

Report to: **Hub Committee**

Date: **21<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

Title: **ORCS Funding – Electric Charging Points**

Portfolio Area: **Lead Member for Communities Cllr Terry Pearce**  
**Lead Member for Natural Environment Cllr Lynn Daniel**

Wards Affected: **Which Wards/all**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken:

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## **Recommendations:**

### **The Hub Committee recommends to Council:**

1. To enter a collaboration agreement with the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme for the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Points
2. Approve the potential sites as listed in paragraph 1.3 as the location for the installation of Electric Charging Points
3. To enter a lease with the appointed supplier for a 10 year period.

### **1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 West Devon Borough Council has joined the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme project which is a partnership with other local authorities and being led by Devon County Council to install electric vehicle charging points (EVCP) in our Council owned car parks set out in paragraph 1.3 below.
- 1.2 Funding for the project has been received from the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) in respect of the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme.

1.3 As a result of the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme, electric charging points will be installed in the following car park subject to the necessary surveys being carried out:

- Pilgrims Drive car park, Bere Alston

1.4 This reports seeks Members agreement to enter the required collaboration agreement. This documents our commitment to proceed with the Devon County Council led procurement of an approved supplier and thereafter, enter a 10 years of the required car parking spaces to the appointed supplier. Please note, this does not restrict our ability to charge parking fees for those spaces.

## **2. Background**

2.1 The Councils Better Lives For All Corporate Strategy sets out our commitment to leading by example in reducing our carbon footprint.

2.2 Actions include converting our vehicle fleet to electric, carrying out feasibility studies for renewable energy on our land and buildings and taking steps to enable our communities to play their part in working towards net-zero. This includes an adoption of an electric vehicle charging strategy.

2.3 The Councils adopted Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategy and Action also sets out our commitment in exploring new opportunities for new EV charge points within Council owned car parks and this is in recognition that the Boroughs on road greenhouse gas emissions are 30% of the areas total greenhouse gas emissions.

2.4 Although, as a Council our ability to directly influence this is limited, helping to roll out EV charging infrastructure is something we can directly do to help reduce transport emissions by making it easier for people to charge their vehicles. This also has the added benefit of non EV owners seeing more charging availability locally, helping to influence behaviour change and future purchasing decisions.

2.5 The Council has taken significant steps across the district to enhance the network of EV charging points available to residents and visitors alike. We have already completed or are in the process of installing the following:

- **Kilworthy** – EV points have been installed at the Offices at Kilworthy, Tavistock for use by staff, members and tenants.

- **Deletti Project** – a collaborative project led by Devon County Council involving the Council and other local authorities such as East Devon, North Devon, South Somerset and Teignbridge Councils. The project secured Regional Development funding to deliver 22kW EV chargers with two outlets to serve two parking bays simultaneously for installation across a range of car parks.
      - Bedford car park, Tavistock
      - Abbey car park, Tavistock
      - Mill Road car park, Okehampton
      - Chagford car park, Chagford
      - Hatherleigh car park, Hatherleigh
- 2.6 The Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme aims to accelerate the uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) in residential streets where off street parking is not available, thereby ensuring that on-street parking is not a barrier to realising the benefits of owning a plugin EV.
- 2.7 Funding has been received by Devon County Council from the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) through the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS). The grant is payable for an average amount not exceeding £13,000 in respect of each chargepoint and 75% of the grant is paid upon acceptance of the grant offer letter and then a further 25% upon completion of the project.
- 2.8 Devon County Council commissioned Cenex who are consultants who focus on low emission transport and associated energy infrastructure. They understand vehicle infrastructure needs and provide advice to allow informed, effective and efficient decisions.
- 2.9 The Cenex analysis identified areas that are more likely to be reliant on on-street parking, and also used other indicators to identify those areas where EV usage would increase in the near future. The Cenex list of sites was then sifted using the ORCS eligibility criteria, location of existing charge points, as well as consideration given to grid connection costs.
- 2.10 OZEV recognises the potential pressure that is faced by local authorities when allocating parking spaces for EV's on residential streets.
- 2.11 OZEV were therefore willing to consider applications for chargepoints situated in car parks owned by the local authority which met the objectives of the scheme as follows:
- The car park is suitably located in or near a residential area that lacks off-street parking and provides an option for local residents looking to charge their car both during the day and overnight.

- EV bays in the car park must have a minimum maximum stay time of 4 hours during the day to ensure residents have access to a substantial charge.
  - Car Parks must be accessible on a 24/7 basis
- 2.12 Bere Alston Parish Council originally requested to be involved in the ORCS funding bid with Devon County Council to install a charger at their village hall car park. This car park is well used by users of the village hall and therefore they requested that Pilgrims Drive car park which is owned by the West Devon Borough Council was considered as a better location for the installation of the EV charging point.
- 2.13 Devon County Council are aware that there are sites that did not meet the ORCS eligibility criteria. They will continue to explore ways to deliver EV chargepoints at these sites in the future and are continuing to improve their understanding of future on street charging needs.
- 2.14 The procurement process will look to deliver:
- 22kW> dual charge points per allocated car park
  - High levels of interoperability (no membership fee and payments using contactless technology)
  - All design, build, operational and maintenance costs covered by the contractor for the period of the lease (this includes any grid charges or on-going electricity supply)
  - Potential for rental income from the contractor (although this will be subject to negotiation, and part of the tendering undertaken by DCC)

### **3. Outcomes/outputs**

- 3.1 On completion of the collaboration agreement, Devon County Council will lead the procurement of an appointed supplier to whom car parking spaces will be leased as appropriate.
- 3.2 Tenders will be invited to supply, install and maintain the EV charging points based on a lease of the sites for 10 years at a nominal rent.
- 3.3 It is recognised that by supporting the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles this will have a positive benefit on air quality and will support the Council climate change agenda.
- 3.4 The project is expected to deliver dual charging points per car park as identified in paragraph 1.3.

#### 4. Options available and consideration of risk

- 4.1 It is recognised that being part of the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme has enabled the Council to take further steps to install EVCPs with support from partners, and will ensure that there is consistency in the provision of EVCPs across Devon.
- 4.2 The project will facilitate the installation of electric charging points at no capital costs to the Council due to the grant funding obtained by the project group.
- 4.3 The project installations are due to be completed in 2022/23, although final installation dates have yet to be finalised.

#### 5. Proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 Once the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme has been completed, Officers are committed under the funding requirements to keeping usage under review and ensure local residents have access to the charging points and to raise awareness of chargepoints to local residents.
- 5.2 Officers will continue to identify and work with partners to explore ways to deliver EV chargepoints in the future. Parish and Town Councils also have the opportunity to apply for funding to install EV chargepoints on their own land should they wish to do so.

#### 6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	y	<p>The Council's Off-Street Parking Places Order has already been amended to take into consideration the use of EVCPs in car parks.</p> <p>Leases will be granted for chargers installed as part of the Devon and Torbay Residential Chargepoint Scheme.</p> <p>Tenders will be invited in accordance to Devon County Council Contract Procedure Rules, which is compliant with our own procurements requirements.</p>
Financial implications to	y	A small rental income stream is anticipated but yet to be negotiated from the electric charge point

include reference to value for money		providers in respect of the Devon and Torbay Residential Charging Scheme.
Risk		<p>The option to do nothing will not deliver the electric charging points which goes against the council's climate change agenda.</p> <p>As technology advances there may not be sufficient charging points provided.</p> <p>Reputational risk should the charging points not be delivered within the project timescale.</p> <p>By not entering the collaboration agreement and the joint procurement exercise the Council may not achieve best value</p>
Supporting Corporate Strategy		Council Environment Wellbeing
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact		Clear positive impacts in respect of the reduction of air pollution, carbon reduction and climate change
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		none
Safeguarding		none
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		none
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		None
Other implications		none

**Supporting Information**

**Appendices:**

**None**

**Background Papers:**

**None**

**Approval and clearance of report**

<b>Process checklist</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Portfolio Holder briefed/sign off	<b>Yes</b>

SLT Rep briefed/sign off	<b>Yes</b>
Relevant Heads of Practice sign off (draft)	<b>Yes</b>
Data protection issues considered	<b>Yes</b>
Accessibility checked	<b>Yes</b>