

6.3 Report Purpose:

Consideration of annual energy costs for new festoon lights and lit benches.

Author: Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk

Background

Cheshire East Council regeneration team have successfully bid for UK Shared Prosperity funding to deliver a 'Macc on Foot project'. This project can only fund capital spend, which must be spent by March 2025, but means there is a fantastic opportunity for the town to have new furniture, planters, festoon lighting and outdoor eating areas. Therefore, ongoing maintenance needs to be considered and MTC have been approached to assist with potential costs.

At the previous Services Committee meeting on 11th September, it was agreed that the town council would fund the cost of installing the Christmas lights around the new festoon lights on Chestergate. It has also been requested by CEC that MTC hold the license for new outdoor eating areas, and we have requested a draft so the Town Council can understand its responsibilities.

Finally, CEC have also been approached to see if the town council would consider funding annual energy costs for the festoon lights and lit benches. These costs have been included in the draft budget for 25/26.

Annual costs

Item	Description of cost	Cost	Number of items	Total cost
Bench	Electrical cost for lit benches (power consumption)	£19.68 per bench	8	£157.44
Lit trees	Power consumption for lit trees	£66.42	12	£929.88
Festoon lights on Chestergate	Electrical cost for festoons (power consumption)	£563.34 (I have gone with worst case scenario)	510 luminaires	£563.34

3 yearly costs

Item	Description of cost	Cost	Number of items	Total cost
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Lit benches	Cleaning of the luminaires every 3 years	£100	8	£100
Lit trees	Cleaning of the luminaires every 3 years	£100	12	£100

6 yearly costs

Item	Description of cost	Cost	Number of items	Total cost
Lit benches	Periodic electrical test every 6 years to BS7671	£400	8	£400
Lit trees	Periodic electrical test every 6 years to BS7671	£400	12	£400

7 yearly costs

Item	Description of cost	Cost	Number of items	Total cost
	Every 7 years, 100 replacements costing £5 each			£500
	Periodic electrical test every six years to BS7671			£400

Total cost overall:

Annual cost Year 1 and 2	£1,650.66
Annual cost Year 3- 5	£1850.66
Annual Cost Year 6	£2650.66
Annual Cost Year 7	£3550.66

ACTION

Committee to consider approval of the above costs for maintenance of the Macc on Foot project of benches and festoons.