

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Thriving Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 27/07/2022

LOCATION: Teams

TITLE: Ceredigion Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and Action Plan

PURPOSE OF REPORT: Approval of Draft Ceredigion Electric Vehicle Strategy and Action Plan

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: Recommendation by Ceredigion County Council Carbon Management and Climate Change Group (20/06/2022) that Thriving Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the draft Strategy and Action Plan prior to presentation to Cabinet for formal adoption.

BACKGROUND:

Ceredigion County Council declared a global climate emergency on 5th March 2020 and subsequently published its Net Zero Action Plan in June 2021. As part of its response to the climate emergency and plans to decarbonise transport and travel in particular, an Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Strategy and Action Plan has been drafted for adoption by the County Council.

At present Ceredigion County Council has no ULEV strategy but has received funding to provide public EV (Electric Vehicle) charging provision from Welsh Government and therefore there is a need to develop a corporate strategy to guide our approach and investment. WSP consultancy was engaged (November 2021) by the Council's ULEV Steering Group to develop a draft Strategy and Action Plan. The work has been funded from the Welsh Government Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Transformation Fund (ULEVTF) grant allocation for the 2021/22 Financial Year. It is expected that the draft ULEV Strategy will serve to demonstrate local leadership, influence and stimulate similar commitments from within the public, private and third sectors in Ceredigion/ Mid Wales. It is a fast changing technology and the strategy will need to be kept under review.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The Council has received grant funding to install EV charging points in public car parks and its depots and has enabled the Steering Group to commission the strategy and action plan. More detail provided in Appendix 1. The current infrastructure delivery programme forms part of the action plan to this strategy (see Appendix 2).

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why **Summary:**

Yes. This is covered by the IAA prepared for the Net Zero Action Plan (approved 2021)

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

- Long term:** Positive - This Strategy and Action Plan will support the Council's 2030 net zero carbon ambition and delivery of the Council's Net Zero Action Plan.
- Integration:** Positive - The Strategy and Action Plan will seek to encourage the ownership and use of take-up of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles and help to reduce carbon emissions across Ceredigion.
- Collaboration:** Positive - The County Council is already working in collaboration with a number of public bodies in relation to carbon reduction and delivery of emission reduction. This Strategy and Action Plan seeks to develop this partnership working further and encourage private and third sector investment in provision.

Involvement: Positive - The Strategy and Action Plan have been developed by consultants commissioned by the officer Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Steering Group, reporting to the Corporate Project Management Panel. The draft Strategy and Action Plan has been informed through stakeholder engagement, considered and approved by the Council's Carbon Management and Climate Change Group - attended by both Members and officers with scope for wider involvement following adoption and publication. Opportunities to engage with public to inform future delivery plans.

Prevention: Positive - This Strategy and Action Plan proposes implementation of actions to reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

The Thriving Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider the draft Strategy and Action Plan (Appendix 1) and to approve its presentation to Cabinet for formal adoption by the Council.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

To support effective delivery of the Council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions from the transportation and travel sector as presented in the Corporate Strategy and the Net Zero Action Plan.

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Date of Report: 27/07/2022
Acronyms: ULEV – Ultra Low Emission Vehicle
ULEVTF - Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Fund
OZEV – Office of Zero Emission Vehicles
ORCS – Off-street Residential Charge-point Scheme
WLGA – Welsh Local Government Association