

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 November 2022
Subject:	Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (2022-2026)
Report of:	Asset Manager
Head of Service/Director:	Head of Finance & Asset Management
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Finance and Asset Management
Number of Appendices:	One

Executive Summary:

This report presents the Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Strategy for approval which details how Tewkesbury Borough Council's will work in partnership with the County Council's EV Strategy, Planning Policy and sign posting organisations to support the growth of electric vehicles, through direct delivery for destination and on-route charging and supporting the rollout of charging infrastructure and other linked objectives.

Recommendation:

To APPROVE the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (2022-2026).

Financial Implications:

Approval of the EV Strategy will enable the Council to apply for central Government's Local EV Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund and On Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS).

The authority has also applied for UK Shared Prosperity Funding of £83,000 to enable the delivery of EV charging points as per the strategy.

The Council also has a small reserve of £100,000 to support carbon reduction activities and will make available some of this funding to match fund external grant funding and support the delivery of new charging points.

The strategy details the options available for the delivery of the charging points and each of these will be considered to ensure the delivery of the charging structure is optimised through the available funds.

Legal Implications:

There are no significant implications identified within this report. However, legal advice should be sought where required in the implementation of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy.

Environmental and Sustainability Implications:

The objectives included in this Strategy support the Council's climate change aims and a move away from a reliance on fossil fuelled vehicles.

Resource Implications (including impact on equalities):

The delivery of the strategy will be implemented through existing officer resources within the Council and, where required, will utilise external expertise for the more complex locations of the charging points. Each EV charging point will be considered with an Equalities Impact assessment as to the suitability of the location and design of the charging units.

Safeguarding Implications:

There are no direct implications in relation to the welfare and protection from harm of children and vulnerable adults.

Impact on the Customer:

This Strategy is aimed at increasing the facilities offered to the residents and visitors to the Borough by improving electric charging provision and travel options, also supporting businesses, tourism and air quality.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report presents a strategy for approval that details Tewkesbury Borough Council's role in enabling the growth of electric vehicles through supporting the rollout of charging infrastructure and other linked objectives.

2.0 ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY (2022-2026)

2.1 Across the UK, and within the Borough of Tewkesbury, we are witnessing the rapid take-up of electric vehicles by homeowners, businesses and public organisations alike. Around one in every five new cars produced is now battery electric. In just seven years' time (by 2030), there are due to be no more new petrol or diesel cars and vans sold in the UK.

2.2 Transport is now the UK's largest sector for producing greenhouse gas emissions. Electric vehicles can have a key role in helping the UK meet climate change targets and this aligns with Tewkesbury Borough Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019.

2.3 This strategy sets out how Tewkesbury Borough Council can target its resources alongside other private business and public organisations to become an enabler, optimising the delivery of charge points and encouraging equitable public charging across the Borough.

2.4 Some of the key measurable outcomes from this strategy will be:

- Installation of EV Chargepoints in public car parks.
- An increase in publicly accessible chargepoints.
- The percentage of "on-street residents", that are within 5 minutes walk of a charge point, exceeding the national average.
- Tewkesbury Borough being viewed as a good destination for charging.
- A shift away from petrol and diesel fuelled transport.

3.0 CONSULTATION

3.1 The Strategy has also been presented to the Council's Climate Change and Flood Risk Management Group and the Group's recommendations have been incorporated.

- 3.2** The strategy has also been reviewed by the Energy Saving Trust, which is a lead government advisory organisation for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and its recommendations have been incorporated.
- 3.3** The Lead Member for Finance and Asset Management has been consulted in the writing of this strategy.
- 4.0 ASSOCIATED RISKS**
- 4.1** The electric vehicle market and technologies are advancing rapidly and there is a risk that the content of this strategy may become out of date, however the delivery of the strategy will be regularly reviewed to highlight when and where it is necessary to adapt.
- 4.2** There are various types and speeds of charging infrastructure and it is important that the chargers being installed are appropriate for the needs of destination and on-route charging.
- 4.3** District Network Operator approval will be required to connect charge points to the electricity grid and it's possible that some sites may not be viable.
- 5.0 MONITORING**
- 5.1** The objectives within the Strategy will be monitored and the performance measured.
- 6.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES/COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES**
- 6.1** In 2019, Tewkesbury Borough Council declared a Climate Change Emergency and has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- 6.2** Publishing an Electric Vehicle Chargepoint Strategy is an objective within the Council's Carbon Reduction Programme. Installing electric vehicles in Council owned public car parks and supporting Gloucestershire County Councils On-Street Electric Vehicle Charging Programme are also objectives.

Background Papers: Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (2022-2026).

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Appendices: Appendix 1 EV Infrastructure Strategy.