



Westmeath County Council

Public Lighting Policy

Draft Version 1

June 2017

Westmeath County Council Transportation Section

Aras An Chontae,

Mount Street, Mullingar, Co Westmeath, N91 FH4N

Email: publiclighting@westmeathcoco.ie

Phone: 044-9332000

Section 1: Introduction

Westmeath County Council recognises that public lighting is an integral part of the road and footpath infrastructure on national, regional and local roads and is important to all users of these networks. It should also be noted that public lighting is the single largest user of energy and generator of CO² emissions in the Council.

As part of the 2020 Public Sector Energy Efficiency Target Reduction of 33%, Westmeath County Council is committed to reducing energy usage and carbon emissions.

This Policy has been developed to provide a framework for the effective and efficient management of public lighting to achieve Westmeath County Councils commitment to the provision of sustainable infrastructure.

The principal objectives are to

- Provide an integrated approach to the maintenance and development requirements of public lighting
- Reduce the Councils carbon emissions
- Achieve Value for Money
- Achieve energy reduction targets

Westmeath County Council is responsible for approximately 11,000 public lights. This lighting enhances the night time environment in our towns and villages, contributing to the general 'well being' of individuals, lighting roadways where there is pedestrian and vehicle interaction.

Section 2: Scope and Asset Management

2.1 Capital Works & Upgrading of Public Lighting

Capital Works and Upgrading of Public Lighting will be carried out by the Public Lighting Section of Westmeath County Council. Other Council Departments that require alterations or upgrades to the existing public lighting network shall request the Public Lighting Section to provide quotations, instruct and manage work.

Alternatively, if public lighting is to be procured as part of an overall project the relevant Department shall consult with the Public Lighting Section to agree a strategy for the works, including disconnection of existing lights in advance of any other

contractor working on public lights. 'Midland Counties Public Lighting Specification' Revision 1, April 2016 must be included with tender documents.

Public lighting shall not be disconnected, upgraded or altered without the written approval of the Public Lighting Section.

Work on any existing lights can only be undertaken by the Electrical Maintenance Contractor employed by the Public Lighting Section under the instruction of the Public Lighting Section. There is a twofold reason for this:

1. Compliance with Health & Safety for working on a live electrical network and providing a safe working environment for our Maintenance Contractor.
2. Capturing all information on DeadSure to facilitate management of the assets and keep essential records, monitor energy usage, and ensure there are no conflicts in works proposed.

All applications for grant funding for public lighting shall be made in consultation with Public Lighting Section.

2.2 Developments and New Lighting Requirements

Planning Conditions will ensure all new developments shall comply with the 'Midland Counties Public Lighting Specification' Revision 1, April 2016.

Where applicable, the standard condition in 'Grants of Planning' will state:

No.	Name	Condition	Reason
01	PUBLIC LIGHTING ALONG PUBLIC ROADS	The developer shall provide public lighting, designed by a competent Lighting Design Engineer in accordance with the current version of the Midland Counties Public Lighting Specification.	In the interests of public safety

2.3 Taking In Charge

Any lights that do not comply with the 'Midland Counties Public Lighting Specification' Revision 1, April 2016 will not be taken in charge and energy bills will not be taken on by the Public Lighting Section.

2.4 Lantern and Column Replacement Works

A programme for lantern and column replacement, taking account of available resources, will be prepared and put in place.

2.5 Electrical Testing

Electrical testing is required on all lights, associated ancillary wiring and equipment in the Council's public lighting network. It will be carried out at seven year intervals. A programme of improvement works, taking account of available resources, will be developed following testing each year. Electrical testing is not required on lights mounted on ESB network poles.

2.6 Out of Scope

This policy does not cover

- Traffic Lights
- Illuminated Bollards
- CCTV
- Vehicle Actuated Signs
- School Warning Signs and Lights

Section 3: Sustainability

The Council is committed to 'improve, protect and promote our environment in the interests of present and future generations' managing its assets and operations in a way that minimises carbon emissions, reduces costs and contributes to the effective delivery of the Westmeath County Council Corporate Plan 2015-2019. It recognises the importance of providing sustainable street lighting, balancing the immediate local needs with long term environmental and economic requirements.

The National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2009-2020 requires that the public sector reduce its energy efficiency by 33% by 2020. Westmeath County Council is working towards achieving these targets.

The Council will identify and implement energy saving measures to achieve emission reductions from its street lighting stock through policy change, innovation and capital investment.

Section 4: Lighting Levels and Hours of Illumination

All public lights in Westmeath County Council are currently illuminated from dusk until dawn.

New burn profiles are due to be introduced by the ESB Networks in early 2018. This will apply to LED lights only. Where lights are fitted with 'dimming and trimming' settings, it is proposed to reduce energy usage by taking account of this new regime when it is introduced.

Section 5: Maintenance

Westmeath County Council is responsible for the maintenance of public lighting that is taken in charge by the Council.

A Contract will be maintained with an Electrical Contractor to maintain the public lighting network in the County.

5.1 Asset Management Database

In order to maintain public lighting, it is imperative to keep accurate records of inventory. The DeadSure database is the current system used to manage all aspects of inventory from planning works, recording faults, maintaining lights, billing, energy management, and electrical testing. This Database facilitates the 'paperless' management of public lighting.

5.2 Maintenance Requirements

5.2.1 Routine Maintenance

Routine maintenance will be carried out within 10 working days of the fault being logged on the DeadSure Database.

All lights will have a Night Patrol once per month. Faults encountered on this patrol are logged directly onto the DeadSure Database.

5.2.2 Non Routine Maintenance

Non routine maintenance will be carried out within 1 month of the fault being logged.

5.2.3 Emergency Works

All emergencies shall be attended to by the Maintenance Contractor within 2 hours of notification.

Section 6: Communications

6.1 Logging Faults

Log Directly onto Deadsure Website

<https://deadsureapp.com/Inventory?map=DeadSureWestmeath>

The system requests the Customer to complete a short form to log a fault. This is the most efficient way of logging a fault as the problem is registered directly onto the DeadSure Database immediately. The customer receives an email confirming the fault has been logged. This ensures that faults are logged on the database and contractual timeframe obligations for repair of lights start straight away. A link is available on the Westmeath County Council website.

The Contractor provides a call centre facility for accepting and responding to faults from members of the public.

Faults can be logged on the Councils website or by phoning Westmeath County Council.

6.2 Notification of Emergencies

1. Follow Westmeath County Councils Emergency Response Procedure.
2. Phone Maintenance Contractor and give as much information as possible.

Contact Details:

Maintenance Contractor 094-9360954 (office hours) or 087-1955004 (24 hour)

ESB 1850 372 999