

Essex County Council
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Received



Essex County Council

22 DEC 2015

Cllr Neil Stock
Leader of the Council
Tendring District Council
Town Hall
Station Road
Clacton on Sea CO15 1SE

Leader of the
Council's office

Date: 17 December 2015

Our Ref: DF/AC

Your Ref: NS/MBK/alw

Dear *Neill*

Thank you for your letter regarding your request for the re-instigation of all night street lighting in Tendring. I understand that your request is in two parts, the first being identifying what areas (predominantly urban) you would like to see the lights being re-instigated and the second regarding the cost of such a request.

Street lighting is an Essex County Council function which forms part of the Council's revenue budget. Essex County Council is required to make significant savings as a result of funding reductions. In order to make significant savings the Council has looked at a range of areas for service reductions, and the reduction of street lighting in some areas between 1.00 a.m. and 5.00 a.m. was one such saving and seen as having a minimal effect compared to other savings options and has, therefore, formed part of our savings programme.

I have concluded that districts who wish to see the lights re-instigated will need to commit to the total cost of lighting. To define which street lights are on or off, area and street by street, will be administratively costly and unworkable.

Turning to your request, should any district wish to see the lights re-instigated it will be on the basis of whole district and a four year commitment to give Essex County Council the surety of making its budget savings.

There is clearly a mixed demand by Tendring residents for the lights to be re-instigated and, as I have said previously, it is not feasible to re-instigate the lights in only parts of the district. Therefore having looked at your request, I do not feel that the re-introduction of all night street lighting on the basis you have requested is feasible for Tendring.

I know this may be disappointing for some of your residents but I am sure you will understand that in having to make substantial budget savings the County Council is having to make difficult decisions.

Yours sincerely

Cllr David Finch
Leader of the Council

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