**Festive Lighting 2024/25 update noted.**

**8** There was submitted and noted a report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), regarding Festive Lighting within the Ward, advising of the central funding of £3,600 available to meet the costs of erecting and maintaining festive lighting and the proposed costs and locations advising that

(1) the standard pricing schedule for the 2024/25 festive lighting programme remained the same as previous years, however prices would be undergoing a review, which would be updated at the August Partnership meeting;

(2) the Festive Lighting delivery programme was subject to a new procurement exercise for 2025 to 2028;

(3) the costs to repeat the 2023/24 programme in 2024/25 was £4,800; and

(4) the Partnership could nominate additional or alternative festive lighting locations to those delivered as part of the 2024/25 programme, to be notified by June 2024 and to identify locations where a switch on event could be proposed for either a Christmas or natural tree.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) highlighted its disappointment at the excessive charges for a Christmas tree and lights; and

(b) noted that alternative locations could be provided to Karen Venables for consideration, that a review of costs would be carried out by NRS and a report provided at the next meeting of the Partnership.