

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: May 2023

Subject Public Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Responsible Cabinet Member / Officer:	Area / Role / Subject
Paul Jones	Strategic Director for Infrastructure
Silvia Gonzales-Lopez	Head of Environment and Public Protection
Ross Cudlipp	Service Manager for Climate Change
Cllr Yvonne Forsey	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Bio-diversity

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Consider the Public Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and it's aims.
- (ii) Consider how this strategy links and synergises with existing Newport City Council plans and priorities.
- (iii) Make comments and recommendations based on the strategy.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 This is the first instance of an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy being presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. Once committee have made any comments and recommendations, this report will go to consultation, and following that, will be a Cabinet Member decision.
- 2.2 In 2021, [Newport City Council declared an Ecological and Climate Emergency](#). This specified a clear Organisational Climate Change Plan would be developed in consultation with Newport City residents.
- 2.3 A Climate Change Project Board was created to oversee the development of the plan and staff and managers from across the Council were involved in the writing of a consultation draft of the plan using the [Route Map for Decarbonisation](#) as a framework. The consultation took place during November and December 2021 and responses were reviewed and the plan amended accordingly.
- 2.4 In March 2022, [Cabinet agreed the Organisational Climate Change Plan](#) which sets out the themes, priorities, actions and milestones for the period. Newport City Council [Organisational Climate Change Plan](#) spans the period 2022-27.
- 2.5 In order to help meet these priorities, the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy was developed to be presented and monitored by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on an annual basis.
- 2.6 This Strategy has not yet been out to consultation with the public.

Previous Consideration of this item

- 2.6 This is the first time that the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy has come to a Scrutiny committee.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy is affixed as **Appendix 1**. The report includes:
 - Background information, including a breakdown of trends as seen by the Future Trends report and Ernst & Young, other Newport City Council plans and priorities that have shaped this piece of work, and information regarding Newport's residents and their needs and interest in the Strategy
 - An explanation of the Strategy itself, including how it would be financed.
 - How the plan links to Council plans and priorities.
 - An explanation of how the strategy could go forward and information regarding the consultation.
- 3.2 Attached at **Appendix 2** is a copy of the information that will be given to residents when the consultation goes out to residents.
- 3.3 Attached at **Appendix 3** is a copy of example questions that will form part of the public consultation.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

- 4.1 **Role of the Committee**

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Assess and make comment on
 - Whether information included is adequate in providing an understanding of the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy
 - Whether an annual reporting cycle would be adequate to measure progress and performance.
- Conclusions:
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all the relevant information to base a conclusion on the inclusion of general information, data and specific technical information?
 - Does committee feel that any further information needs to be included?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations?

4.2 Suggested Lines of Enquiry

- Has grant funding been secured already and if not, what is the contingency for funding sources?
- What is the scope of the strategy’s aims e.g. will it provide funding for private home charging stations for residents, street charging, more charging units in carparks, dedicated charging facilities etc?
- How will residents be informed of the strategy?
- What data will be available to measure the progress and success of the strategy?

4.3 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p style="text-align: center;">Long-term</p> <p>The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	What consideration have you given to the long term trends that could affect your proposal or; how could your proposal impact these trends?
	How will the needs of your service users potentially change in the future?
<p style="text-align: center;">Prevention</p> <p>Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	What is the objective (or the desired outcome) of this proposal?
	How are you addressing these issues to prevent a future problem?
	How have the decisions, so far, come about? What alternatives were considered?

<p style="text-align: center;">Integration</p> <p>Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	Are there any other organisations providing similar / complementary services?
	Have you consulted with the health board, third sector, emergency services, businesses and anyone else you think might be impacted?
	What practical steps will you take to integrate your project with existing plans and strategies of other public organisations to help us all contribute fully to the seven national well-being goals?
<p style="text-align: center;">Collaboration</p> <p>Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	Who have you been working with? Why? Who have you collaborated with in finding out more about this problem and potential solutions?
	How are you co-working with other sectors?
	How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?
<p style="text-align: center;">Involvement</p> <p>The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p>	How have you involved the people who are being impacted by this decision?
	How have you taken into account the diverse communities in your decision making?
	How have you used different / alternative methods to reach people and involve them?
	How will you communicate the outcome of your decision?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Well-being Objective	1 – Economy, Education and Skills	2 – Newport's Environment and Infrastructure	3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care	4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council
Aims:	Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.	A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.	Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.	Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.

5.1 The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy has strong links with Wellbeing Objective 2.

- 5.2 The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy also has links to the Climate Change Plan.
- 5.3 The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy also feeds into the Local Area Energy Plan.

6 Background Papers

- [The Essentials – Well-being of Future Generation \(Wales\) Act](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#)
- [Organisational Climate Change Plan 2022-27](#)
- [Local Area Energy Plan](#)
- [Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for Wales](#)

Report Completed: May 2023