apse membership resources

Briefing 20-05 **January 2020**

Street Lighting: Trend analysis 2018/19

This briefing provides details on the performance information available from APSE's performance networks service looking at performance indicators and current policy issues for councils who deliver Street Lighting services.

Key issues

- The average cost of maintaining a street light (including replacements) is £77.40
- Energy cost per lamp continues to fall, mirroring the change to LED and now stands at £31.93. Time to rectify faults by the regional electricity supplier however continues to deteriorate –now standing at 19.68 days and only 79% within agreed timescales
- Overall investment (capital & revenue spend) remains high at £70.70 although revenue spend is declining rapidly – now at £23.19 a 41.6% decline over the last 5 years.

Overview

The APSE performance networks performance indicators for street lighting cover the cost, productivity and quality elements of the service. This analysis aims to provide participating authorities with an overview of service trends, what this infers and what further activity and analysis individual authorities and the APSE roads/highways, winter maintenance and street lighting benchmarking group could consider. The analysis in this summary is based on averages across all family groups.

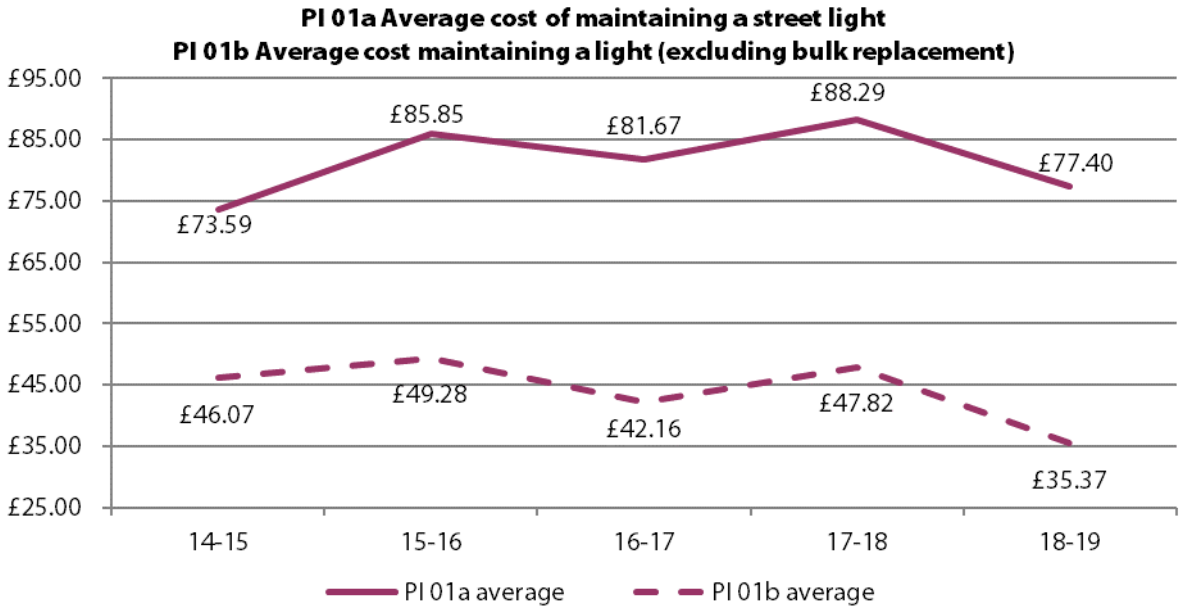
Cost measures

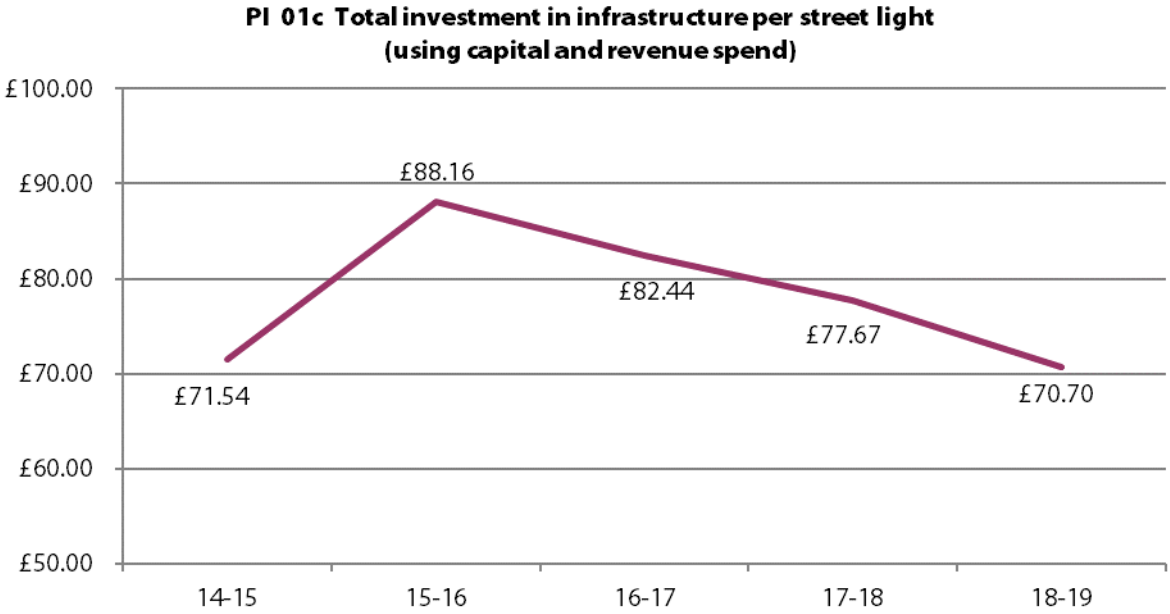
Headline figures:

In 2018/19,

The average cost was on average £77.40 for maintaining a single street light.

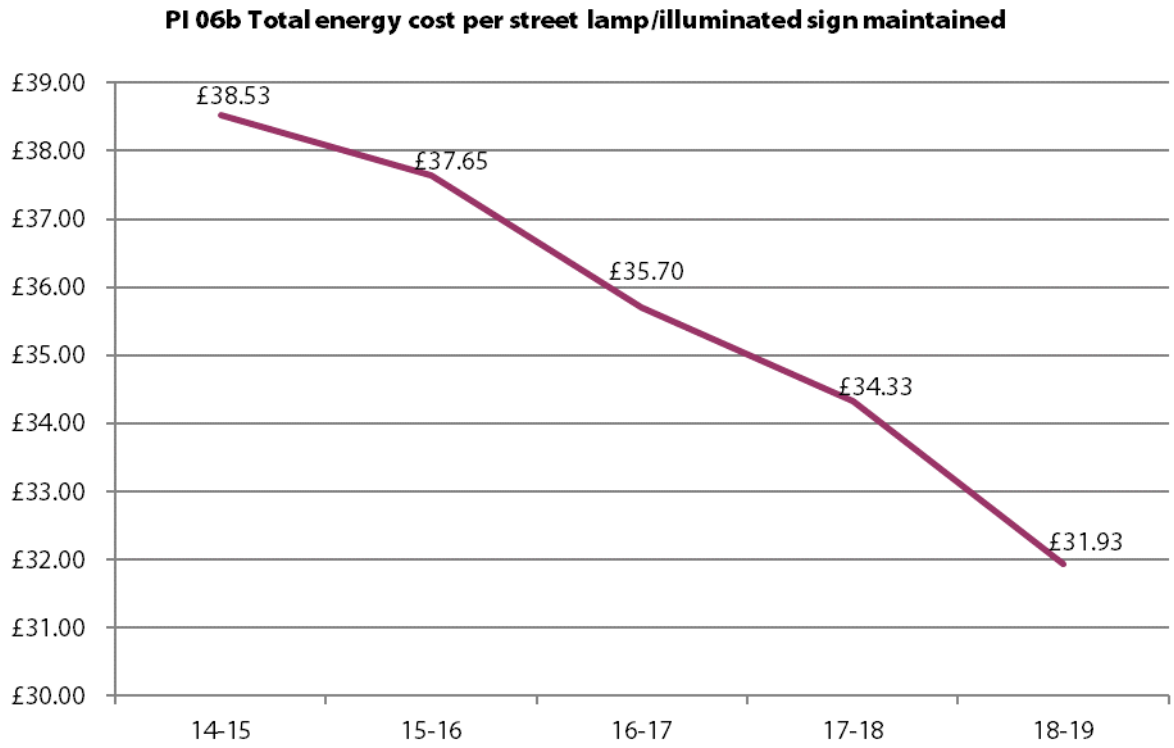
The average figure for investment in street lighting infrastructure was £70.70 per light.

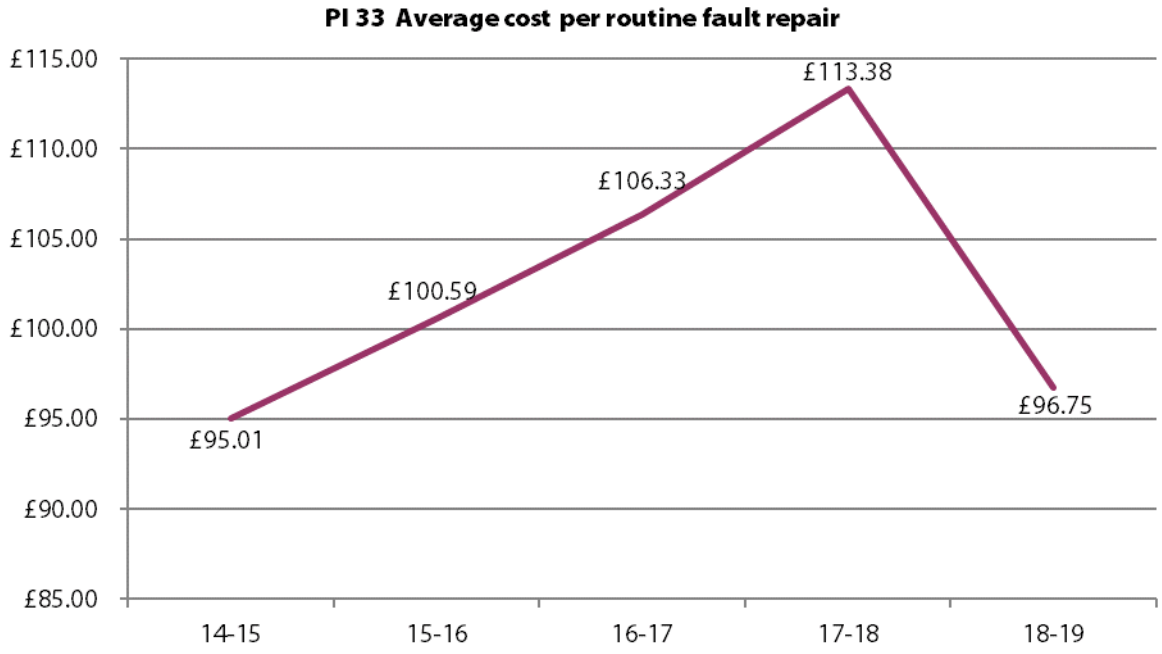

PI 01a Average cost of maintaining a street light
PI 01b Average cost maintaining a light (excluding bulk replacement)
£95.00
£85.00
£75.00
£65.00
£55.00
£45.00
£35.00
£25.00
£73.59
£85.85
£81.67
£88.29
£77.40
£46.07
£49.28
£42.16
£47.82
£35.37
14-15
15-16
16-17
17-18
18-19
PI 01a average
PI 01b average


PI 01c Total investment in infrastructure per street light
(using capital and revenue spend)
£100.00
£90.00
£80.00
£70.00
£60.00
£50.00
£71.54
£88.16
£82.44
£77.67
£70.70
14-15
15-16
16-17
17-18
18-19

The total energy cost was £31.93 to maintain a street light/illuminated sign.

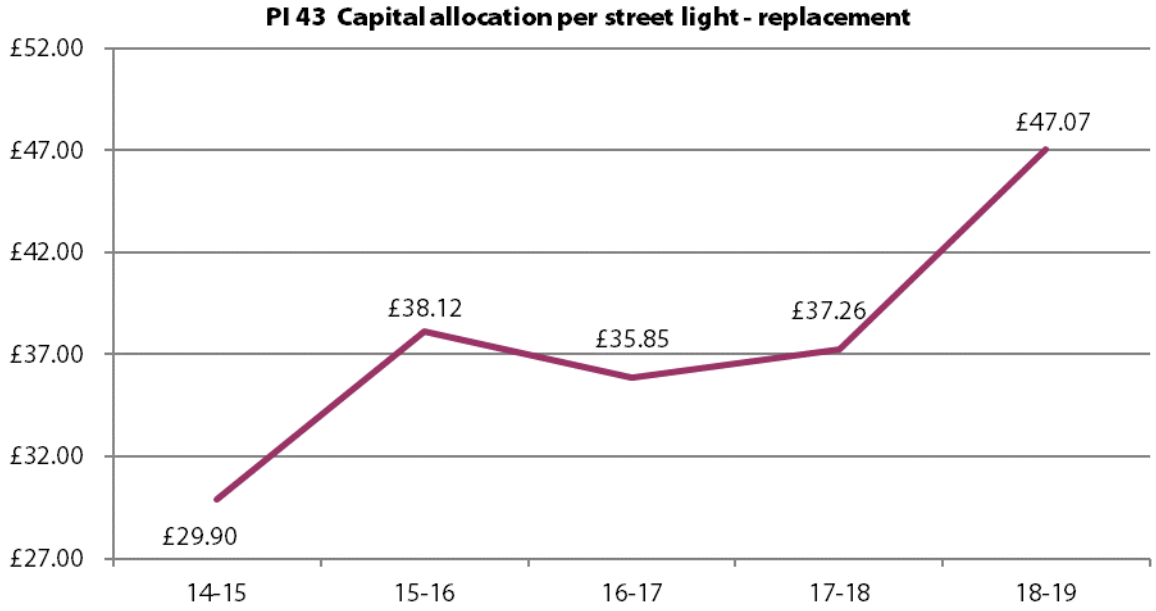
The average cost was £96.75 per routine fault repair.

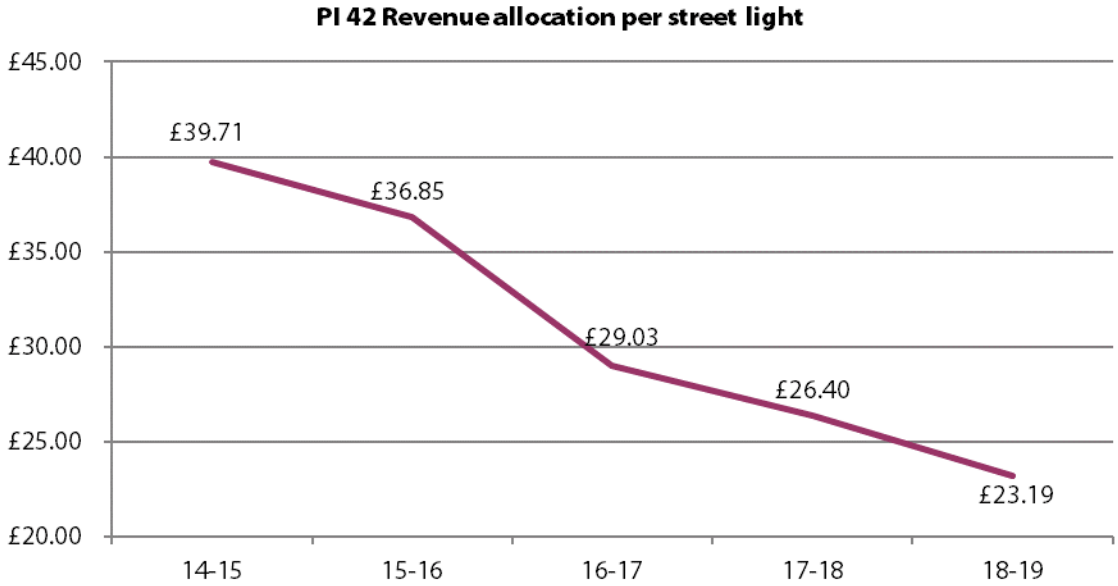




Investment:

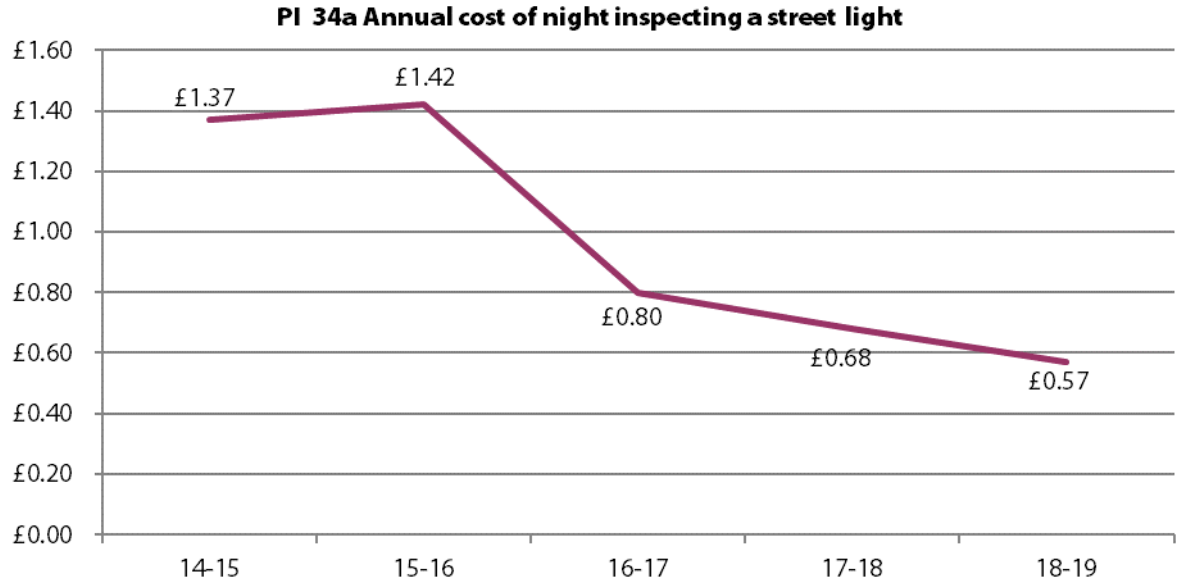
The total investment in infrastructure per street light can be broken down into an average investment of £47.07 in capital expenditure and £23.19 in revenue expenditure. The average investment in revenue is exhibiting a significant downward trend, whilst the capital investment has slightly increased this year. This reflects the relative squeeze in revenue expenditure over recent years and the move to longer lasting LED lighting.





Costs of inspection:

With the advent of Central Management Systems (CMS), significantly fewer authorities use night inspections as they can monitor lights centrally. For those who continue, there has been little variation in the individual cost of night inspecting a street light (PI 34b), which was £0.06 in 2018/19. The annual cost of night inspecting a street light (PI 34a) has fallen again in 2018/19 to £0.57, down from £1.42 in 2015/16, a 60% fall over three years.



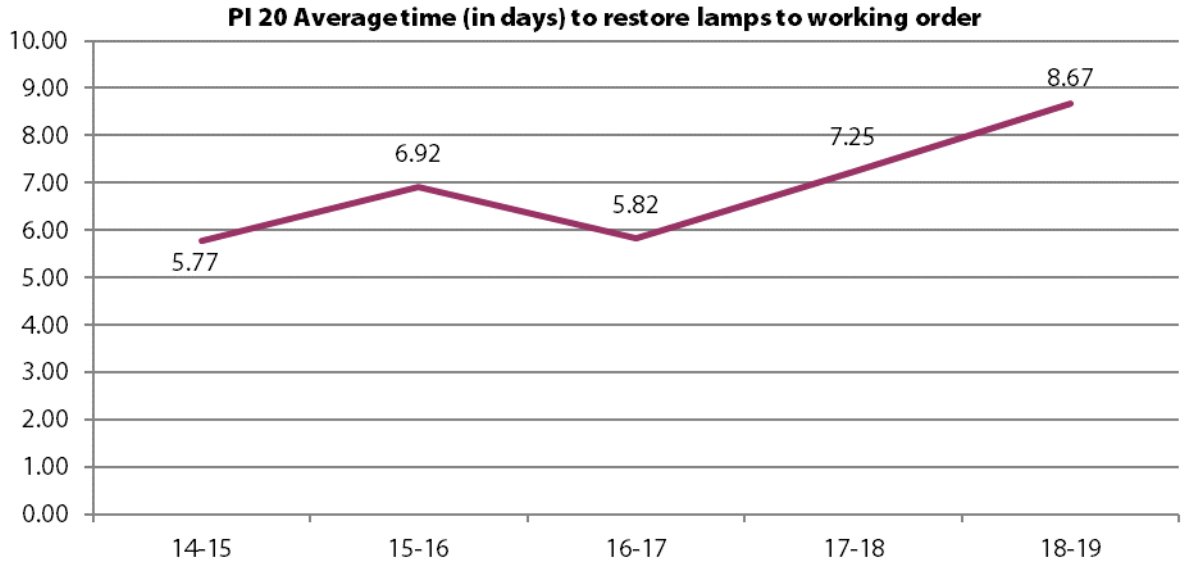
Overall, most cost measures are exhibiting a downward trend reflecting a reduced need for investment in lieu of recent stock upgrades and also, a reduced energy demand due to the implementation of LED lanterns.

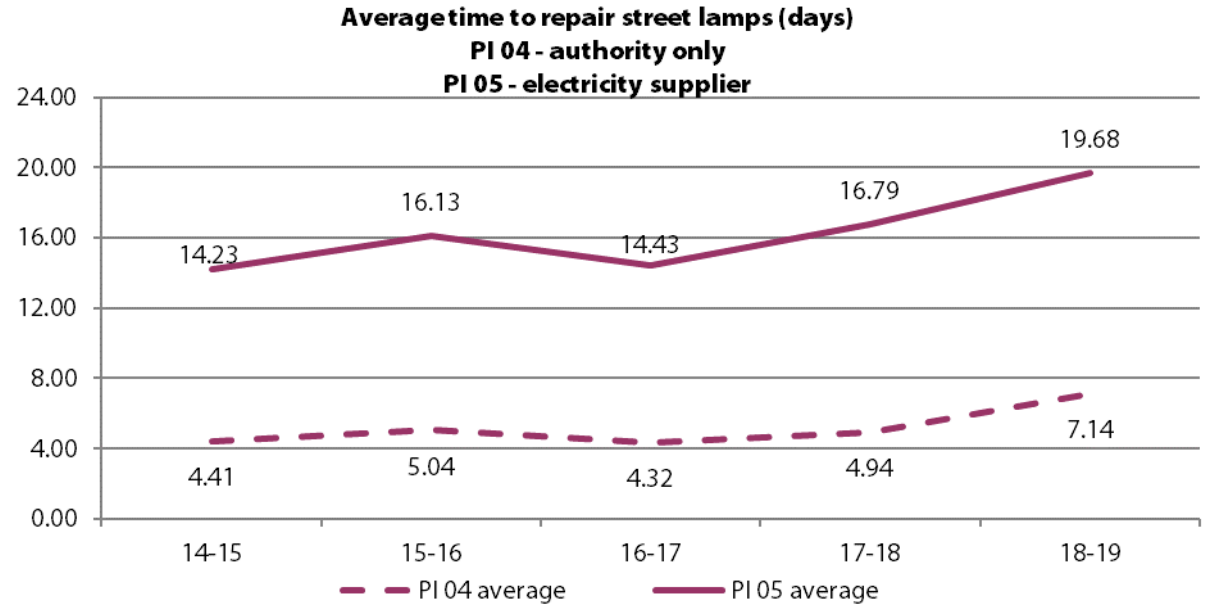
Having increased every year for the past 5 years, the average cost per routine fault repair appears to have peaked and started to fall (although one year doesn't make a trend). The current figure of £96.75 represents a 15% reduction year on year and may reflect the peak has been passed after recent stock investment.

Productivity

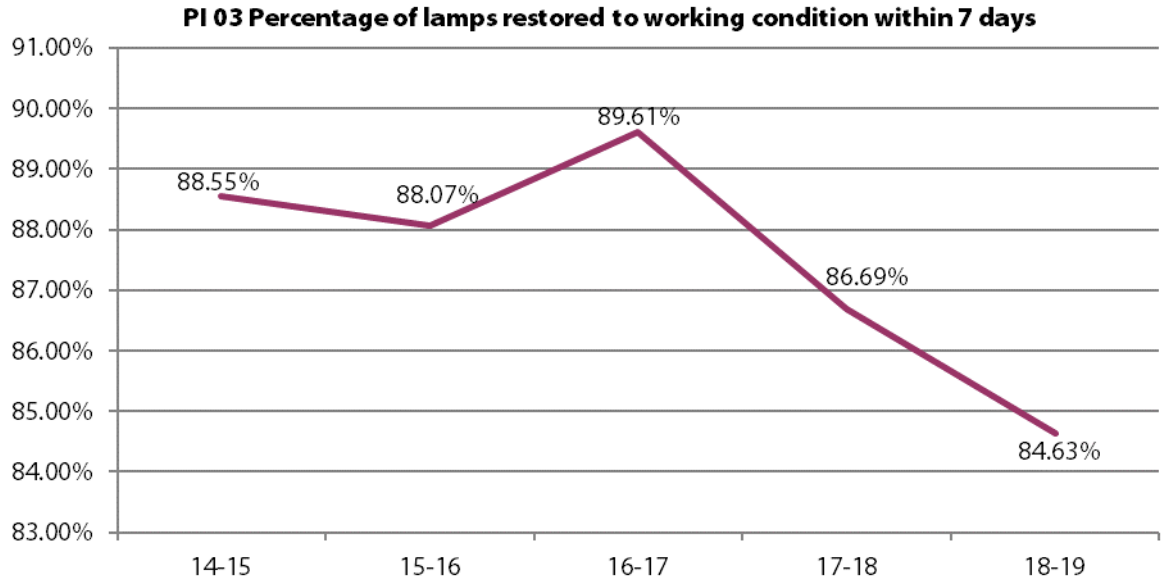
This year, we have seen a further increase in the average number of days taken to restore a lamp to working order to 8.67 days.

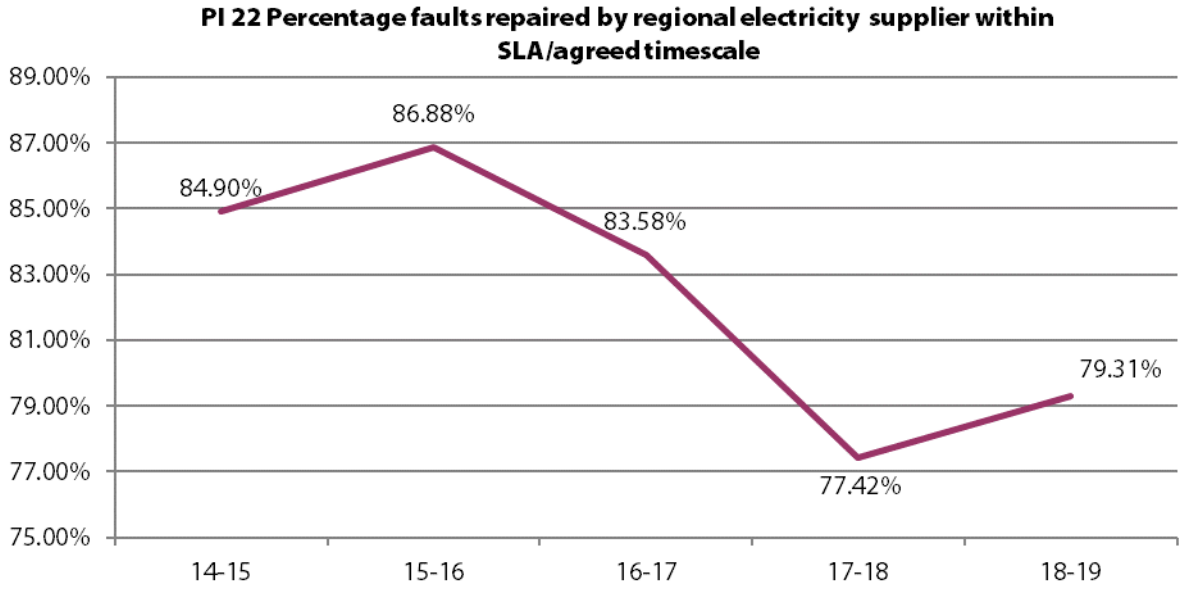
The first graph (PI 20) gives an overall picture of the data submitted this year and the second (PI 04 & PI 05 overleaf) shows how this measure differed for those repaired by authorities and those repaired by electricity suppliers.





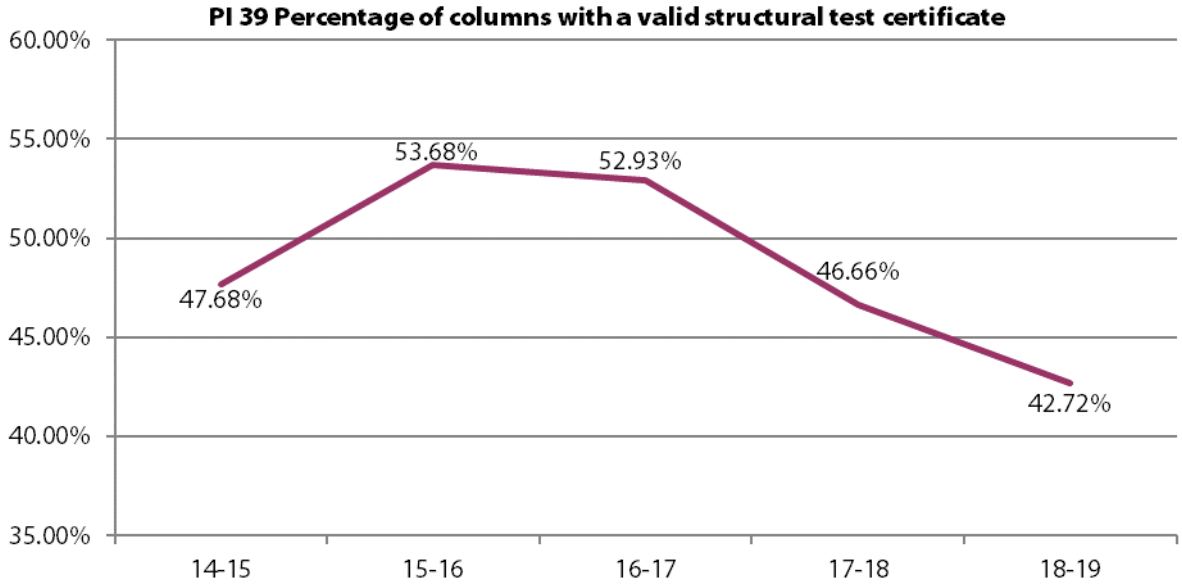
Alongside this, we have seen a reduced percentage of lamps restored to working condition within 7 working days although the percentage of faults repaired by the regional electricity supplier within the SLA/agreed timescale has stabilised at 79.31% (PI 22).

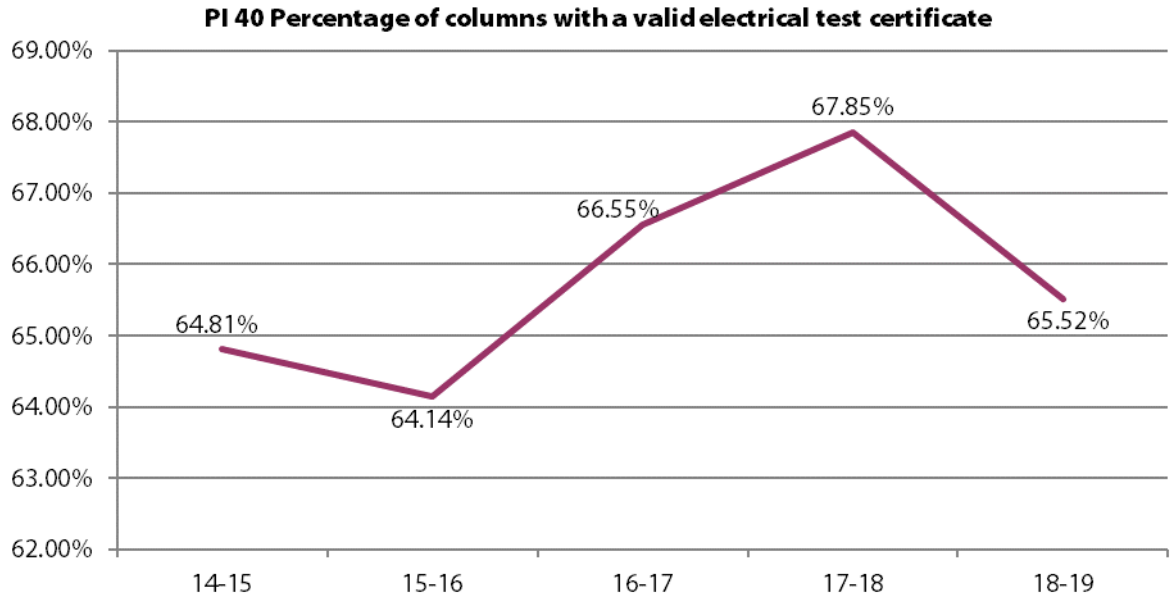




Quality

PI 39 "percentage of columns with a valid structural test certificate" has slightly decreased this year to 42.72%. In parallel, PI 40 "Percentage of columns with a valid electrical test certificate" has also fallen to 65.52%, similar to the values 3 years ago.





APSE local authority energy collaboration

APSE Energy is working with many local authorities who are seeking faster progress on the sustainability and energy agenda. Climate Emergency Declarations are prompting them to develop action plans and engage widely with stakeholders. APSE Energy and our 100 member local authorities have a joint vision of the municipalisation of energy, so increasing the role of the local authorities within the local energy sector. In other words, the public and community, as well as private, ownership and managerial control of local energy generation, distribution and supply as well as the delivery of energy efficiency works. APSE Energy provides capacity to its members to enable them to keep up to date with this rapidly developing agenda, has an advocacy role to promote the work of councils in this sector and can help with consultancy support for specific projects including street lighting projects. APSE Energy members have significant expertise within the energy sector and sharing this expertise is a function of the group.

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