

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE (EVCI)**Report of Head of Highways and Transport****1. Overview**

- 1.1** Support to improve the Electrical Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) within Stockport is required to encourage the decarbonisation of transport and improve air quality in the borough. It has been identified that by entering into an agreement with the sustainable infrastructure company Iduna, the Council could help improve EVCI provision across the borough. Iduna have funding to support the roll out of EVCI in the borough under the brand name “Be.EV” which can be accessed by residents and visitors of Stockport and paid for using Be.EV membership or ‘webpay’. To do this Iduna is seeking to lease parking spaces under council ownership.
- 1.2** This report outlines the locations of council-owned parking spaces within the Stepping Hill Area where Iduna wish to install EVCI. This is a follow up report from the report taken to cabinet on 6th December 2022, where the process of approving leases was approved.

2. EV Charging Points in Stockport

- 2.1.** There are currently around 25 public EV charging points in Stockport. Including 10 Be.EV charging points, the majority of which are in the town centre, Cheadle Royal Business Park, Massie St Car Park, Cheadle, and Meadway West Car Park in Bramhall. Further Taxi only chargers are to be implemented in Stockport (New Bridge Lane Car Park) Hazel Grove (Torkington Car Park) and Edgeley (Lomas Street) early in 2023.
- 2.2.** Multiple other privately operated but publicly available charge points are installed throughout the borough at locations such as supermarkets, park & ride sites, and car dealerships. Some of these charge points have restrictions on who can use the chargers.
- 2.3.** There is an acknowledged need to improve charge point provision.

3. Supplier Owner Infrastructure model with Iduna

- 3.1.** Iduna operate Be.EV, a charging network of more than 140 chargers across the country, with circa 1000 more being delivered in 2023/2024 and are the delivery partners for Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM).
- 3.2.** A full procurement process was undertaken in 2019 by TfGM to establish a partner to help deliver the Be.EV network over an initial period of 7 years with options to extend for a further 6 years.
- 3.3.** In December 2019 the contract was awarded and Iduna subsequently developed and currently own the Be.EV brand. Within the contractual terms it states that

Be.EV and TfGM would work in partnership to develop the one Be.EV brand and promote EV uptake to end users. Other Greater Manchester local authorities are exploring lease contracts with Iduna, including Manchester and Wigan. Trafford has already entered into an agreement with Iduna for delivery of EVCI.

- 3.4.** The implementation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Stockport has been developed by an officer working group which will continue to meet regularly to manage the delivery of the installations going forwards. Stockport Council will be implementing 'Wave 1' during 2023, with further waves comprising additional sites and installations to commence upon the conclusion of 'Wave 1'. Details of additional waves will be announced in due course.

4. Proposal for Stockport

- 4.1.** Iduna has identified an initial range of 20 EV charging locations for Wave 1. It may not be possible to deliver infrastructure at all the proposed sites due to practical and financial viability (i.e. District Network Operators not granting a license / lack of sufficient power supply). Currently, Iduna are fulfilling EVCI in 40% of sites they have proposed in Trafford, so there is the strong possibility not all of the proposed sites will be viable. Iduna are working closely with Electricity North West in Stockport to ensure a higher percentage of success.

- 4.2.** Some of the proposed locations would result in the provision of EVCI to new areas of the borough such as the Heaton, Marple, Reddish and Romiley. However, they would also expand locations such as Bramhall, Cheadle and the Town Centre. The Council needs to work with Iduna to see that the provision continues to expand into new areas especially where we are aware that private charging opportunities are an issue.

4.3. Current Proposal for Stepping Hill Area

Iduna have proposed two initial locations in Stepping Hill Area as part of Wave 1. These have been reviewed by Stockport Council's Highways and Transportation department, and the proposed locations have been agreed in principle. The proposed Wave 1 locations are:

- Commercial Road East, Hazel Grove
- Torkington Road, Hazel Grove

Further details about each individual proposed site are provided below.

4.4. Proposed Location: Commercial Road East, Hazel Grove SK7 4BG

Site info:

- A 21-bay car park
- The car park serves both local retail and commercial units
- Local housing stock has a mix of both on- and off-street parking available.

Proposed Charging Infrastructure:

- Install x2 Dual Rapid Chargers (4 bays)
- Infrastructure for further x2 Dual Rapid Chargers.

4.5. Proposed Location: Torkington Road, Hazel Grove SK7 6AB

Site Info:

- A 65-bay car park.
- The car park serves local retail and visitors to Torkington Park.
- Local housing stock has off-street parking available.

Proposed Charging Infrastructure:

- Install x2 Dual Ultra Rapid Chargers (4 bays)
- Infrastructure for further x2 Dual Ultra Rapid Chargers

4.6. The two locations as listed above comprise the total number of installations Stepping Hill Area as part of 'Wave 1'

5. Legal Considerations

5.1. The final lease agreements will need to be approved in the normal way with full review by legal services.

5.2. By structuring the transaction as the grant of property lease(s), the requirement for formal regulated procurement is not triggered. However, the Council is still required to achieve the best available consideration for the property disposal.

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

6.1. Approval has been delegation by Cabinet of final terms for the lease agreements to the Director of Place Management in consultation with Cabinet Member for Climate Action Now.

6.2. Area Committees are being asked to comment on EVCI locations within their jurisdiction.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Mark Glynn / Sue Stevenson by e-mail mark.glynn@stockport.gov.uk / sue.stevenson@stockport.gov.uk