

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY 12 APRIL 2022

ELECTRIC VEHICLE STRATEGY UPDATE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR: NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

- 1.1 This report provides an update on our Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy both in terms of strategy development and related ongoing projects.
- 1.2 The primary aim of our EV Strategy is to support EV users with accessible chargepoints across the Borough to ensure EVs are a viable option for residents, visitors and businesses. This will support our climate change action plan by encouraging the adoption and roll out of electric vehicles, and improve the quality of life for residents through a reduction of noise and air quality impacts.
- 1.3 This update identifies the range of work that is ongoing including:
- Review of existing EV strategy and production of new Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy
 - Production of a Council Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy
 - Residential and Council EV Toolkits

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Communities Committee considers the approach taken with the Electric Vehicle Strategy, progress made to date as outlined in this report and offer areas for further review.
- 2.2 Communities Committee considers the role of the Council in developing/delivering this infrastructure alongside the role the market has.
- 2.3 Communities Committee considers the current plans to replace council operated vehicles with EV's as they reach the end of their contracted period

3. **IMPACT OF ACTION**

3. **Background**

- 3.1 In 2018, Telford & Wrekin Council developed and adopted the Ultra-low Emission Vehicle Strategy which recognized the benefits of EVs and the requirement for publically accessible charging infrastructure.
- 3.2 In June 2019, the UK Government announced ambitious plans to achieve net zero by 2050 and followed this in November 2020 by banning the sale of new petrol and diesel cars by 2030.
- 3.3 In July 2019 the Council declared a climate emergency and committed to ensuring we are carbon neutral by 2030. The 'Becoming carbon neutral' Action Plan includes a number of actions to support the Council's transition to an electric fleet and to support employees to do the same.

Action	Completion Year	Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO₂e)	Status
Explore the replacement of pool vehicles with ultra-low emission vehicle	December 2030	There are 31 pool vehicles averaging approx. 268,000 miles a year, equating to approx. 72 tonnes CO ₂ per annum. Replacement with ultra-low emission vehicles, there is potential on average to save 52 tonnes CO ₂ e dependent on the vehicle type.	In progress
Procurement of a multi partner electric vehicle framework and deployment across car parks in Telford & Wrekin – not limited to TWC ownership	April 2022	Supports wider Borough switch to low emission vehicles.	In progress
Review Council's Fleet Services to ensure optimum efficiency and carbon reductions	April 2022	To be determined, once data is available	In progress
Run a campaign to specifically promote electric vehicles via the Zenith Salary Sacrifice Car Lease Scheme	April 2022	To be determined – target for future uptake of EV's via Lease Scheme to be agreed.	Ongoing
Explore the provision of a 100% renewable fast charging Electric Vehicle Forecourt	December 2022	The Council is working with different providers to identify a viable site.	In progress

4. Current Situation

- 4.1 Since, the 2018 Ultra-low Emission Vehicle Strategy, the number of EV chargepoints across the Borough has almost doubled from 11 to 20 (with a further 3 planned), providing 41 charging devices. The rapid increase in chargepoint locations is due to supermarkets and drive-thru restaurants recognising that providing EV chargepoints could support EV drivers to their businesses.
- 4.2 During the same time period, there has also been rapid increase in the number of ultra-low emission vehicles registered in the Borough. Ultra-low emission vehicles includes plug in hybrid, self-charging hybrid and electric vehicles. At the end of 2017, the number of ultra-low emission vehicles registered in the Borough was 164. By Quarter 3 of 2021, this figure had risen to 1,310, an increase of 699%. However, it is important to note that this represents less than 1% of all cars and vans registered in the Borough.
- 4.3 Since 2014, 599 EV chargepoint devices has been installed under the EV Homecharge Scheme (EVHS) and 51 sockets has been installed under the Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS). These schemes are operated by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV).

5. Strategy Review

- 5.1 In August 2021, we commenced a strategy review in response to the rapid uptake in electric vehicles and Government funding opportunities. The review consists of three elements:
- Public EV Charging Strategy
 - Council EV Charging Strategy
 - Funding, procurement and delivery of EV chargepoints

6. Public EV Charging Strategy

- 6.1 To date, work on the Public EV Charging Strategy has comprised:
- Policy & funding review – providing the latest guidance and funding opportunities to the Council.
 - Technology & market review – showing the range of charging infrastructure available and how these could be deployed across the borough.
 - Commercial models – showing the range of ownership models of charging infrastructure and the options for the Council to consider.
 - Demand Analysis – to identify locations for the installation of publicly accessible EV chargers.
 - Draft Action Plan – identifying actions that Council should take forward
- 6.2 The strategy recognises that while the Council can lead on chargepoint installation in its car parks or on-street, support is needed from residents,

workplaces, retail and leisure destinations to install chargepoints where a need has been identified. As such, the Council is only one part of the overall picture.

- 6.3 The draft Public EV Charging Strategy is currently under review, and once agreed will be presented to Cabinet in summer 2022.

7. Council EV Charging Strategy

- 7.1 To support the Council's transition to EVs, a Council EV Charging Strategy has also been produced. The strategy will support the Council's objectives to:

- Where possible replace existing internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles in the Council fleet to EVs
- Install chargepoints at relevant Council car parks and offices
- Support Council employees to switch to EVs

- 7.2 The draft Council EV Charging Strategy has been produced and is currently under review, and once agreed will be presented to Cabinet in summer 2022.

- 7.3 Currently the Council operates 6 EV's with a further 7 on order due to arrive April 2022. These vehicles are or will be used by Libraries, Public Protection and Highways. This will leave the Council with 30 diesel vehicles (not including passenger transport vehicle – see below), and consideration will be given to replacing these with EV's at the end of their operational life or earlier.

- 7.4 The Council operates a fleet of over 40 mini-buses that delivers home to school, adult social care and community transport. This fleet of vehicles is ageing and consideration has been given to replacing these with EV equivalents. However, at this time EV replacements are not comparable operationally and do not cover the mileage required for services. Because of this, we have procured 8 up-to-date Euro-6 compliant diesel equivalents.

8. EV Toolkits

- 8.1 In addition to the two strategies, we have also been working producing two toolkits. One for residents and one for the Council.

- 8.2 The resident's toolkit will provide information on purchasing and using an EV either as an individual or a business. While the Council toolkit (as well as providing information on purchasing and using an EV for our employees), will provide information on Council EVs and transitioning to an all EV fleet.

- 8.3 These toolkits are in draft pending final review and approval.

9. Funding and procurement of EV Chargepoints

- 9.1 The Council is now starting to look at procurement and funding of EV Chargepoints. This will look at market engagement, procurement and funding options (in particular Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) funding) and a delivery programme.

10. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

11. PREVIOUS MINUTES

N/A

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Electric Vehicles (EV) Strategy, Communities Scrutiny April 2022
(Presentation)

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