



POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 6TH SEPTEMBER 2018

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC VEHICLE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION & CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to the Committee the draft Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan attached at Appendices 1 and 2 and seek any recommendations prior to presentation to Cabinet.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Caerphilly County Borough Council's first Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan sets out the proposed approach to supporting the installation of electric vehicle infrastructure to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits and opportunities that electric vehicles provide, and for electric vehicles to be a fundamental part of the Council's own fleet. The Committee's views are sought prior to presentation to Cabinet.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Green and renewable energy contributes to several of the Well-being goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015, including:
- A prosperous Wales
 - A resilient Wales
 - A healthier Wales
 - A more equal Wales
 - A Wales of cohesive communities
 - A globally responsible Wales

Green and renewable energy also supports the Protect and enhance the local natural environment action area and the Asset management enabler identified within the Caerphilly Public Services Board Well-being Plan 2018-2023, supporting the Positive Change, Positive People and Positive Places objectives.

The work also supports the following Corporate Well-being Objectives, identified within the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2023:

- Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment
- Creating a county borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the Sustainable Development Principle within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The draft Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan presents an innovative and strategic approach for electric vehicles across the county borough.
- 4.2 The UK Government recently announced its plans to ban new diesel and petrol vehicles from sale in the UK from 2040. Vehicle manufactures are working to advance technology in electric vehicles along with other alternative fuel vehicles and to build consumer interest.
- 4.2.2 Electric vehicles have been in use for many years, however it is only in recent years that they have become accessible to the everyday motorist. Advances in battery technology in particular have allowed electric vehicles to have ranges in excess of 180 miles on a full battery charge. All the major car manufactures are investing in electric or hybrid vehicles with many new electric vehicles coming to the market this year.
- 4.2.3 Electric vehicles is a growing market, albeit slowly. The number of new electric and hybrid vehicle registrations in Wales rose by 35% in 2017, with 82 electric vehicle registrations in the Caerphilly County Borough. There are currently no publicly available electric vehicle charge points in the Caerphilly county borough and only 439 charge points across Wales.
- 4.2.4 Therefore a strategy to support the implementation of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charge points is required to progress this important work. This will put into place the infrastructure to support our staff and residents to invest in electric vehicles and encourage visitors who drive electric vehicles to visit the county borough.
- 4.2.5 The strategy also includes the promotion and installation of infrastructure to support electric bikes (E-bikes), electric mopeds and other electric vehicles that contribute to the overall aims of the strategy.
- 4.2.6 The aims of the CCBC Electric Vehicle strategy are to:
- Provide electric vehicle infrastructure across the Caerphilly county borough
 - Lead by example incorporating electric vehicles into our fleet and trial new technologies as they evolve
 - Work with private developers to incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure into new builds and developments
 - Work with our partners and local businesses to encourage them to adopt a similar approach to electric vehicles and their infrastructure
- 4.2.7 The key objectives of the CCBC Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan are to:
- Support an integrated network of EV charge points
 - Undertake a feasibility study for electric vehicle charge point infrastructure, working with Gwent local authorities and PSB partners
 - Trial new technologies as they evolve to ensure that charging infrastructure keeps pace with vehicle technology and the needs of residents and businesses
 - Maximise the benefits of Welsh Government and other funding opportunities
 - Encourage private developers and landowners to provide EV charging points to facilitate the public to switch to low carbon vehicles
 - Encourage private sector organisations to deliver electric vehicle charging points
 - Raise awareness of the electric vehicle market so people can understand the options for and benefits of EV ownership, including electric cars, mopeds and E-bikes
 - Increase deployment of electric vehicles within the Council's own fleet to reduce the Council's own carbon emissions whilst carrying out its business
 - Encourage and support our employees to switch to low carbon vehicles (full battery or hybrid)
 - Address air quality issues that have, or will arise, due to transport related issues

- Inform and complement the County Borough Council's wider policies on transport contained in the Local Transport Plan
- Take a coordinated approach across the council for the electric vehicle agenda
- Work with PSB partners on joint actions to share good practice and maximise assets

4.2.8 The strategy presents the Council's first Electric Vehicle Action Plan which is designed to develop an innovative and strategic approach for electric vehicles across the county borough. This will develop the infrastructure for, and encourage uptake of, electric vehicles in Caerphilly county borough. This will ensure not only that the council is up to date with developments but also that we are maximising the benefits and opportunities for electric vehicles.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 Renewable energy initiatives contribute to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above and contribute to a number of the Council's objectives. In particular they contribute to a Globally Responsible Wales reducing the activities that promote climate change and noting that climate change itself has been identified as a risk within the Corporate Risk Register. Similarly they support a resilient Wales and offer a long term source of energy when other non-renewable sources have become depleted.
- 5.2 Renewable energy schemes reduce or remove pollution from diesel and petrol vehicles and emissions to air arising from carbon based energy sources, therefore promoting a Healthier Wales. They can also support a Prosperous Wales by reducing the financial cost of energy and longer term offer opportunities for employment through the growth of the renewable energy sector within the county borough.
- 5.3 Renewable energy schemes are consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act in that they are a long term measure capable of providing energy that will sustain into future generations. The projects under consideration will support the development of an infrastructure which will prevent the on-going reliance on carbon based fuels in the future. They also provide opportunities to involve our communities in the development and use of renewable energy, and to collaborate with schools and other sectors.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 No Equalities Impact Assessment has been done on this report, however Sustainable Development and Equalities interact on many levels and work done in one area often supports the other. Creating sustainable communities, employment and transport for example, is of benefit to all the residents of Caerphilly county borough, regardless of their individual circumstances or backgrounds.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The implementation of the Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan will require investment in infrastructure. A separate report identifying funding options, including the grant support available is being prepared. There are potential cost savings to Services using electric vehicles rather than petrol or diesel engine vehicles.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no personnel implications arising directly from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee consider the draft CCBC Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan at Appendices 1 and 2 and offer any recommendations prior to presentation to Cabinet.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To develop further the Council's commitment to electric vehicles and electric vehicle charge points.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 None.

Author: Tracy Evans, Policy Officer

Consultees:

- Clr D Poole, Leader of the Council
- Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director, Education & Corporate Services
- Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director Communities
- Clr N. George, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services
- Clr S. Morgan, Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure, Sustainability & Wellbeing of Future Generations Champion
- Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
- Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration and Planning
- Rob Hartshorn, Head of Policy and Public Protection
- Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property
- Nicole Scammell, Head of Corporate Finance
- Kath Peters, Corporate Policy Manager
- Paul Rossiter, Energy & Water Officer
- Mary Powell, Fleet Manager
- Paul Cooke, Senior Policy Officer
- Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
- Shaun Watkins, HR Manager

Appendices:

Appendix 1 CCBC Electric Vehicle Strategy
Appendix 2 CCBC Electric Vehicle Strategy Action Plan