

Proposed Decision to be taken by the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning on or after 16 November 2018

Proposed Bid to the Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV)

Recommendation

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves the submission of a bid for up to £600,000 to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) on behalf of the County Council and the five Warwickshire District and Borough Councils.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Warwickshire Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure strategy was approved by Cabinet in 2017. The strategy sets out how the County Council will help facilitate the greater uptake of EV use across the county. Policy EVCI 1 sets out how the County Council will secure the provision and delivery of public charge points across Warwickshire, including securing the necessary capital funds. Demand from the public for greater EV charging infrastructure is increasing, with requests being submitted to the County Council on a frequent basis.
- 1.2 The Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) announced in 2018 that their On –Street Residential Charge Point scheme would be extended to accept funding bids for the installation of EV charge points in Local Authority owned off -street car parks.
- 1.3 This change in the eligibility criteria provides an opportunity for a funding bid to be submitted. As a result the County Council has worked closely with the five Warwickshire District and Borough Councils to jointly develop a potential bid.

2.0 The Proposed Bid

- 2.1 The County Council and the five Districts and Borough Councils have worked closely together to identify locations where the installation of EV charge points is thought to be beneficial. Primarily these locations are based in off-street car parks with the inclusion of a small number of on-street locations, with sites being broadly evenly spread across the County.
- 2.2 Initial work has been undertaken alongside Western Power Distribution (WPD) on a site by site basis to establish high level feasibility. A final decision as to

which sites will be taken forward will be taken when the County Council is aware of the bid outcome and full installation costs for each site are known.

- 2.3 The scheme guidance indicates that the maximum value of the bid is capped at £100,000, however verbal discussions with OLEV have indicated that a coordinated Warwickshire bid on behalf of the County Council and Districts and Boroughs for up to £600,000 (£100,000 per authority) would be positively reviewed. Confirmation of this from OLEV will be sought in advance of the bid being submitted.

3.0 Finance

- 3.1 The OLEV funding will provide up to 75% of the cost of supplying and installing the charge points up to a maximum of £7,500 per point. The remaining 25% of installation costs and ongoing maintenance costs is required. A higher level of contribution may be required if installation costs are higher than estimated.
- 3.2 The County Council is proposing to appoint an EV supplier under a concessionary contract and it is anticipated that WCC would require the successful bidder to fund the remaining contribution and ongoing maintenance. A report will be taken to Cabinet in December 2018 to seek approval for the procurement of the EV infrastructure concession contract.
- 3.3 There is a small risk that if the concessionaire holder will not fund the shortfall, WCC (for on street) and the Boroughs and Districts for the off street provision would have to fund the shortfall. From a WCC perspective, dependent on final installation costs, it is anticipated that this would be between £30,000 and £60,000 which could be funded from the Transport Development Fund. Alternatively, a decision could be taken not to progress with the installations if the costs were perceived to be too high.

4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 4.1 It is proposed that the bid is submitted as soon as practical. If the bid for funding is successful it is proposed that further work is undertaken to refine the short list of sites and work with the successful concessionaire to secure delivery.

Background Papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Victoria Mumford	victoriamumford@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: (01926) 412773
Assistant Director	Mark Ryder	markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: (01926) 412540
Joint Managing Director	Monica Fogarty	monicafogarty@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: (01926) 412514
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Jeff Clarke	jeffclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: (01926) 412264