

Dark skies – street Lights

Thank you for letting me speak, I have re-written my original statement as I was conscious that people like .. Lisa Ward whom will speak more eloquent and be more evidence based facts from people from lived experience.

After substantial backlash from our local communities and community groups, Oxfordshire Labour councillors and MPs, and Thames Valley Police, charities & voluntary sector, university & colleges, I'm pleased you have deferred making this decision on [their proposal to turn out street lights across the county at 11pm](#). This comes after you – the Green / Lib Dem run County Council attempted to make a decision at just a week's notice to the general public, this has caused an outcry from residents across Oxfordshire, including many women who are already concerned about their safety late at night. It would also unfairly disadvantage shift workers who would have to travel to and from work in darkness.

Well-lit streets are a key component to our community safety, security, and well-being, taking this away restricts women's freedom of movement.

Although Oxfordshire County council conducted an Equality impact assessment, you have failed to address how this policy will impact women specifically, from the violence against women and girls agenda. This proposal does not consider safety to the public, in particular females, irrespective of whether it is a real or a perceived risk. You've not even consulted Oxford City Council's Safer Streets lead, who leads on the Safer Streets initiative set out by the Government, this proposal appears to go against the aims of Safer Streets and the outcomes the Government are expecting

The Policy lacks detail on how it has worked in other areas, and therefore it is difficult to have a full understanding of the impact of Part Night Lighting (PNL).

Also points 72 and 73 say that a consultation is not needed as there is sufficient precedent across the country for this scheme, No, no, no. Partnership working, co-production, consultation should always be part of the policy making.

Now... May I ask that a meaningful face to face workshop - consultation to take place, with the relevant organisations, whom many are here or have spoken out about this policy to have a real understanding to what your trying to achieve, nether less I am completely against this ill thought out policy.

Thank you.

Cllr Mark Lygo.