

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	City Growth & Resources
DATE	26 th September 2019
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	External Funding for Transportation Projects
REPORT NUMBER	PLA/19/356
DIRECTOR	Not Applicable
CHIEF OFFICER	Gale Beattie
REPORT AUTHOR	Amye Ferguson
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.2 Oversee the Council's resources-finance, systems and technology, staff and property and 5 To approve and monitor an appropriate strategy for the Council's estate, including plans for investment, disposal and maintenance.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report advises the Committee of a new external funding opportunity that the Council has submitted a successful funding application for, and which is now available to the Council for the installation of electric vehicle charge points.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Note that Aberdeen City Council has accepted funding from Transport Scotland-Local Authority Installation Programme 2019/20 for electric vehicle (EV) charge points; and
- 2.2 Instruct Chief Officer – Strategic Place Planning, following separate approval by this Committee of the relevant procurement business

case, to proceed with this project in relation to the installation of electric vehicle charging points as detailed within the report.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Aberdeen City Council (the 'Council') was invited to bid for and was successful in being offered grant funding from Transport Scotland for Local Authority Installation Programme 2019/20 for electric vehicle (EV) charge points. This grant will be used to assist in the delivery of the aims and objectives of the following Policy and Strategy Documents

- Aberdeen Local Transport Strategy
- Aberdeen Local Outcome Improvement Plan
- Aberdeen City Centre Masterplan
- NESTRANS Regional Transport Strategy
- North East Scotland Regional Economic Strategy
- Aberdeen Local Development Plan
- Strategic Development Plan
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Powering Aberdeen

3.2 Grant funding can be applied and accepted under the "Powers Delegated to Officers" approved by Council on 4th March 2019 as follows:-

"23) To approve applications for grant funding, thereafter, following consultation with the Convenor of the City Growth and Resources Committee, to accept grant funding provided that the terms and conditions of such funding have been approved by the Chief Officer-Finance and the Head of Commercial and Procurement Services. Expenditure of such grant funding may then be approved by the relevant Chief Officer subject to any such terms and conditions and in compliance with the ACC Procurement Regulations and Financial Regulations."

3.3 Transport Scotland-Local Authority Installation Programme 2019/20 for electric vehicle (EV) charge points

3.3.1 The Council has been awarded grant funding from Transport Scotland as part of its Local Authority Installation Programme 2019/20 for electric vehicle (EV) charge points. This will enable the Council to organise the procurement, installation and commissioning of electric vehicle charge points and supporting infrastructure.

3.3.2 Part of this grant can be used to fund a resource to assist with this process and/or to help develop an EV Strategy to inform future works. With the remaining grant funding Transport Scotland have envisaged that the funding could support three rapid triple chargers and four double fast chargers. The funding would also cover the cost of a five year manufacturer warranty and maintenance agreement for the units.

- 3.3.3 As well as a requirement to ensure that chargers form part of the National 'Chargeplace Scotland' network, chargers have to be located on public sector land and accessible twenty-four hours a day.
- 3.3.4 Transport Scotland have indicated that, to bring greater certainty to users that they are likely to find an available charger, they would encourage Local Authorities to look at recharging hubs with multiple chargers, rather than just installing individual chargers.
- 3.3.5 As part of the funding conditions, the funding had to be accepted by the Council and grant acceptance form sent back to Transport Scotland by 15th July 2019. To comply with this, all internal governance to bid for, accept the funding and signing of the grant acceptance by the Council's Legal team was fulfilled.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This funding stream is 100% external funding.
- 4.2 Transport Scotland have advised that for EV Charge Points the Councils no longer have to offer the charging service for free for the first twelve months after installation and can now charge users for the power they use. A model for this will be investigated as part of the development of an EV Strategy. The Council will be looking at this as part of the future budget setting processes. The maintenance and warranty costs for the units are funded for five years from date of commissioning.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The funding will have to be spent in accordance with the grant funding conditions and legal agreements which are attached to it.
- 5.2 Any procurement will be undertaken in line with legislation and with the Council's Procurement Regulations.
- 5.3 The funding bid was approved by the Transportation Programme Board on 11th July 2019, permission from Procurement & Finance and the Convener of City Growth & Resources Committee has been granted to accept the funding. The Council's legal team have signed the terms and conditions and returned the grant acceptance to Transport Scotland. The project has therefore complied with internal governance procedures.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
Financial	Projects come in over or under budget	M	<p>Monthly monitoring of projects using Project Status Reviews (PSRs) which are subject to scrutiny by Transport Programme Board</p> <p>Procurement of the EV Charge Points can be undertaken using the Tayside Procurement Consortium (TPC) framework which the Council are listed on.</p> <p>The ability to purchase a five year warranty and maintenance agreement at time of purchase will reduce the risk of expensive repair to the Council.</p>
Legal	<p>Officers breach grant conditions or terms of financial standing orders</p> <p>Failure to take action to improve air quality in the City could expose the Council to legal challenge should air quality continue to breach national and EU limits.</p>	L	<p>Work closely with legal and procurement colleagues from the application stage to minimise this.</p> <p>Legal have already checked the terms and conditions of the EV funding prior to signing the grant acceptance form.</p>
Employee	Insufficient staff to undertake the full programme. Employees also work within Air	M	Monthly monitoring of projects using Project Status Reviews (PSRs) will reflect changes to available resources at

	<p>Quality Management areas and may be detrimentally affected so would also have an opportunity to be involved in the LEZ project via the engagement exercise.</p>		<p>earliest possible point.</p>
Customer	<p>Infrastructure/ goods not fit for purpose</p> <p>Failure to implement measures to improve air quality in Aberdeen could harm citizens of and visitors to the city, potentially exacerbating life threatening and life- limiting illnesses.</p>	L	<p>The EV Chargers are purchased through a procurement framework which contains certain standards which the suppliers have to follow and have been scored against. The Council has previous experience of using the procurement framework and for the installation of EV Chargers.</p>
Environment	<p>The project contributes to delivering the outcomes of the Local Transport Strategy which has a specific environmental objective- 'Improved air quality and environment'</p> <p>Failure to deliver measures to improve air quality could see a worsening of emissions and commensurate</p>	L	<p>Consideration of any potential environmental impacts during the project and the identification of appropriate mitigation in consultation with appropriate Council Officers and bodies</p>

	impacts on the health of the population		
Technology	There are no technological risks	L	Electric Charging is a proven technology and have a low risk.
Reputational	<p>Committee decides not to approve the expenditure of external funding and is able to deliver less for the residents of the city and is more reliant on its own reducing funding.</p> <p>There is significant reputational risk should the Council not be seen maximising external funding opportunities to improve the lives and health of the people of Aberdeen.</p>	L	Maximise external funding opportunities in order to deliver schemes to benefit the city without being wholly reliant on internal/ local budgets

7. OUTCOMES

Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes	
	Impact of Report
Prosperous Economy	Contributes to Key Driver 1.3 (Improving investment into Aberdeen and Aberdeen businesses) in that it there will be increased access to electric vehicles and electric charging in the city and investing in a transport network which promotes a healthier and more attractive city.
Prosperous People	Contributes to Key Drivers 3.4 (Improving health and reducing inequalities). The projects encourage lower carbon emissions and seek to improve air quality which has the associated health benefits.

Prosperous Place	Contributes to Key Driver 14.1 (Reducing emissions across the city through delivery of Aberdeen's Sustainable Energy Action Plan 'Powering Aberdeen') in that encouraging modal shift to active and sustainable forms of transport should contribute towards reducing harmful emissions from road transport.
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Design Principles of Target Operating Model	
	Impact of Report
Customer Service Design	Using external funding allows the Council to undertake work for the benefit of the residents of Aberdeen without being solely reliant on internal funds.
Organisational Design	Will recognise our transport priorities and projects are a key element to reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality in our city.
Governance	All projects have been subject to internal governance and will continue to be monitored on a monthly basis through the Transportation Programme Board.
Workforce	By bringing in external funding, the workforce are able to get involved with a greater range of tasks and form new working arrangements with funders.
Process Design	Any schemes being taken forward will be subject to appropriate process design procedures.
Technology	Officers recognise the need to consider new and emerging technologies which can support the Council in delivering our transport priorities.
Partnerships and Alliances	The securing of external funding demonstrates not only good partnership working with funders but a vote of confidence from them that Aberdeen City is a Council and place worth funding.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment	Full EHRIA not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Duty of Due Regard / Fairer Scotland Duty	Not applicable

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

PLA/19/225

[Transport Scotland-Local Authority Installation Programme 2019/20](#)

10. APPENDICES (if applicable)

N/A

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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