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

4 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) regarding the 2024/25 Festive Lighting Programme, advising

(1) that each Area Partnership would be awarded £3,600 central funding to meet the costs of erecting and maintaining festive lighting;

(2) of the festive lighting locations for the ward delivered as part of the 2023/24 programme, as detailed in the report;

(3) of the standard pricing schedule for the 2024/25 festive lighting programme, and the cost to repeat the 2023/24 programme in 2024/25 was still to be determined on conclusion of the tendering process, estimated to be in June 2024, as detailed in the report;

(4) that the Partnership could nominate additional or alternative festive lighting locations to those delivered as part of the 2023/24 programme, and that should any new locations be proposed, NRS required to be notified by June 2024 to allow the feasibility and cost of the new locations to be assessed;

(5) that the Partnership would be invited to identify locations where a switch on event was proposed to be held for either a Christmas tree or natural tree and that column mounted features would come on at the same time as the street lights on the day of installation;

(6) that if the total cost of the delivery of the festive lighting programme selected by the Partnership exceeded the £3,600 central funding, the balance of the funding would require to be met by the Area Partnership from other funds; and

(7) that the cost to repeat the 2023/24 programme in 2024/25 was £13,196.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) requested that the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

(i) provide details whether purchasing artificial trees was an option as these could be used each year and would be more cost efficient;

(ii) provide the partnership with a breakdown of what was included in the cost of £3,600 for a Christmas tree to be installed; and

(iii) explore the feasibility of donating trees that had already been cut down to recycle and replant them; and

(b) agreed that when the new tender was in place, they would look at options for Festive Lighting at the next Partnership meeting.