

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

1.0 Introduction

For around 3 years now EDDC has been working with other district council partners in a collaboration lead by Devon County Council to deliver appropriate infrastructure across the region to underpin and encourage the use of electric and plug in hybrid vehicles locally.

We have found that decision making has been difficult throughout this has period due to a developing and often fast moving landscape with ongoing product innovation and subsidy opportunities from both EU initially and UK sources.

2.0 DELETTI phase 1

We have already procured our first official public charge points and these are being delivered under that contract this year. The so-called DELETTI project is currently in the statutory procurement standstill period and we will begin working with the successful contractor to install and operate fast charge points within the next few days and residents should see them “in the ground” soon. In East Devon there will be a new 22kW fast charging unit serving two adjacent charging-only parking bays in each of:

Exmouth: Imperial Road Short Stay car park

Honiton: Lace Walk short stay car park

Sidmouth: Ham East Short Stay car park

Seaton: Orchard Short Stay car park

The majority of funding for this project has come from a successful bid to the European Regional Development Fund and Council’s contribution to this project has been agreed as a maximum of £4,000 per unit, amounting to £16,000 in total. Subject to the Council approving the detail contained in the final lease document, the eight car parking spaces will be leased to the operator for a peppercorn rent and the Council will then take a share of the electricity revenue that we expect to increase significantly over the ten year operating period. All other costs associated with supply, installation, repair, replacement and management are borne by the successful contractor.

3.0 DELETTI phase 2

In addition we are now engaged in the project’s second phase, this time focussing on on-street residential charging as a priority. The phase 2 project is still at an early stage and EDDC has simply committed to entering into an agreement with the successful contractor following another formal procurement process to provide ten-year leases for agreed parking bays within specified car parks. At present the car parks mentioned in our letter of intent, based on officer advice and potential supplier feasibility studies are:

- Broadclyst, The Green
- Ottery St Mary, Brook street car park
- Budleigh Salterton, Lower Station car park

At this stage it is not envisaged that the Council would need to make a financial contribution to the project.

4.0 Exeter rapid charging project

We are also in discussions with a supplier as part of another limb of the Devon collaboration, this project focussing primarily on the needs of residents to charge vehicles in and around Exeter.

A supplier (Gamma Energy) has successfully won funding from [innovate UK](#) to work with Devon County Council and partners to deliver the following:

- To supply, install and manage rapid chargers delivering 50kw.
- The cost to non-residents for rapid charging is 30p/Kwh (inclusive of VAT).
- Residents of each of the areas can receive a 10% discount (when they register with an app).
- For information, 20KWh provides approximately 50miles and would cost around £6.

The project has already secured 11 sites within the city of Exeter and in total they have funding for 150 charge units.

The project is funded to deliver outputs on a relatively tight timescale and we understand that in effect Innovate UK require units to have been **installed and be operational by early summer 2021** to enable their use to be evaluated within the life of the project. This now presents this Council with an opportunity provided we have the will and ability to act quickly.

Devon County Council and Gamma Energy have approached us inviting our interest in hosting these fully funded rapid charger units with some of our car parks where commuters and visitors are likely to find them of value. Like DELETI phase 2 there is no upfront cost to us and in return for hosting units on a peppercorn rent for a contract period of up to 15 years, we receive a 3% share in the increasing electricity revenue that arises over that period.

I have met on site with Gamma Energy and their initial interest in working with us amounts to 20 50kW rapid charging units to be installed and operated locally. I have obtained similar quotes previously and the installation of just one such similar 50kW rapid charging unit is of the order of £40,000-£50,000. Time is of the essence and if Members are minded to recommend further work then I propose an early report to Cabinet seeking authority to enter into the necessary leases without delay.

Sites currently of interest:

- Exmouth Imperial Road short stay car park – 5 chargers (serving ten charging bays)
- Exmouth Town Hall short stay car park – 2 chargers (serving 4 charging bays)
- Lypstone car park – 2 chargers (serving 4 charging bays)
- Sidmouth Ham West short stay car park – 4 chargers (serving 8 charging bays)

- We would also like to explore five or six other chargers in locations including Honiton, Budleigh Salterton and possibly Beer.

4.0 Recommendations:

- a. Note and endorse the ongoing work outlined above in DELETTI phases 1 and 1
- b. Report to Cabinet as a matter of urgency seeking authority to participate in the Innovate UK funded Exeter Rapid Charging Project to install and operate up to 20 rapid charging units in EDDC's public car parks this year.