

Sunderland Street Lighting: Light Emitting Diode (LED) replacement programme.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are we doing?

Sunderland City Council has secured funding for an invest to save project which will, in its first phase see the replacement of nearly half of its existing street lighting lamps with more energy efficient LED units. This phase of the programme will see the majority of lighting in residential areas replaced within 18 months.

Why the need for change?

Street lighting accounts for nearly a third of the council's energy bill. The introduction of new LED lighting when totally complete will reduce the council's annual £3m energy charge and associated Carbon Tax levy by half. These savings will assist the council to meet its savings target without diminishing the lighting provision.

Why LED lighting?

LED lighting has a much longer lifespan, requires a lot less maintenance and it is extremely energy efficient returning at least a 50% saving over our existing sodium lights. It also provides a white light source with better night-time colour recognition; and concentrates the light onto the road and footway where it is needed, with less light pollution into homes, gardens and the night sky.

Who will be carrying out the works?

Aurora , a subsidiary company of Balfour Beatty, is the council's street lighting partner and service provider and it is through Aurora the project will be delivered.

Will every street light be replaced with an LED type light?

The first phase will see nearly 24,000 of the 49,000 lanterns replaced. These will be primarily located within residential estates. A full list of streets will appear on the AuroraLtd.com and Sunderland City Council websites.

Will there be any disruption?

No;-This work is very straightforward as the work simply requires the lighting heads to be replaced. There will be no need for any excavations in the street. Aurora operatives will typically take between 15-30 minutes per streetlight to complete the replacement.

Will I notice any difference?

Yes; you should notice a white light source which allows colours to be more easily identified during the night time. You may also notice that the light is focused downwards on the street and in some instances no longer spills light into surrounding gardens, driveways or fronts of properties.

When will work start in my street?

A street by street programme of works will be placed on the Aurora Street Lighting web page and will be kept up to date. www.AuroraLtd.com