

REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 09
DATE OF MEETING:	21 SEPTEMBER 2023	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	MATTHEW HOLFORD, HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES matthew.holford@southderbyshire.gov.uk ,	DOC:
SUBJECT:	ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINT INFRASTRUCTURE	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS15,

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee approves the updated Electric Vehicle (EV) Charge Point Infrastructure Plan to deliver a phased approach to delivering residential EV charging infrastructure in an equitable way and with due consideration to the geography of South Derbyshire.
- 1.2 That the Committee approves the receipt of funding from D2N2 for the installation of electric charge points at the Boardman Road Depot and approves the acceptance of additional funding for extra charge points if it becomes available.
- 1.3 That this Committee recommends to Finance and Management Committee the approval of the proposed reallocation of £50,000 originally earmarked for the installation of electric charge points at the Boardman Road Depot to fund the installation of electric charge points at an alternative suitable location.
- 1.4 That, if successful, this Committee approves the receipt of funding from Derbyshire County Council under the Low Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure project for the installation of electric charge points at the relevant SDDC land nominated in the project bid.
- 1.5 That the Committee welcomes that this EV Charge Point Infrastructure Plan exploits the current external funding opportunity from both the UK Government and third-party partnership. In doing so this Plan represents a further step in bridging the acknowledged gap between available Council funding and the Council's climate neutral ambitions.

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To seek Committee approval for an updated EV Charge Point Infrastructure Plan to continue the delivery of an equitable District wide EV charge point Infrastructure and to enable the Council to facilitate the future proofing of South Derbyshire as the transport sector transitions to Electric Vehicles (EV's).

- 2.2 To seek Committee approval for further bids for external funding to support the delivery of an electric vehicle recharge infrastructure.
- 2.3 To seek Committee endorsement of the proposed reallocation of existing funding to support the continued development of the South Derbyshire electric vehicle recharge infrastructure.

3.0 Detail

Background

- 3.1 On 12 August 2021, Environment and Development Services Committee approved an Electric Vehicle Charge Point Infrastructure Plan ('The 2021 Plan').
- 3.2 The 2021 Plan set out a three phased approach to promote EV ownership. This Plan aimed to future proof the District, to support South Derbyshire residents without 'off-street' parking and to take advantage of the Government and third-party funding opportunities.
- 3.3 The contents of this report provide Committee with
 - a) an update on the progress of the delivery of the 2021 Plan,
 - b) a request to approve a funding offer from D2N2,
 - c) a request to reallocate existing funding approved for electric charge point installation,
 - d) information about other funding bid submissions for electric charge point infrastructure.
- 3.4 Since the Plan was approved, it has also become nationally mandatory for all new build residential and non-residential development to include the provision of electric charge points under Approved Document S of the Building Regulations.
- 3.5 We can therefore be confident that the private sector provision of electric charge point infrastructure is expanding at the same rate of growth as other development in the District.

4.0 Progress Against the 2021 Plan

- 4.1 **Phase 1** – Council owned car parks.
- 4.2 Based on the funding criteria being offered by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV), officers carried out basic feasibility studies into all of the Councils own car parks to identify those which had the greatest probability of qualifying for funding for the installation of off-street electric charge points.
- 4.3 Three car parks (Hatton, Hilton and Melbourne Assembly Rooms) were identified as being the most viable car parks to support EV charge points. Bids for all three were submitted to OZEV and all three were each awarded funding for four fast chargers (7kv) serving eight bays.
- 4.4 The installation of these 24 charge points in the three car parks was completed in spring 2023. This now brings the total provision of publicly accessible charge points hosted on land owned by SDDC to 42.

- 4.5 The remainder of the Council-owned public car parks were considered to be commercially unfeasible because of their limited size and/or inaccessibility to live voltage infrastructure, however the 2021 Plan committed to keep this under review.
- 4.6 Recent developments in relation to Council owned car parks are discussed in section 5 of this report.
- 4.7 **Phase 2** – Identification of suitable Parish Council car parks.
- 4.8 A number of car parks owned by Parish Councils were identified by officers as being potentially well suited to bids for funding from OZEV.
- 4.9 Discussions with OZEV about the feasibility of SDDC supporting parish councils to submit their own bids for funding did not indicate that any such bids were likely to be successful. Therefore, action to support Parish Councils to submit their own OZEV bids did not progress.
- 4.10 An opportunity to enable EV installations in Parish Council car parks is emerging through the LEVI scheme which is discussed in section 5 of this report.
- 4.11 **Phase 3** – Identify suitable ‘on-street’ parking locations across South Derbyshire.
- 4.12 ‘On-street’ EV charging provision will mainly fall to Derbyshire County Council as the highways authority to oversee.
- 4.13 SDDC officers have been actively collaborating with Derbyshire County Council to gather data and evidence to identify candidate locations for future on street EV charging provision under the LEVI scheme (further information on this scheme is provided in the next section of this report).

5.0 Recent Developments

- 5.1 **Capital Funding for EV Charge points.** Finance and Management Committee on 8th October 2020 considered a report which evaluated various capital bids.
- 5.2 One of the capital bids which was approved in the report was for a project to install electric vehicle recharge infrastructure at Boardman’s Depot. The purpose of this project was to enable the Councils own transport fleet to start to transition from diesel to electric. The approved capital allocation for the project was £50,000. The proposed delivery of this project was in Year 3 of the programme of projects (i.e. 2023/24).

D2N2 Funding Offer

- 5.3 D2N2 are currently offering shared funding network support for all local authorities in the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire region to install EV charge points on Council owned land.
- 5.4 The purpose of the D2N2 funding is to provide a network of recharge locations across the region which are accessible to be used by electric vehicles from any other public sector organisation. The goal is to encourage a more rapid conversion of the public sector transport fleet to electric by giving greater assurance about accessibility of charge points across the region.
- 5.5 SDDC been offered funding to install 1x 52kW and 2 x 5kW EV chargers out of a total project allocation of £750k.

5.6 The funding would not require any contribution from SDDC. The funding does not come with any conditions other than that the electricity provider will need to be the same provider as that being used across the rest of the D2N2 shared funding network.

LEVI (Low Emission Vehicle Infrastructure)

5.7 Derbyshire County Council have successfully bid for £6.2 million indicative LEVI funding to support the scaling up of EV charging infrastructure across Derbyshire. This is split into three 3 categories.

5.8 Community Charging Hubs (£2.5m) to provide district Council led site selection for 'community hubs' (long stay/residential use car parks).

5.9 Following public consultation, including consultation with SDDC officers, seven (7) car parks sites under the control of the District Council have been included on a short-list for funding as Community Charging Hubs. The seven shortlisted sites are summarised on the following table.

Car Park Name	Area	Local Authority	Approx. Spaces
High Street	Melbourne	South Derbyshire	100+
Blacksmiths Lane	Woodville	South Derbyshire	20-50
Hilton Road, Etwall	Etwall Leisure Centre	South Derbyshire	20-50
Wilne Lane	Shardlow	South Derbyshire	20-50
Rink Drive	Swadlincote	South Derbyshire	50-100
Burton Road	Repton	South Derbyshire	0-20
New Market Square	Swadlincote	South Derbyshire	TBC – New Site

5.10 Funding for the shortlisted sites is likely to be announced in summer 2023 after which the next stage is for legal T's & C's between DCC (as the charge point owner) & SDDC (as the host) to be drawn up with an aim to install in winter 2023.

5.11 Street Lighting Residential Charging Network (£2.5m) to provide 1,000 streetlight chargers across Derbyshire to provide overnight charging for residents without off-street parking. These will be taking charge from the streetlights. These will be identified in conjunction with district councils but will be owned by DCC and operated by the County Council Highways service because they already own the streetlights.

5.12 We have no current information about the funding or timescales for this aspect of the project.

5.13 Parish & Town Council provision £1.6m to develop initiatives to ensure Parish & Town Council, villages and rural communities are fully integrated into the Derbyshire Charging Network. Funding needs to be confirmed before any selection will be started. SDDC have done some work around this already, identifying potential Parish Council/Village Hall car parks that strategically & geographically fit across South Derbyshire. Ten (10) sites have been recommended to the County Council for inclusion on the 'long listed' sites for further investigation.

Decarbonising SDDC Fleet and Grey Mileage

- 5.14 The 2021 Plan only related to work to improve the publicly accessible electric recharge infrastructure in South Derbyshire. It did not pay any specific attention to decarbonising SDDCs own transport fleet, nor to supporting SDDC staff, councillors or visitors to Council buildings to transition to electric vehicles.
- 5.15 As part of the Councils commitment to sustainable travel, since 2020 we have carried out an annual staff travel survey to understand changing trends and to predict future demands. Results from this survey suggests that there is a latent demand within SDDC staff to transition to electric vehicles which would be accelerated by the provision of recharge points near to their place of work.

Wider Demand for EV Charge points

- 5.16 The acceleration of EV take up and the transition of petrol and diesel vehicles to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) is inevitable with the Government's latest ban on the selling of new petrol and diesel cars likely to take effect in 2030.
- 5.17 Research undertaken by Midlands Connect forecasts the uptake of EV's across the Midlands will be up to 9% by 2025 and up to 40.5% by 2030. The National Grid is forecasting that there will be 10.6 million EV's on the UK roads by 2030 and up to 36 million by 2040.
- 5.18 Although experts agree that the majority of EV charging will be done at home and work locations, many residents in both urban and semi-rural locations do not have access to 'off-street' parking and consequently will have difficulties in home charging.
- 5.19 To support the forecasted acceleration of future EV uptake and the challenge for residents without 'off-street' parking the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) is allocating £20m of funding for 2021/22, administered by the Energy Savings Trust (EST) for eligible projects from Local Authorities that meet the funding requirements.

Proposal

- 5.20 Given the recent developments outlined in Section 5 of this report, Committee are recommended to approve the following:
- 5.21 That the £50,000 allocated to the proposed installation of charge points at Boardman Depot be reallocated to support the installation of EV chargepoints at an alternative location which supports the transition of SDDC fleet, SDDC staff, SDDC councillors and the public to electric.
- 5.22 Currently the primary candidate site would be at the Civic Way offices, however given the rapidly changing nature of funding for EV infrastructure it would be advisable not to be prescriptive about the specific location.
- 5.23 In accordance with the constitution, it is also necessary for this Committee to approve the receipt of the external funding from D2N2 (for the Boardman Road EV charge points) and from Derbyshire County Council (for the LEVI funded charge points).

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 The installation of electric charge points at the Boardman Road Depot will be met in full by D2N2. The costs of the electrical use from the charge points will be met as a revenue cost by SDDC.
- 6.2 The installation of electric charge points at Civic Way offices or other appropriate location will be met from the £50k originally allocated to install charge points at

Boardman Road depot. The charge points will be available on a pay per use basis and therefore payment for electrical use will be by the vehicle driver.

- 6.3 The installation of the charge points approved under the LEVI project will be funded via Derbyshire County Council. The charge points will be available on a pay per use basis and therefore payment for electrical use will be by the vehicle driver.

7.0 Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

- 7.1 There are no employment implications, the EV charge-point infrastructure proposals will be led by the Climate and Environment Officer.

Legal Implications

- 7.2 Potential legal implications associated with the drafting of Memorandum of Understanding / Wayleave Agreements, etc with relevant parties.

Corporate Plan Implications

- 7.3 These Phased proposals meet the Corporate Plan key aims of:
- 7.3.1 Striving to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2050
 - 7.3.2 Working with residents, business and partners to reduce their carbon footprint.
 - 7.3.3 Encourage and support business development and new investment in the District.

Risk Impact

- 7.4 The primary risks are identified as:
- 7.4.1 To identify and respond to possible resistance to the proposal from local communities.
 - 7.4.2 Long-term addition of the EV infrastructure to Council assets (risk) and income generation (opportunity).

8.0 Community Impact

Consultation

- 8.1 The EV infrastructure commissioned to date appears to have been generally well received. There have been some concerns expressed about the EV charge point infrastructure at Arnold Close car park, based on a perception of a possible reduction of car parking spaces for residents' cars that have been converted into EV charging spaces.
- 8.2 With reference to the proposals in this report the proposed mitigation measures are as follows:
- 8.2.1 Ensuring car parks submitted have enough car parking spaces to cater for current residents and EV charging.
 - 8.2.2 Consultation with Committee members through this report.

8.2.3 Consultation prior to the bid submission with relevant Parish Councils following approval of this report.

8.2.4 Proposed local community communication and consultation once this report has been approved.

Equality and Diversity Impact

8.3 Currently electric vehicles (EV) are more expensive than comparable petrol/diesel cars and the secondhand market for EV's is very limited. This does create an equality impact as not everyone can afford EV's. This negative impact has been mitigated by ensuring that the EV parking bays are able to be used by all local residents, irrespective of the type of car for a period of time. This allowance will be monitored, and the status may be changed as and when the uptake of EV's increases to a level where dedicated and enforced EV charging point bays are required.

8.4 Concerns have been expressed by advocates on behalf of the disabled community that the EV bays installed to date do not cater for drivers of disabled vehicles. This will be a topic of discussion with the managers of the LEVI scheme if the bid is successful.

8.5 A positive impact is that the Council are future proofing their plans to ensure that residents that do not have off-street parking are able to access EV charge points across South Derbyshire in an equitable way.

Social Value Impact

8.6 There are a number of social value impacts to this proposal:

8.6.1 South Derbyshire District Council is promoting the transition from petrol/diesel cars to EV's inline with the UK Governments agenda.

8.6.2 The Council is supporting the reduction of carbon emissions from the transport sector across South Derbyshire which supports the mitigation of the climate crisis, reduces air pollution and improves the health and wellbeing of residents.

Environmental Sustainability

8.7 The carbon emissions from the Transport Sector are responsible for 47% of the total carbon emissions of South Derbyshire and are the single highest emitting sector. Any decarbonization action, such as the promotion and increase of EV usage supports the reduction in the overall carbon footprint of the District and the improvement of environmental sustainability across South Derbyshire.

8.8 EV charge point infrastructure promotes and supports the reduction of the carbon footprint of its residents as well as the vehicle travelling population in general that transverses South Derbyshire. This fits with the key priority of the Corporate Plan which is to make South Derbyshire 'a better place to live, work and visit at the heart of the National Forest'.

9.0 Conclusions

9.1 South Derbyshire has already made extensive progress with the installation of publicly accessible EV charge points by virtue of accessing funding to install them in five of its car parks.

- 9.2 The proposals in this report will facilitate the installation of charge points in up to nine further locations in South Derbyshire, with an additional ten sites on the LEVI 'long-list'.
- 9.3 The proposals will directly support drivers across South Derbyshire who aspire to convert to electric vehicles but for whom access to charge points is limited or unaffordable.
- 9.4 The proposals will also directly contribute to enabling SDDC own transport fleet to transition to electric as well as supporting staff and members to transition to electric.

10.0 Background Papers

Environment and Development Services Committee, 25 November 2019 - [Staff Travel Action Plan](#)

[Full Council, 27 June 2019, Climate and Environment Strategy 2020](#)

Environmental and Development Service Committee May 2021, [Climate and Environment Action Plan 2021 -2030](#)

[Environment and Development Services Committee, Bid for Electric Vehicle Recharge Points, 24 September 2020](#)

12 August 2021, Environment and Development Services Committee approved an Electric Vehicle Charge Point Infrastructure Plan