

Dear Street Lighting or Highways Asset Owner,

Please find attached a part-year update regarding the Energy and Maintenance costs which you will be invoiced for in March 2023. We felt due to the current energy and fuel cost issues that we should provide some current costs. I had hoped to wait until we had received the September 2022 energy bills to provide a full 6 months or ½ year cost per unit but they appear to have been delayed and have yet to arrive, this may be due to insecurities in the energy markets from the political changes in recent weeks..

We have had no indication at this time that the current trend outlined in the attached update is likely to return to pre April 2022 Levels. As and when we receive any news we will update you ASAP.

Whilst I understand that this info may possibly raise more questions than it answers, at this time we know no more than you on where the costs for energy will be for September 2022 onwards to March 2023 and beyond.

As always please feel free to ask any questions you may have but please be aware I may not have any answers as I have stated above.

Kind Regards,

Andy

Andrew Allberry

Street Lighting Systems Manager

Dear Asset Owner,

We are contacting you at this time to keep you informed of the current situation regarding energy and maintenance costs relating to the street lighting/highway electrical equipment you own. As you are aware Suffolk County Council provides a service to maintain the assets and/or processes energy payments on your behalf with invoices being made towards the end of the financial year.

### **Energy**

The current economic situation has seen unprecedented increases in electricity energy costs since the beginning of the financial year. We have been tracking the costs this financial year and can confirm that after the first 5 months our energy costs have increased by 102% above that of last years' costs. Our current projections are showing that this increase is unlikely to fall and may increase further over the remaining 7 months of the financial year. This is something that we are closely monitoring.

### **Maintenance**

As a result of rapidly increasing fuel costs and material prices, coupled with component shortages, the usual annual indexation adjustment is now subject to regular review. Current increases are exceeding previous years' inflation figures and this financial year we are anticipating an increase of approximately 12-20% on last year's costs. Please note the exact figure is unknown at this stage and this figure could go up further. We are reviewing this regularly and monitoring this closely with our term maintenance provider.

With these increases in mind, please be aware that the full end of year costs could be significantly higher than you may have budgeted for. If you have replaced traditional lighting sources to LED lighting during this year, or have ordered replacements, then some of these increases may have been negated as your energy consumption decreases.

We appreciate this is disappointing news however we will continue to work with you to limit the effects of these increases wherever possible. If you would like to discuss options such as changing to energy efficient LED fittings or installation of our Control and Monitoring System that enables the implementation of part night lighting and/or dimming as energy saving options, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards.

Andrew Allberry

Street lighting Systems Manager

Suffolk County Council