

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018**  
**ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS**  
**REPORT OF JENNY POOLE, GROUP MANAGER GO SHARED SERVICES**  
**(Contact: Jenny Poole, Tel: (01285) 623313)**

(The decisions on this matter will be a recommendation to Cabinet and Council.)

**1. PURPOSE**

To provide Members with a progress update from the Electric Vehicle Charging Point Working Party.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee considers the update and any further actions such as a recommendation to Cabinet and Council for inclusion of funding in the Council's Capital Programme 2018/19 .

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. The Committee, at its meeting on 5 April 2017, agreed to establish a Working Party to explore the possibility of providing electric vehicle charging points in Council owned car parks. The Working Party, comprising of Councillors Postan, Good and Saul, has provided progress reports to this Committee including an update in October 2017 on the outcome of an appraisal of market opportunities for the provision of electric vehicle charging points.
- 3.2. The market appraisal found that the provision of electric vehicle charging points will require capital investment by the Council. Suppliers offer a range of financing options for the capital investment, however, none indicated a financial return to the Council. The Committee requested the Working Party continue its investigations and report back to a future meeting.
- 3.3. Since October, the Working Party has identified a preferred site which could be used as a pilot project for an initial investment in charging points for the community. Officers have commenced a formal procurement process, together with Cotswold District Council, to provide the Council with robust data to inform the development of a business case for decision making purposes. A copy of the tender document is attached at Appendix A.
- 3.4. While the procurement is following due process, it is timely for the Committee to consider making a formal recommendation to Cabinet to include a sum of money in the Council's Capital Programme for 2018/19 to fund the capital investment, subject to an acceptable business case. Using previous experience of investment in chargers in Cotswold District

Council, the Head of Environmental Services is recommending an initial allocation of £250,000 in the Capital Programme 2018/19. It is anticipated that this level of funding will be sufficient to provide three charging points in public car parks, one workplace charging point at the Council offices and one charging point at the depot in Witney.

#### **4. VIEWS OF THE WORKING PARTY**

- 4.1.1. The working party support the proposed Capital allocation within this report and will scrutinise the outcome of the procurement before making recommendations to the Committee. This approach shows a clear commitment to delivering charging points, whilst appropriately managing the financial risks.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. The outcome of the procurement process will feed into a business case for consideration by the Committee in due course. The business case will include details of any grant funding available to the Council at that point in time.

#### **6. RISKS**

- 6.1. The electric vehicle market is a rapidly evolving market; which central government is proactively encouraging to grow with recent announcements on the phasing out of new petrol and diesel cars. There are both risks and opportunities in new markets. Clearly there is an opportunity for the Council to be proactive in responding to this new market on behalf of its community. Some of the risks which are now being reported in national media include “charge rage” and “ICE-ing”. Examples of this include a charging bay being occupied by an electric vehicle for a prolonged period of time or bays being occupied by internal combustion engine vehicles. These risks can be mitigated by Parking Orders being in place and enforcement action being taken against drivers. There would some revenue implications associated with establishing the Parking Orders.
- 6.2. Should the Council decide to invest in charging points there is a risk that the costs of the installation could exceed the budgetary provision as complications arise which could not have been foreseen in the planning stage.
- 6.3. Should the Council under-estimate demand for charging points, there would be pressure for further investment in the future or the Council could be subject to reputational damage.
- 6.4. If the Council provides little or no investment the market will probably only provide points on key transport routes where demand and therefore income will be highest for electric vehicles travelling through the district. It may not deliver points in town centre locations,
- 6.5. Installing too many charging points in car parks could mean those spaces are then underutilised in locations where there is considerable pressure for parking spaces. The pilot project will provide valuable data on usage to inform future decision on this subject.

- 6.6. That a suitable site cannot be identified for the installation of EVCPs due to infrastructure constraints or the fact agreement cannot be gained from the third parties who own or lease the car parks.

**7. NEXT STEPS**

- 7.1. The Committee are asked to discuss the report and to make appropriate recommendations to the Cabinet.

**8. REASONS**

- 8.1. To enable the Committee to make recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.

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Background Papers: None

**Procurement brief for Electric vehicle charging points**

**Requirement**

- Provision and installation of rapid charging points
- The Councils have yet to decide how much investment they can make available to fund the installation of EVCPs and require information on the alternative funding options and the outcomes they will provide. For that reason bids against three different Lots are sought to enable a comparison of options:

Lot 1 – Provision and installation of rapid EVCPs, in the locations identified in the ‘Proposed Locations’ table below, to be fully funded by the Council/Government Grant.

Lot 2 - Provision and installation of rapid EVCPs, in the ‘Proposed Locations’ table below, part funded by supplier.

Lot 3 - Provision and installation of rapid EVCPs, in locations determined by the supplier, within West Oxfordshire District, part funded by the supplier.

Please note it is possible that one Council will proceed and the other will not, so prices should be provided for each Council separately.

- Proposed Locations and minimum number of points required:

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE**

	Public car park, Witney (TBC)	Council Offices, Woodgreen, Witney	Ubico Depot, Witney
Public EVCPs	3		
Workplace		1	1

**COTSWOLD**

	Public car parks (TBC)	Council Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester	Ubico Depot, Packers Leaze, South Cerney
Public EVCPs	3		
Workplace		1	1

- An option to provide further charging points (based on the above framework of 3 EVCPs in public locations (maximum of 6 EVCPs in two sites) and adding one additional charging point to each of the above workplace locations) within two years of bid submission should also be included.
- Bids should include:
  - Breakdown of costs (charging unit, installation etc.) (All Lots) and subsidy (Lots 2 & 3)
  - Detail of supplier requirements/conditions attached to any subsidy including any ongoing charges and any charge setting for users (Lots 2 & 3).
  - Location of EVCPs (Lot 3 only)