

Item 4

3rd February 2016



Glasgow City Council

**Sustainability and the Environment Policy Development Committee
3 February 2016**

Report by Executive Director of Land and Environmental Services

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SUSTAINABLE GLASGOW – REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT ELECTRIC VEHICLE USE

Purpose of Report:

To introduce changes to electric vehicle parking controls to support the continued successful delivery of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and continued growth of electric vehicle users in the City.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Committee notes the contents of this report.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes No ✓

consulted: Yes No ✓

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council, through the installation of 65 electric vehicle charging points throughout the City (with a further 14 installations in progress), has successfully provided the infrastructure required to promote increased electric vehicle use in the city.
- 1.2 Such is the success of the electric vehicle charging infrastructure installation programme that demand for access to the charging points now exceeds what is available. Our own activity in Glasgow has been supplemented by the increase in the number of electric vehicle registrations in Scotland.
- 1.3 The move to greener transport is essential in meeting Scotland's ambitious climate change targets, vital in improving local air quality and a crucial component of the drive to energise Scotland's economy through opportunities for flourishing green technology industries.
- 1.4 Glasgow City Council supports the objectives of the Scottish Government's "Switched on Scotland" report and leads the way in the provision of publicly accessible charge points.
- 1.5 Currently there are no time limits for on-street charging bays and, as such, the bays are used for extended periods by one vehicle thereby limiting availability and inhibiting other drivers who require to charge their electric vehicle.
- 1.6 It is therefore necessary to address the current use of charge points and the plans for future and existing installations, thus ensuring that charge points are regularly available for the increasing number of electric vehicle drivers in the city.
- 1.7 By maximising the availability of charge points to electric vehicle drivers in the city, Glasgow City Council will continue to be at the forefront of low-carbon transport infrastructure and will facilitate the steady growth of electric vehicle users in the city.
- 1.8 The implementation of existing parking controls on electric vehicles will support the continued successful delivery of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and continued growth of electric vehicle users in the city, and is aligned with the following council policies;
 - Switched on Scotland
 - The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
 - The Carbon Management Plan
 - The Climate Strategy and Action Plan
 - Air Quality Action Plan
 - Proposed City Development Plan
 - The Energy & Carbon Masterplan for Glasgow

2 Key Proposals: Electric Vehicle Parking

- 2.1 In City Parking premises, electric vehicle (EV) charging bays are dual use with Blue Badge holders. This will be amended to allow access only to EV users.
- 2.2 It should be stressed that no Blue Badge spaces/bays will be lost as part of this initiative. The sixteen bays that were previously dual use will become EV only, with sixteen currently unrestricted bays becoming solely for Blue Badge holders.
- 2.3 The image below shows the new signage informing drivers of the change.



- 2.4 In order to free up the on-street bays for other users it is necessary to introduce time limits. To implement time limits, a parking charge needs to be applied. A parking tariff, in-line with the existing charge for the area, will be introduced for on-street charge points and facilitated via the existing parking meter and RingGo charging mechanisms.
- 2.5 Access to electrical charging for the parked vehicle will continue to be free. The application of the proposed maximum stay limits will facilitate increased availability of charging units and encourage more electric vehicles to use the network of charging units throughout the city.
- 2.6 On-street charge points will only be installed in areas that already have existing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) since the council is able to control parking within these restricted parking zones.
- 2.7 On-street charge points are available for all electric vehicles to use. They will not be for the sole use of any one individual or organisation.
- 2.8 It should be noted that introducing a parking charge is at the discretion of each local authority and Glasgow City Council would not be the first local authority in Scotland to introduce a parking levy for electric vehicles (Aberdeen City and South Lanarkshire Councils already charge for parking whilst Moray Council is the only local authority to charge for electricity).

2.9 A screening exercise for an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was undertaken and it was established that a full EqIA was not required.

3 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: There will be a minimal cost to updating the RingGo system to include electric vehicle charge point bays. The costs of installing charge points are funded by Transport Scotland.

Legal: Amendments will be required to existing Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to include EVs and allow enforcement of these bays. The normal TRO process will be followed.

Personnel: There are no personnel implications

Procurement: The RingGo Service and the installation of charge points are already underway.

Council Strategic Plan: The policy supports:

Economic Growth – improved city infrastructure
A Sustainable City – a reduced carbon footprint, improved transport infrastructure, improved use of green and public transport.

Equality Impacts:

EQIA carried out: A screening exercise has been completed that resulted in an EQIA not being required.

Outcome: N/A

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: Developing the electric vehicle charging infrastructure and providing more facilities to EV drivers will support the aim to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality in Glasgow.

Social: Zero emitting vehicles make the city a more attractive place for residents and a developed charging network will encourage EV uptake.

Economic: Parking tariffs will be applied at on-street bays.

4 Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee notes the contents of this report.