

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
BUDGET & POLICY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 1st SEPT, 2026**

STREET LIGHTING REPLACEMENT – MEADOWS AND ANCILLARY AREAS

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a further update regarding the condition of the street lighting within the Meadows and ancillary areas, outlining arrangements for next steps relating to planned programme of works, arising from what was previously reported in the General Managers Report as the last Full Council and to seek authority to proceed with contracting on the basis of para 5.12 Tavistock Town Council Financial Regulations.

B. CORPORATE POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The importance of meeting the Councils regulatory and compliance obligations, including maintaining and protecting the built heritage and natural assets in its ownership through the maintenance of appropriate records, maintenance plans, inspections and works, whilst achieving best value.

C. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Associated legal issues principally relate to the obligations placed upon the Council with regards to statutory obligations and compliance pertaining to public safety. Various related risks include reputational damage and financial resilience, especially if further unplanned significant emergent works arise.

D. RESOURCE ISSUES

The Resource issues associated with the recommendations relate to the significant financial impact on the Rolling Capital Programme (RCP) and Property Maintenance Budget for 2026/27 financial year.

E. COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

This Report has been developed following consultation with the Works Manager, Enerveo Ltd and Kiwa CMT. Subject to the outcome of this report, the Council will communicate to the public via social media/website, pertaining to next steps relating to rationale/work programme.

F. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Tavistock Town Council:

- a) Agree to the commissioning of works with Enerveo Ltd which includes, the disconnection and reinstatement of supply with National Grid and the removal and replacement of Category 5 columns as identified within the report dated 21st August 2026 as

a proprietary item under single tender action (Para 5.12 Financial Regulations apply).

- b) Agree to utilise £25,000 from the RCP with the residual to be met by the property maintenance budget.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members are aware of the Councils compliance obligations via such documents as Commercial/Community Service Improvement Plans, Briefing Notes and Managers Reports. One aspect pertaining to compliance relates to the management of public street lighting where the Council commissions two surveys a year with JT Greaves undertaking a 'Night Survey' and Enerveo Ltd (via Kiwa CMT) actioning a structural assessment. Arising from the latter in 2025 4 in No. columns were replaced which fell into category 5 (very severe loss of section requiring immediate removal or making safe). The structural assessments focus on root corrosion and swage joint corrosion.
- 2.2 Arising from an inspection carried out by Kiwa CMT, Members were advised in the latest General Managers Report of the intention to replace 7 in No. columns as a proprietary item estimated IRO £13,000. Following on from this, the Council have been advised of spurious readings, more specifically with the swage joint testing (primarily due to interference from the embellishment kits) and therefore the methodology has been changed, to include a more detailed visual inspection at ground level to the bottom of the door, around the door aperture and at the shoulder connection/swaged area (including internally). With the change in methodology, Kiwa CMT re-inspected in August 26.
- 2.3 With the new methodology applied, the Council have been notified that 26 in No. columns fall within category 5, of which currently 15 have been made safe with their removal. The remainder will be actioned following the outcome of the consideration of this report. To provide Members an indication of budgetary implications, reusing the existing bracket and globe light on a new column costs £1,124.70, to replace with a new globe is £2025.07. Therefore worst case scenario would be a financial commitment of £52,651.82. The anticipated spend will most likely fall within the budgetary range of £30,000 to £40,000.
- 2.4 Recognising that Enerveo Ltd are sector specialists (also managing /maintaining WDBC and DCCs street lighting assets), acknowledging the benefits of economies of scale, infrastructure knowledge etc, with the ability to reduce costs using TTC vehicles/equipment and

recognising the sensitivities around public safety, approaching Autumn (also the importance of street lighting highlighted within a recent Devon and Cornwall Police Audit), it is suggested that the Council consider commissioning the works as a proprietary item under single tender action. This will enable the scheduling of replacement works to commence within the third week of September 26, with programming sequenced to provide proportionate lighting, even temporary if required during the duration of the project timetable.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 After reviewing the process pertaining to testing, Officers are bringing forward the next scheduled structural inspection to early Spring 27. From the current report, there are 13 columns that fall within category 4, with some most likely moving to category 5 within this interim period. Therefore an allowance, suggested IRO of £20,000 is allocated for 2026/27 financial year, recognising the age and condition of the infrastructure, with the aim to build in time to undertake a wider procurement exercise to test the market. Note: A policy decision regarding any new columns is to not include any decorative embellishment kit as well as new columns being hinged where practicable to assist with maintenance and inspection.

**WAYNE SOUTHALL
GENERAL MANAGER
TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 2026**