



Reference: FOI1162

Request:

This is a request for information per the Freedom of Information Act concerning the plans, if any, that North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority may have implemented, or are proposing to implement, concerning 5G Technology, the Smart Grid, replacement of telephone poles and LED lighting.

1.1 Do North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority have a 5G strategy?

No, NTC does not have a specific 5G strategy.

It is party to the North East Combined Authority, which does have a 5G ambition.

Please see <https://northeastca.gov.uk/news/5g-technology-for-the-north-east-region/> and contact the North East Combined Authority for further information.

If so, I request to see the complete strategy, its ambitions and its objectives in a Word, PDF or picture format.

N/A

1.2 If yes, have North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority published, or provided the public with an opportunity to read and understand, their plans concerning 5G Strategy ? Is the installation of LED lighting part of the 5G strategy ? If so, have the public been informed of the benefits and/or risks involved in LED lighting ?
If so, where can I find the relevant documentation?

N/A

1.3 I request copies of any documents that North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority have received from any source (such as, but not limited to, the Westminster government, the European Union, 5G network installers, etc.) detailing all the 5G technology (for LED street lights, see 1.11), both planned and currently in use, in public spaces in North Tyneside, including the following information:

N/A

(a) all companies and entities involved and the names of the company/entity officers;

N/A

(b) specification sheets of all 5G technology;

N/A

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(c) details of any technology (eg, units and arrays) which are not currently 5G, but which can be 5G enabled with current software, future software, hardware upgrades or retrofitting;

N/A

(d) details of the UK and international safety standards which North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority intend to comply with regarding both 5G strategy and existing 5G technology;

N/A

(e) documentary proof from a recognised authority confirming that UK and international safety standards for workers and the public are being, and will continue to be, met;

N/A

1.4 I request copies of all documentation, memos, emails and communication on companies and entities North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority are in talks with regarding the formulation of a 5G strategy.

See above. NTC is not independently forming a 5G strategy and is not in talks with companies or entities about formulation of an NTC 5G strategy

1.5 I request the name(s) of the officer(s) in charge of the 5G strategy and roll out, including their CV and qualifications in 5G and Smart Cities; also, the names of their subject area expert or consultancy, together with their CV and qualifications on 5G and Smart Cities;

The overall Digital Strategy (which would include 5G, where relevant) is in the remit of the Head of Digital Strategy, Ben Kaner

Ben Kaner

Education: Cambridge University (Natural Science) MA (Cantab)

Roles:

IBM (1988-1997) - IBM Qualified Systems Engineer through to Senior Network Solutions Architect

XBS (1997-2000) - Head of Networks Division

HP (2000-2003) European Lead Architect for E-Services Solutions and the HP Mobile E-Services Bazaar

BT (2003-2014) Senior Solutions Architect, Mobile Services, Large systems, then Head of Strategic Technology and Innovation, BT Global Services Government and Health. Includes formulating BT Global Services Strategy on Smart Cities and the enabling of Civic Vision using technology

Engie/NTC (2015-Current) Head of Digital Strategy

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1.6 Are North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority in talks with any experts, companies or entities about autonomous vehicles (AV) for public transport and/or private use on public highways in North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland?

No information held.

If so, I request to see the complete strategy, its ambitions and its objectives in a Word, PDF or picture format.

N/A

1.7 I also request supplementary documentation containing:

N/A

(a) details of all companies and entities involved and the names of the company/entity officers;

N/A

(b) specification sheets of all the technology involved;

N/A

(c) full details of the type of communication system which North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority will be utilising to control the vehicles;

N/A

(d) information regarding what UK and international safety standards the AV strategy and rollout will comply with;

N/A

(e) proof, eg, certification by a recognised authority, confirming that UK and international safety standards for workers and the public have been met.

N/A

1.8 If no current negotiations are taking place, I request all documentation, memos, emails and communication on companies and entities North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority are in talks with regarding the formulations of an autonomous public and private vehicle technology strategy.



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No Information Held

1.9 Do North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority have a strategy for smart roads and smart signage on Public Highways and Public spaces?

No

If so, I request to see the complete strategy, its ambitions and its objectives in a Word, PDF or picture format.

N/A

1.10 I also request supplementary documentation giving:

N/A

(a) the names of all companies and entities involved and the names of the company/entity officers;

N/A

(b) specification sheets of all technology;

N/A

(c) details of any technology (eg, units and arrays) which will not be 5G, but can be 5G enabled, with, eg, current software, future software, hardware upgrades or retrofitting etc; please be specific;

N/A

(d) details of the UK and international safety standards with which your 5G strategy and rollout comply;

N/A

(e) proof, in the form of certification by a recognised authority, that UK and international safety standards for workers and the public have been met.

N/A

1.11 If not, I request all documentation, memos, emails and communication on companies and entities North Tyneside are in talks with regarding smart roads and smart signage.



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1.12 Are North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority planning, or have they already implemented, an LED street lighting system ?

If so, please respond to the following questions/requests.

Yes

(a) What are the CMS [Central Management Systems] and specification of the software and hardware of the LED street light system?

The CMS used is Mayflower Complete Lighting Control. LED manufacturers and models are listed below. All software and hardware relating to the operations of LED lights is produced and controlled by the manufacturers:-

Zumbatel (Thorn); CiviTeq Range, R2L2 Range

Signify (Philips); Micro Luma, Mini Luma, Luma 1, Luma 2, Mini-Iridium

Urbis; Axia

b) What type of waveform is the LED (eg, square wave)?

The information would be provided by the manufacturers of the specific LED lanterns and determined in relation to their individual characteristics. Please see list of manufacturers for question 5.1

(c) Is it possible to control the Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) of the streetlight system using the CMS?

No

(d) Is it possible to control the PWM of each streetlight that is connected to the system?

No

(e) What restrictions are in place for the control of the PWM?

***No control of PWM is specified beyond the relevant British Standards and CE markings for manufacture of Lanterns within the European Union. This issue has not been specified within the PFI contract over and above BS EN-60598.**

(f) What are the UK and international safety limits (low and high) for the amount of "flicker" (Hz) the human body and eyes can safely be exposed to, and for how long?

This is not a matter for the Council to provide information on.

(g) I request a copy of the training manual and safety operation manual for the CMS and the LED streetlight system.

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Please refer to BS EN 60598 and relevant published guides from the manufacturers stated previously.

(h) What company is installing, or has installed, the CMS LED streetlight system?

SSE Contracting

(i) What company maintains and repairs the CMS and LED streetlight system?

SSE Contracting.

(j) What entity or officer is, or will be, responsible for monitoring the safety standards for the CMS and LED streetlight system?

British Standards Institute, European Union and International Standards Organisation. SSE Contracting.

(k) I request proof, in the form of certification by a recognised authority, that UK and international safety standards for workers and the public have been met.

All manufacturers provide evidence of CE Marking and BS EN accreditation on their websites and data sheets, see list of manufacturers previously.

(l) What is the amount of blue light leakage that is safe for the public and workers during the LED streetlights operation?

Please refer to BS EN 60598. This is a public health issue as governed by the BS and CE or the Department for Health.

(m) What level of LED streetlight exposure is safe for the public at daytime and night-time?

Please refer to BS EN 60598. This is a public health issue as governed by the BS and CE or the Department for Health.

(n) Is there a legal requirement for diffusers to be fitted to LED streetlights?

No

(o) What measures have North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority put in place to counter the oxidative stress on human and animal cells that results from exposure to LED?

Please refer to BS EN 60598. This is a public health issue as governed by the BS and CE or the Department for Health.

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1.13 If not, then I request a declaration from North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority that they will not be installing LED streetlights in the future. If such an assurance cannot be provided, please respond to the following questions/requests in the future tense.

(a) What will be the CMS and specification of the software and hardware of the proposed LED street light system?

N/A

(b) What type of waveform is proposed (eg, square wave)?

N/A

(c) Will it be possible to control the pulse width modulation (PWM) of the streetlight system using the CMS?

N/A

d) Will it be possible to control the PWM of each street light that's connected to the system?

N/A

(e) What restrictions do North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority propose to have in place for the control of the PWM?

N/A

(f) What are the UK and international safety limits (low and high) for the amount of 'flicker' (Hz) the human body and eyes can safely be exposed to, and for how long?

N/A

(g) I request to see the training manual and safety operation manual for the proposed CMS and the LED streetlight system.

N/A

(h) What company will be installing the CMS and the LED streetlight system?

N/A

(i) What company will be maintaining and repairing the CMS and LED streetlight system?

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N/A

(j) What entity and officer will be responsible for the safety standards for the CMS and LED streetlight system?

N/A

(k) I request proof in the form of certification by a recognised authority confirming that UK and international safety standards for workers and the public will be met.

N/A

(l) What is the amount of blue light leakage that is safe for the public and workers during the LED streetlights operation?

N/A

(m) What level of LED streetlight exposure is safe for the public at daytime and night-time?

N/A

(n) Is there a legal requirement for diffusers to be fitted to LED streetlights?

N/A

(o) What measures do North Tyneside/North of Tyne Combined Authority intend to put in place to counter the oxidative stress on human and animal cells which results from exposure to LED lighting?

N/A

1.14 I request copies of all memos, presentations, documents, plans, rollouts, emails and details regarding 2G, 3G, 4G, 5G, and WiFi (Wireless Fidelity) / LiFi (Light Fidelity) in public spaces.

No information held.