in relation to the situation in England and Wales,

and by the Scottish Government
http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/01/23142152/0 in relation to Scotland.

Guidance on general best practice and recommendations from the Institution of Lighting Engineers website:
http://www.ile.org.uk/index.php?page=environmental

New Paragraph Added
14 May 2009

Local Authorities should be aware that under the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 and as amended in 2007 European Protected Species of plants and animals receive protection. The Act may be downloaded from:
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi20071843en.pdf.

One such protected species on which artificial light can have adverse effects is bats and so care needs to be taken not to disturb the animals themselves or their roosts and habitats. Guidance from the Bat Conservation Trust in conjunction with the Institution of Lighting Engineers may be found at the link below.
http://www.ile.org.uk/uploads/File/Technical/BATS%20AND%20LIGHTING%20IN%20TH E%20U K%20-%202007%20version . pdf

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

Guidance for Local Authorities regarding their general duties relating to network management including enforcement of network management duties the maintenance of records and information (eg including records and locations of apparatus) and the duty to inspect records etc can be found in the Traffic Management Act 2004 document which can be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/ukpga20040018en1

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

The Climate Change Act 2008 empowered the government to set national targets for the year 2050 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and to encourage energy users to meet the objectives of the act, such as reducing such emissions or removing greenhouse gas from the atmosphere. The Climate Change Act may be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/ukpga_20080027_en_1

The ensuing Carbon Reduction Commitment (now renamed the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme) is a mandatory carbon emissions trading scheme to cover all organisations using more that 6,000MWh per year of electricity (equivalent to an annual electricity bill of about £500,000).

The scheme requires organisations (including many lighting authorities) to purchase and submit sufficient CRC allowances to meet their annual liabilities for CO2 emissions. The scheme starts with a reporting year running from April 2010, with the first sales of allowances held in April 2011. During the introductory phase, all carbon emission allowances will be sold at a fixed price of £12 per tonne of carbon dioxide. From April 2013, allowances will be auctioned by the government, with fewer available each year.

It was clarified on 25th January 2010 that under CRC an unmetered electricity supply measured on a passive or non-half hourly basis is not classified as a CRC supply and therefore not reportable for the purposes of CRC qualification or footprint and annual reporting.

http://www.decc.gov.uk/Media/viewfile.ashx?FilePath=Consultations\carbonreductioncommitment\1_20100126124300_e_@@_crcGovernmentResponseAddendum.pdf&filetype=4

The CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme User Guide may be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/crc

In summary:

- Dynamic pseudo Half Hourly metered UMS, are still included for qualification, footprint and annual reporting;
- Dynamically pseudo Half Hourly metered UMS still qualifies as voluntary AMR for the purposes of the Early Action Metric benefit;
- Passively HH and NHH traded supplies are excluded entirely from the scheme, i.e. they are not included in the footprint or annual report and therefore do not require allowances to cover their emissions.

Revenues from the sale of allowances will be recycled back to organisations within the scheme. Each organisation will be repaid in proportion to their historic emissions with a bonus or penalty depending on the extent to which they have reduced their emissions compared with other organisations within the scheme.

Section 3.2 - Policy

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

The Institution of Lighting Engineers (ILE) is the UK's largest and most influential professional lighting association and as such is able to offer useful advice and considerable guidance on lighting matters to Local Authorities and other interested parties. Such information could prove useful to Local Authorities in assisting for example in the formulation of their policies regarding lighting and the environment and lighting and energy. Examples of such guidance can be downloaded from the following web addresses.

http://www.ile.org.uk/index.php?page=technical-2
http://www.ile.org.uk/index.php?page=environmental
http://ile.org.uk/uploads/File/Street%20Lighting%20-%20Invest%20to%20Save.pdf

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

The National Joint Utilities Group publication NJUG 10 is now identified as Volume 4: NJUG Guidelines For The Planning Installation And Maintenance Of Utility Apparatus In Proximity To Trees (Issue 2) – Operatives Handbook and was published in November 2007. In addition BS 3998 Recommendations for Tree work gives general guidance on working with trees including legislative controls. Both of these documents may prove useful when the foundations of any lighting equipment might conflict with the roots of a tree or indeed where a tree might conflict with column- mounted lighting. The NJUG document can be downloaded from the following web address.

http://www.njug.org.uk/publication/52

Section 3.4 – Asset management

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

A review of progress with TAMPs was commissioned by the DfT and was completed in January 2008. The report concluded that, although some progress has been made with the development of TAMPs, there is still scope for improvement. The report can be downloaded from the following website.

http://www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org/pdfs/Review_of_Transport_Asset_Management_Plans_January_2008.pdf

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

A report was commissioned by the Government to review the accounting, management and financing mechanisms for local authority transport infrastructure assets. The report, published in June 2008, concluded that comprehensive transport asset management has the potential to deliver significant value for money benefits and improvements in the services delivered to users. The timetable for implementing transport infrastructure asset valuation was also included in the report. The report can be downloaded from:

www.cipfa.org.uk/pt/infrastructure/download/final_report_jun08.pdf

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

The UK Roads Board has produced four Quick Start Guidance Notes on asset management, namely Getting Started, Levels of Service, Risk Management and Life Cycle Planning. The notes form part of a suite of documents and give an overview of asset management, aiming to help local authorities to progress the implementation of an asset management approach. The guidance notes can be downloaded from:

http://www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org/liaison/asset_management.htm

3.5.6 – Commuted sums

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

CSS has published guidance that aims to on the commuted sums mechanism, through which developers are required to contribute to future maintenance of areas adopted by local authorities. The guidance may be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.cssnet.org.uk/documents/Commutedsumsreport.pdf

3.6 – Best Value

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) is a new approach that examines how effectively local public services are performing and improving the lives of the people they serve. Assessments, which started in April 2009, are designed to provide a snapshot of each area and act as a catalyst for improvement by identifying where more effort is needed or where exceptional improvement may help others. Under the use of resources section of the new CAA framework, specific reference is made to highway maintenance and the requirement for an effective asset management planning process. The CAA framework can be downloaded from the following website:

http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/localgov/audit/CAA/Pages/caaframeworkdocuments.aspx

Chapter 4
Cyclical Maintenance

New Paragraph
Added 7 May 2010

4.6.4 – Electrical testing records

It should be noted that the scope of testing for highway lighting circuits and columns extends to 5th core distributor cabling in relation to the measurement of external earth fault loop impedance. (see The Electrical Safety Council publication Jan. 2010).

Chapter 5
Reactive Maintenance

Section 5.2 – Monitoring for inoperative lighting

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

To ensure the designed service is delivered as continuously as possible the Code requires that provisions are put in place to identify on a regular basis equipment not working as planned so that faults may be promptly rectified. One method mentioned for achieving this is remote monitoring. Further information may be obtained from the ILE publication GP05 Appraising the use of Remote Monitoring and Switching Technology in Street Lighting Services. Details of this publication may be found at the following web address.

http ://pearsaa 1. memset. net/~ileshop/index. ph p?cPath=2 1 &osCsid=66bd60f92cbd 1 5f e59d3870b0a1 4ebf8

Appendix J
Lighting Column Structural Condition

New Paragraph
Added 14 May 2009

Local Authorities may find benefit in considering the Institution of Lighting Engineers technical report publication TR 22 Managing a Vital Asset: Lighting Supports the third edition of which was published in 2007. This aims to provide guidance in the management of lighting supports by the creation of strong management cycles consistent condition assessments and the application of a risk assessment strategy. Details of the document can be downloaded from:

http://pearsaa1.memset.net/~ileshop/productinfo.php?cPath=22&productsid=43&osCsi_d=8a503d694b9b85d61 ce0bd6e55726bf4.

See also their publication Street Lighting: Protecting a Vital Asset at the following link.

http://www.ile.org.uk/uploads/File/09streetlighting.pdf