

MEETING	Environment Policy Advisory Group
SUBJECT	Electric Vehicle Charging
RELEVANT MEMBER:	<i>Councillor Luisa Sullivan</i>
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Chris Marchant, Head of Environment
REPORT AUTHOR	<i>Julie Rushton, ext. 6877</i> jrushton@chiltern.gov.uk
WARD/S AFFECTED	<i>All South Bucks</i>

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with the option to introduce electric vehicle charging points in SBDC car parks to promote sustainable transport and enable the car parks to be viable for all motoring groups.

2. Recommendations

1. That Members consider the following and advise officers accordingly:
 - a) Amend the Off Street Parking Places Order to enable electric vehicle charging points to be introduced in locations where evidence supports the requirement and that the Head of Environment be authorised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to approve the locations.
 - b) Retain car park fees and charges for electric vehicle users.
2. That subject to Cabinet agreeing the recommendations the Head of Environment be authorised to publish the statutory Notice of proposed Amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order.
3. That, if no valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2 the Director of Services be authorised to make and publicise the Amendment Order.
4. That if valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2, the Director of Services be authorised to deal with any such objections after consultation with the Portfolio Holder and to make and publicise the necessary Amendment Order with or without modifications as considered appropriate.

3. Reason for Recommendations

To maximise the use of available parking space and provide parking facilities for all user groups.

4. Content of the Report

- 4.1 The Government is urging local authorities to provide electric vehicle charging points to promote sustainable transport and help reduce carbon emissions and tackle air quality.
- 4.2 By the end of 2017 more than 47,000 electric vehicles had been registered in the UK and the electric vehicle market as of September 2018 makes up 2.4 percent of all new cars sold. The Government's aim is that electric vehicles will account for 100% of all new car and van sales by 2040.
- 4.3 For SBDC this means that expectations regarding parking will change and customers will require electric vehicle charging facilities. To promote sustainable transport and meet the needs of customers the proposal is to introduce electric vehicle charging points in SBDC car parks. Installing electric vehicle points will also increase the usage on the car parks and encourage a wider user group.
- 4.4 This initiative coincides with Bucks County Council's scheme to introduce electric vehicle charging points on the highway to promote sustainable transport for residents who do not have the option to install electric vehicle charging points at their place of residence.
- 4.5 Providers in respect of supplying the electric vehicle charging points are to be considered and agreed with the Portfolio Holder.
- 4.6 One further point for discussion is the car park tariffs for customers charging electric vehicles. Initially, when electric vehicles were introduced, local authorities exempted customers who were charging their vehicles from paying the car park tariffs. This was to promote the electric vehicle market and encourage take up. However, as the number of electric vehicles have increased over the years and the anticipation is for continued growth in this area, similar to fuel driven cars, there is an expectation from electric vehicle customers that the energy to drive their vehicles will be paid for by them. Similarly, the anticipated growth makes it difficult for authorities to sustain free parking for electric vehicle users, taking into account operational and development costs.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The recommendations if agreed by Cabinet will be published in the local press/car parks and a Notice will be sent to Bucks County Council, as the highway authority, and Thames Valley Police, who will have the opportunity to make comments and/or objections.

6. Options

- 6.1 Decide not to introduce electric vehicle charging points in the District of South Bucks.
- 6.2 Proceed as per the recommendations.

7. Corporate Implications

Legal

- 7.1 Implementing the recommendations will require an amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order and is subject to statutory consultation.

Finance

- 7.2 There are no known financial implications with the recommendations put forward other than the statutory process to amend the order.

8. Links to Council Policy Objectives

<http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/aims-and-objectives>

9. Next Steps

- 9.1 If Cabinet agrees the recommendations, officers will commence statutory consultation on the proposals.