Festive Lighting Programme 2023/24 – Funding approved – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

9 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) regarding the 2023/24 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 location for the ward delivered as part of the 2022/23 programme, as detailed in the report;

(3) of the standard pricing schedule for the 2023/24 festive lighting programme, and the cost to repeat the 2022/23 programme in 2023/24, as detailed in the report;

(4) that the Partnership would be able to nominate additional or alternative festive lighting locations to those delivered as part of the 2023/24 programme, and that should any new location be proposed, NRS required to be notified by 5th May 2023 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; and

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

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the 2022/23 festive lighting arrangements and the central funding available for the 2023/24 programme;

(b) agreed

(i) to fund a repeat of the festive lighting programme of 2022/23 for 2023/24 however to change location of the natural tree at Drygate to the natural tree that faced the Drygate Brewery and light this tree instead; and

(ii) agreed the total funding for the projects of £16,796, less the central funding of £3,600 which resulted in a balance of £13,196 which would be met from the Area Partnership budget; and

(c) requested NRS to provide a breakdown of individual costs of festive lighting and to investigate the potential of community groups to secure procurement of Christmas trees for the future festive lighting programme.