

PUBLIC LIGHTING INFORMATION SHEET



Purpose of Public Street Lighting

Street lighting is important for pedestrian, vehicle and general public safety. Street lighting improves road user safety at night by illuminating roads and footpaths at intersections, sharp curves, traffic islands and pedestrian crossing points. Street lighting makes it easier for people to drive or walk along streets at night.

Please note: Street Lighting is not designed to identify private property locations or provide security lighting, in both metropolitan and rural areas. Lighting is designed to light our streets and pedestrian walkways only and provide a level of security to these areas.



Who owns and manages Council street lights?

Most Street Lighting in South Australia is owned and operated by SA Power Networks (SAPN) as a service to Councils and the State Government. The City of Playford pays for street lighting to be maintained via public lighting and energy tariffs. The City of Playford is also the authorising body for approving any changes to current street lighting. These can come from SAPN recommendations, changes to the current street lighting standard or a change in lighting demand.

The changeover to LED lights has been undertaken for all pedestrian category (P-Cat) non-decorative lights to a more sustainable 14W StreetLED fitting. At this stage the cost to replace a decorative equivalent light to LED is not yet feasible as a

bulk roll-out however they are being replaced with LED when a luminaire fails. There are larger lights classified as 'Vehicular road lights' that are used on major roads and intersections, however, energy efficient alternatives are not yet feasible for replacement of these lights either.

Contestable vs Non-Contestable Works

Contestable is work that can be undertaken by either SAPN or an accredited independent connections provider (ICP) arranged by the City of Playford Council. Non Contestable is work that can be only carried out by SAPN or Enerven for the safety and security of the distribution network.

Can residents request additional street lights?

Yes you can, however City of Playford & SAPN will assess requirements for additional street lighting as requested. Requests for additional lighting will be assessed against the requirements within Australian Public Lighting Standards. New installations are prioritised on user volumes and subject to

council's funding availability. Surrounding residents affected by the new light will need to be consulted to identify if additional lighting is also desired.

Why is the City of Playford replacing Street Lights?

Street Lighting is necessary but very expensive to run and they account for approximately 30 per cent of City of Playford Council's greenhouse gas emissions. The transition to LED street lighting technology will significantly reduce the council's energy consumption and maintenance costs per annum and provide an overall improvement to our street lighting network.

How do we report faults and enquires?

To report a street light not working or operating correctly during day light hours, you can visit the SAPN [click here](#) and report the street light out. For enquiries, in the first instance you can contact SAPN on 13 12 61, who will investigate resident requests and provide a recommendation to the City of Playford Council for their approval.

Shading/Shielding of Street Lights

In most cases where people are impacted by a street light adjacent to their house, the issue is the glare of the light not the light spilling into their property or through windows. The installation of LED street lights is proven to reduce glare and therefore the lighting upgrade may in fact assist residents. Where a resident can demonstrate that they are being significantly impacted on by light spill into their property from an adjacent street light, the installation of a shield on the light may be considered. In most cases the installation of shields or blanking out glass lenses will reduce lighting levels below the relevant Australian Standards for lighting for roads and public spaces (AS/NZS 1158), thus not making it a viable option.

If an option can be provided to shield the light, the resident may be required to bear the cost of retrofitting a shield in full prior to the shield being installed. This will be up to the discretion of the City of Playford Council.

SAPN technicians will assess a request for a shield which considers:

- Measured light levels (recorded level of under 1 LUX on the wall of the house is not considered obtrusive and therefore screening will not be recommended or offered)
- Light type or wattage
- Likely impacts on road and path lighting based on the available shield type
- Proximity of light to potential roadway conflict points for example intersections or traffic Islands.
- Shielding in residential areas constructed in the past 20 years is often not appropriate as street lighting has been specifically designed to meet the required standards at that time.
- There are no options for shielding post top or decorative lights.