

Portobello Community Council  
[secretary@portobellocc.org](mailto:secretary@portobellocc.org)

Date 07/12/2016

Your ref

Our ref PBCC07Dec16JS

Dear Portobello Community Council,

**Christmas lighting column motifs**

I am writing to offer my sincere apologies for the lack of notice given to you regarding the removal of the Christmas lighting column motifs. There has clearly been a breakdown in communication between officers within the Council.

Unfortunately the stock of lights and other decorations has suffered damage due to weather, vandalism and general wear and tear and we were unable to meet the replacement costs within the very constrained revenue budget. This decision was made by Council officers and is my responsibility. No elected Councillors were involved in the decision making process.

We are working to ensure that this breakdown in communication does not occur in future.

I can assure you that we will be reviewing our festive lighting provision early in the New Year, and in particular reviewing the capital budget to determine whether provision for replacement lights can be allocated for next year. We will keep you informed of the outcomes.

Again, please accept my apologies.

Yours sincerely



Paul Lawrence  
Executive Director of Place

**Paul Lawrence, Executive Director - Place**

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