

Contact details:

Email: derbyroadfund@gmail.com

Post: 31 Derby Road

www.derbyroad.co.uk

30th May 2025

Dear Neighbour,

**INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND INVESTMENT:
STREET LIGHTING COLUMNS SAFETY**

Further to our letter in March, here is an update on the street lighting columns.

The Council have confirmed that the existing street lamp columns are degraded and some are heavily corroded above and below ground with structural faults.

In several lamps, the top boxes contain unsafe live electrical equipment (**see Photo 3**) that fail current safety standards and electrical, health, safety and environmental regulations. There are no doors at ground level, and the top boxes do not have sufficient space to install the necessary SSEN Distribution Network Operator (DNO) equipment, including a cutout and isolator. For this reason, the same type of column cannot be installed.

Compliance with these standards minimises risks to maintenance contractors, road users and the general public, while ensuring that the street lighting is effective and safe to use.

SSEN's statement following their examination of the streetlamps in 2024 was as follows:

"SSEN is obliged by legislation to remove its assets (incoming cables, fuse carrier, earth/neutral connection blocks) from street furniture confirmed as being unsafe due to damage or degradation if the owner doesn't take the appropriate action to ensure safety."

This places an obligation on us to replace the street lighting columns now. The Council have confirmed that they are not responsible for the maintenance of the street lighting on Derby Road. Therefore, all costs will be payable by the Derby Road Fund. However, the Council, acting as the sub-contractor, will continue to support the Derby Road Fund Association (DRFA) by facilitating access to their Term Street Lighting Contractor, M Group (formerly Milestone) and obtaining from their contractor quotations both now and for future maintenance and reactive repairs as required.

The DRFA has received two quotations from the Council for the replacement of 10 lighting columns. Both options feature LED lamps and match the existing lamp height of 5 metres.

The Council advises that these are the only two options available at present, given ongoing supply chain and manufacturing issues.

Option 1: Approximate lead time from order: 6 weeks
Standard Columns: Phillips Luma (see Photo 1):
£16,304.95 + sub-contractor's fees £1,639.49 + VAT = TOTAL £21,522.52.

Option 2: Approximate lead time from order: 6 months
Heritage Columns: Windsor Urban Luminaire with traditional frog (see Photo 2):
£26,609.68 + sub-contractor fees £2,690.27 + VAT = TOTAL £35,520.78.

These costs are based on the prices the supplier quoted at the time (usually valid for 4-6 weeks), so once a decision has been made on which columns will be ordered, they would re-quote to check there has been no price change from the supplier.

The Council will also provide evidence of works completed to specification.

As these quotes exceed the £600 + VAT limit given in the DRFA Constitution, we are seeking residents' and businesses' approval for one of the two recommended quotes so that the work can go ahead. A minimum of 50 votes will need to be cast and the option that receives the most votes will be ordered.

As per the DRFA Constitution, only full members (i.e. a named freeholder/leaseholder of a property on Derby Road or one of its offshoot roads who has paid their requested 2024/25 DRFA contribution sent to all residents in August 2024) will be eligible to vote. This is an important issue to resolve, so we would appreciate your input into the decision-making process.

Please indicate your choice of **Option 1** OR **Option 2** by **6th June**, either by email to derbyroadfund@gmail.com or by post to 31 Derby Road using the slip at the bottom of the letter. If you are replying by email, please include your preferred choice in your message.

If you have any questions on this, do get in touch. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

The DRFA Committee

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My vote for the replacement street lighting columns is:

Option 1: Standard Columns: Phillips Luma

or

Option 2: Heritage Columns Windsor Urban Luminaire

(please give only one option in your reply)

Name and address:

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Option 1:



Photo 3:



3

Option 2:



Google