Festive Lighting 2024/25 update noted etc – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

10 With reference to the minutes of 30th April 2024, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), regarding the festive lighting programme 2024/25, advising

(1) that £3,600 of central funding was available to meet the costs of erecting and maintaining festive lighting in the ward and that the partnership also had the option to fund additional festival lighting locations;

(2) of the festive displays and switch-on events which had been delivered as part of the 2023/24 festive lighting programme;

(3) that the Partnership should notify NRS of any proposed new locations for assessment by NRS to determine their feasibility;

(4) that the standard pricing schedule for the 2024/25 festive lighting programme, as detailed in the report, remains the same as in previous years, however the programme is subject to a new procurement exercise for the years 2025-28, with the pricing schedule being expected around the week commencing 21st October 2024; and

(5) that if the necessary funding for any additional costs was over and above the central funding this could be approved at a special festive lighting meeting to be held prior to 31st October 2024, following the updated pricing table or through delegated authority to the Council's Director of Communications and Corporate Governance, in consultation with the Chair, Councillor Casey to approve final costs.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted

(i) the 2023/24 festive lighting arrangements and the central funding available for the 2024/25 programme; and

(ii) the proposed locations for the 2024/25 festive lighting programme;

(b) agreed that the festive lighting programme for the ward would be approved by holding an additional meeting at the end of October 2024, after final updated prices had been confirmed during October 2024; and

(c) requested the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to submit a progress report on the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund to the additional meeting.