

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Communities (Introduced by Cabinet Member (Neighbourhood and Waste Services))	Council	Wednesday, 20 September 2023

Electric Vehicle Charging Points (ORCS Phase II)

Is this report confidential?	No
------------------------------	----

Is this decision key?	Yes
-----------------------	-----

Savings or expenditure amounting to greater than £100,000	Significant impact on 2 or more council wards
--	--

Purpose of the Report

- To authorise the leasing of car parking spaces to allow for the installation of 21 electric vehicle chargers (42 charging sockets) on seven sites across the borough as part of a successful grant application for £154,910.

Recommendations to Council

- That approval is given for
 - creation a new capital budget or £155k.
 - the use of Connected Kerb Limited to supply, install and maintain the electric vehicle charging points via direct award KCS framework
 - the creation of a lease agreement with Connected Kerb Limited, for the identified parking bays at each site to cover the installation, operation and maintenance of the electric vehicle charging points.

Reasons for recommendations

- In November 2022, the Cabinet decided that future electric vehicle charging points would be delivered, maintained and operated by a third-party contractor. No additional rent would be charged for the use of Council land to maximise the potential contribution from the contractors and where possible a small charge per KWh used would be made.
- Connected Kerb have assisted with the grant application by providing costings for the application and agreeing to fund the 40% match funding required to secure the grant.

They have also agreed to the Council receiving 10% of the profits from the chargers, if no profit is made the council would not be liable to cover any deficit.

5. The grant funding conditions require installation of the chargepoints within the financial year 2023/24, including DNO connections and therefore the signing of agreements needs to be expedited to ensure we meet this deadline.

Other options considered and rejected

6. The Council has been awarded the grant funding to supply a set number of EV charging points (42). The cost of installing these chargers is greater than the grant funding. Therefore if we do not utilise the offer from Connect Kerb the Council will have to either fund the difference and match the 40% required, ~£103K, or return the grant funding.
7. There would also be the additional issue of maintaining and servicing the charging units.
8. The Council's previous EV charging scheme with a different contractor included a 10% match fund from the Council in this case ~£25K. The option presented therefore provides the most economic option.

Corporate priorities

9. The report relates to the following corporate priorities: (Please bold one)

An exemplary council	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

Background to the report

10. Nationally, the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans will end in 2030, with all new cars and vans being fully zero emission from 2035.
11. To enable our communities and businesses to succeed, to grow and support the borough we must ensure that it is fit for purpose in the coming years this includes the provision of an accessible charging infrastructure for all, not just those with off-street car parking facilities, driveways and garages but also those living in historic properties with on-street car parking typical of many of the boroughs conservation areas and town centres due to our historic industrial past.
12. The shift to electric vehicles will help to reduce air pollution, reduce the boroughs carbon footprint and assist with the Council's goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.
13. In 2018 the council adopted an Air Quality Action Plan which highlighted the need to increase the electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure across the borough.
14. In 2021, following the council's declaration of a climate emergency the Climate Emergency Action Plan was adopted by full council. This action plan identified the

requirement to improve the EV infrastructure and to install 200 publicly accessible EV charging points.

15. Progress has been made towards this goal, but we are still some way off the target of 200 chargers and as EV use increases more are likely to be required.
16. Previous grant funding has been secured for the existing 4 rapid chargers (£106,000) and 19 ORCS chargers (£145,000), although this round required a £21,463 contribution from the council.

The Proposal

17. In the financial year 2022/23 the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) grant funding allowed for local authorities to apply for up to 60% of eligible capital costs for the provision and installation of EV charging points.
18. Further to the Council's successful grant funding application in March 2023, the council secured £154,910 grant funding towards the provision 21 EV charging points (42 charging bays), towards a total cost of £258,180.
19. The total cost of supplying and installing the above proposed EV charging points is £258,180. The remaining cost, £103,270, must be found by the applicant / Council. Connected kerb Limited have agreed to provide this sum if they are awarded the contract for the provision and installation of these charging points.
20. The proposed contract with Connected Kerb Limited, if approved, would mean the capital cost for the supply and installation of the EV charging points would be met wholly through grant funding (60%) and Connected Kerb (40%).
21. Connected Kerb Limited have already worked with a number of Councils (Kent County Council, Sevenoaks District Council, Medway Council) to provide public EV charging points.
22. The grant funding sets specific criteria for where the chargers can be located, this excludes some areas of the borough, principally those areas with significant off-street carparking provision. In addition, restrictions on this round of funding only allowed the council to locate chargers on its own land.
23. The following locations have been identified as sites with a number of properties with no off-street car parking facility within a short walk. The identified sites are shown within the attached Appendix 1.

Site	No. Charging Points	No. Charging Sockets / Parking Bays
King Street, Leyland. PR25 2LW	6	12
Tardy Gate (William Street) car park, Lostock Hall. PR5 5RU	3	6
Sevens Stars car park, Leyland. PR25 1UP	3	6
Chapel Yard car park, Walton le Dale. PR5 4AY	3	6
Margaret Road car park, Penwortham. PR1 9RA	3	6
Mill Street, Farington. PR25 4QJ	2	4
King Street, Lostock Hall. PR5 5HY	1	2

24. The lease period for these sites, with Connected Kerb Limited, would be agreed through estates and legal but currently the suggested term is 15 years with a break clause half-way through.
25. It is currently perceived that car parking charges for those car parks that already have a charging infrastructure will continue. As part of the grant funding the spaces would have to be free of charge during the evening and night-time periods.

Climate change and air quality

24. The work noted in this report impacts on the following areas of climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda.:
 - a. net carbon zero by 2030,
 - b. limiting non sustainable forms of transport,
 - c. limiting or improving air quality.
25. The work noted in this report will have a positive impact on the climate change and sustainability targets of the Council's Green Agenda.

Equality and diversity

26. There are no equality and diversity issues relating to the lease agreements. The provision of the electric vehicle chargers are designed to ensure accessibility for all in line with national government required standards.

Risk

27. If the Council does not seek grant funding to install EV charging facilities, there is the risk that it will fail to meet its commitment to 200 publicly accessible EV charging points across the Borough.
28. If the project is not completed by 31st March 2024 the grant funding may need to be returned.
29. If insufficient EV charging points are provided within the Borough this may deter residents from converting from conventionally fuelled vehicles to electric vehicles, potentially delaying a reduction in carbon emissions within the Borough, while failing to achieve a core action of the corporate priority.
30. Due to the short timescales involved in the project a waiver has been submitted from the standard procurement tendering rules to use a framework agreement to deliver the project in a timely manner and comply with the grant conditions.
31. Future redevelopment of the identified car parks may be curtailed during the length of lease (for at least seven years) unless a suitable agreement can be reached to break the lease e.g. relocation.
32. Failure to enter into timely lease agreements will result in the grant funding being returned and it is likely that further funding will not be provided.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

33. This capital scheme is funded by £155k grant and the 40% match funding of £103k will be made by Connected Kerb Ltd.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

34. The proposal progresses a council priority, to ensure access to EV charging points within the borough. The use of the framework proposed is compliant both with the Council's Contract Procedure Rule and legislation.

Background documents

Air Quality Action Plan 2018

Climate emergency Action Plan 2021

Cabinet Paper Decision November 2022 – “*Cabinet approves the utilisation of a third-party contractor to deliver, maintain and operate all Council electric vehicle recharging points and parking bays. No additional rent is charged for any leases to maximise the potential contribution from the third-party contractor towards the cost of installation, with a view to recovering a small charge per Kwh for each station as appropriate. (Option 5)*”

Appendices

Appendix 1 Maps of Proposed EV chargers.

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
Neil Martin (Senior Environmental Health Officer)	neil.martin@southribble.gov.uk	01772625336	15 th June 2023