

Portfolio Holder Decision – Delivery of Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property (deputy leader)
Date of decision	29 January 2021
	Signed

Decision taken
That the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property (Deputy Leader) approves the addition of £762,500 to the Capital Programme to fund the programme of work to deliver Electric Vehicle Charging Points, funded from external contributions

Reasons for decisions	
1.1	Warwickshire County Council has recently been successful in securing £412,500 from the Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV). In addition, a successful bid to the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP secured a further £350,000. This funding combined will help to deliver approximately 200 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points across Warwickshire, funding up to 75% of the total cost.
1.2	The Council has recently appointed Chargemaster as the delivery partner for the installation of the charge points. As part of the tender award, Chargemaster have agreed to fund the remaining 25%, therefore the installation of the charge points will be cost neutral to the Council. Post installation, Chargemaster will be responsible for the maintenance of the charge points for the life of the contract. Upon expiry of the contract, the charge points will be removed and, if appropriate, the Council will re-tender the opportunity to the market.
1.3	The funding from OLEV will be paid directly to the County Council post completion of the installation of the charging points. It is anticipated that this money will be paid to the Council during the 2020/21 financial year. This means the Council will have to fund the £412,500 of capital expenditure this financial year in advance of the costs being claimed back from OLEV.
1.4	Approval is sought to add £762,500 to the Capital Programme to fund the programme of work to deliver the EV Charging Points funded from the external contributions as set out above.

- 1.5 A decision is required on this matter to enable the County Council to commission and fund the supplier to commence the agreed work without delay. Delay may mean the Council is not able to submit the claim to OLEV for funding this financial year.

Background information

- 1.1 *The Procurement exercise has been undertaken and a supplier contracted to deliver charging points. In order to claim the awarded OLEV funding, all charge points must be installed by March 2021. The LEP funded points will be installed during the 2021/22 financial year with the agreed funding being paid accordingly.*

Financial implications

- 1.1 The funding from OLEV will be paid directly to the County Council post completion of the charging points. It is anticipated that this money will be paid to the Council during the 2020/21 financial year. This means the County Council will have to forward fund £412,500 capital funding this financial year. If the delivery programme is delayed there is a risk we will not be able to submit the claim, however this risk is considered small and the OLEV funded points are scheduled to be installed by the end of February 2021. If the funding is not secured then the costs will be met from the local Service budget.
- 1.2. The overall financial implication to the Council in delivering this programme of work will be cost neutral. Maintenance costs will be met by Chargemaster for the duration of the contract. The contract does allow for the County Council to receive a share (5%) of revenue from each charge point. At the time of writing it is difficult to quantify the likely income this will yield.
- 1.3 Chargemaster will be responsible for the provision of the supply, installation, operation and maintenance of the EV charging points across Warwickshire. For the initial contract period this will include the below ground electricity connections. At the end of the contract period Chargemaster will be liable to remove the above ground charging infrastructure. The below ground infrastructure will form part of the County Council's assets and will be included within the Asset Management Register and be the responsibility of the County Council. Any maintenance that is required in relation to this is likely to be minimal and will be funded from the revenue stream generated from the use of the charge points and/or local service budgets.

Environmental implications

- 1.1 The delivery of these charge points will provide high level visibility of an emerging network of charging points across the County. This in turn will give our residents (and regular visitors) the confidence to make the positive choice to switch to an Electric Vehicle. The efficient deployment of effective infrastructure will therefore help to improve local air quality and reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The environmental and social advantages of more residents switching the EV's will benefit Warwickshire's residents and businesses.

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Assistant Director	David Ayton-Hill Assistant Director
Lead Director	Mark Ryder Strategic Director for Communities
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers

None

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin

Corporate Board – Monica Fogarty, Rob Powell, Mark Ryder, Nigel Minns

Legal – Ian Marriott

Finance – Andrew Felton

Equality –

Democratic Services – Helen Barnsley

Councillors – Councillor Peter Butlin