



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE CABINET STEERING GROUP

14 JUNE 2021

**UPDATE REPORT ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING -STRATEGY &
IMPLEMENTATION**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE ESTATES IN DISCUSSION
WITH THE CABINET'S CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION (COUNCILLOR
RHYS LEWIS) AND THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE
SERVICES.**

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group with regards to the work underway on developing a Council Strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging and how it relates to the wider RCT Council Net Zero and Carbon Reduction commitments.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet Steering Group;

- 2.1 Note the contents of this Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy update report as part of the ongoing work of the Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group.
- 2.2 Receive further reports in 2021 providing further update on progress.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The contents of this report provide background information and an update on the progress so far and the development of the Council's Strategy and Implementation Plan for Electric Vehicle Charging.

4. BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

- 4.1 In April 2021 the Electric Vehicle Charging and Transportation Working Group was set up, comprising officers from across all Service Groups, under the leadership of the Corporate Estates Energy and Carbon Reduction Team. This group has now had its first two meetings on 23 April and 18 May.
- 4.2 The initial task of the group is to research, map our way towards and produce two crucial pieces of work, deemed fundamental to the development of an electric vehicle charging infrastructure within the County Borough.
- 4.3 The first crucial element is the development of a Strategy to cover the future of Electric Vehicle Charging. This will lay out the aspirations of the Council and set the scene for future development of EV Charging that is under our remit.
- 4.4 Once the Strategy is completed the group will then move on to development of an Implementation Plan to give a clear road map for all on how to proceed, who to speak to and how proposed works will be planned and implemented.
- 4.5 At the inaugural meeting, the group were presented with an overview laying out a position statement relating to the current EV Charging infrastructure across RCT, in order to set a baseline from which to move forward. The position statement provided an overview of the current situation in RCT relating to EV Charging infrastructure. The document also highlighted potential funding opportunities and listed procurement frameworks. It also highlighted the research undertaken in the background prior to the meeting and set the scene for the group's work.
- 4.6 The group were presented with an outline timeline, in the form of a Gantt-chart containing milestones. This laid out the steps necessary to achieve the aims of the group, for both pieces of work.
- 4.7 The development of the strategy will run in parallel with consultation process allowing time to incorporate the results of the consultation process into the strategy itself.
- 4.8 The Corporate Policy Team set up a Website to undertake public consultation to support the work of the group, and to receive and collate feedback from members, the general-public and staff. The preliminary report has now been made available and is appended to this update report at Appendix 1.
- 4.9 As a brief overview, the consultation was conducted in-house using the Council's new consultation and engagement website, Let's Talk RCT. The consultation started on the 19th April and the report data was

extracted on 31st May 2021. In total 325 online survey responses were received, together with 122 poll responses. Also, some 222 places were identified as potential electric car charging points within RCT, via the embedded web tool. It was also uncovered that 80% of respondents to the survey currently own 2 vehicles or less, whilst 55% of respondents have access to their own private off-street parking and 42% only have on-street parking. However, at present, 83% of respondents do not currently own an electric vehicle, nor have one associated with their household.

- 4.10 An update was also provided to the group relating to EVC matters under the remit of the Cardiff Capital Region's (CCR) City Deal, for which there are several elements. These relate firstly to EV Taxis and the infrastructure to support them, and then secondly to an infrastructure to support EV Charging for the general public within our car parks.
- 4.11 During the 2020/21 fy, 70 taxis have been purchased across CCR, of which RCT have been allocated 5, and a management company will be appointed by CCR which will inform on how Councils should use these vehicles.
- 4.12 The CCR are already installing taxi charging points across RCT, with the first having already been installed at Porth Park & Ride and Duke Street carpark, Aberdare. There are plans to install further facilities at Milford carpark, Pontypridd, Talbot Road carpark, Talbot Green in the coming months, with others to follow later in the year.
- 4.13 The CCR proposal is that 22kw charging points will be installed, during the 2021/22 fy, across 32 sites, mostly within public car parks, but facilities will also be installed at some at leisure centres. A comparison of the feedback received from the public consultation exercise will help inform the final list of locations for EV charging points.
- 4.14 The group was informed that RCT are looking to take a loose approach to enforcement and no formal Traffic Regulation Orders will be enforced for these bays, during the initial stages of use.
- 4.15 The group are due to meet again on 15 June and the results of the Consultation Process will be presented to the group for consideration at that time.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required with regard to this update report.

6. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no immediate Welsh Language Assessment requirements with regards to this update report.

7. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 7.1 There are no consultation requirements at present with regards to this report.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 8.1 There are no financial implications with regards to this update report.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 There are no legal implications aligned to this report

10. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.

- 10.1 The future actions that arise as a result of the future recommendations of the Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group report will be considered by the Council's Cabinet and it will take full regard to the seven national wellbeing goals.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 This report provides an update to the Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group with regards to the work underway on developing a Council Strategy for Electric Vehicle Charging and how it relates to the wider RCT Council Net Zero and Carbon Reduction commitments.

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Appendix 1

Let's Talk EV – Final Report June 2021 (comprising 4 parts).