

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

(1) City departments responsible for operating City buildings will, where technically feasible:

(iii) turn off all non-essential equipment when buildings are generally unoccupied; and

(2) all City-operated buildings turn off non-essential lights when business is completed at the end of the day and during weekends.

Background (Lights):

The public expects the City to show leadership in areas like turning off lights when the business day is over. Creating a policy whereby all City buildings, where feasible, will turn off lights when business has concluded will:

- (i) identify the City as a leader in energy reduction;
- (ii) reduce energy, improve air quality and reduce emissions;
- (iii) reduce the demand for energy;
- (iv) address the concerns of taxpayers who point to the fact that City buildings' lights are "left on all the time";
- (v) allow the City to challenge the commercial sector to do the same.

The general practice in City buildings is to turn lights off after business hours. However, this practice should be enforced by the policy described above to underline its importance and to encourage staff to assist the City in meeting its environmental and energy saving targets.