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# West Berkshire Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Strategy

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<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Executive on 3 September 2020
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Richard Somner
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed report:</b>	7 July 2020
<b>Report Author:</b>	Evangeline Haggarty
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	EX3944

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## 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the proposed Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Strategy to the Executive for approval. This Strategy sits underneath the Environment Strategy and sets out the Council's current direction to promote and develop low emission vehicles and charging infrastructure in West Berkshire.

## 2 Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approves this strategy and its actions as the Council's direction for aiding the uptake of low emission vehicles in West Berkshire.

## 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	Many of the actions flowing from the strategy do not have specific financial implications and can be achieved within existing staff resources as they involve provision of guidance, knowledge sharing, influencing policy etc. Larger projects included in the action plan such as installing chargepoints have been planned and do not require additional budget. Financial implications of other projects that may result from feasibility studies will be considered prior to implementation on a case by case basis with the proper consideration of budget availability and approval.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	N/A

<b>Legal:</b>	Some of the actions within the Strategy will require new contracts and agreements to be drawn up (for example with the company installing charge points in Council car parks). The proper processes will be followed and advice sought from the Council’s legal and commissioning teams in all cases.			
<b>Risk Management:</b>	The strategy and actions will be kept under review to ensure the direction remains suitable as technologies evolve and user behaviour changes. Larger projects such as installing chargepoints will have their own risk management strategy and risk register.			
<b>Property:</b>	The installation of chargepoints within Council car parks and on any other Council land will be widely consulted on internally and any implications considered. Such a project will serve to enhance Council property and enable the Council to make a contribution to encouraging carbon reduction practices for those using their facilities and buildings. Any property implications of future projects flowing from studies will be considered on a case by case basis.			
<b>Policy:</b>	The proposed strategy focuses on the steps West Berkshire Council will take to work towards the proposed national strategy that all new cars/vans will be electric or hydrogen by 2035. The Strategy seeks to influence other Council policies and strategies where appropriate.			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		The proposed Strategy does not affect any one group more than any other.

<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		The proposed Strategy does not affect any one group more than any other.
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>	X			The proposed Strategy will have a positive effect on the environment, reducing CO <sub>2</sub> emissions if low emission vehicles replace existing vehicles.
<b>Health Impact:</b>	X			The proposed Strategy will have a positive effect on health, reducing air pollution if low emission vehicles replace existing vehicles.
<b>ICT Impact:</b>		X		The proposal has no effect on ICT within the council.
<b>Digital Services Impact:</b>		X		The proposal has no effect on Digital Services within the council.
<b>Council Strategy Priorities:</b>	X			Maintain a green district - 1. Develop more sustainable transport solutions which protect the environment.  The Ultra Low Emission Vehicle and Infrastructure Strategy will help inform where and how we install electric vehicle charging infrastructure and assist with keeping up with other technologies that may become available.
<b>Core Business:</b>		X		N/A
<b>Data Impact:</b>		X		The proposal will have no impact on data subject rights.

<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	<p>Highways, Integrated Transport, Car Parks, Transport Policy and Officers from the Environment Department have all been involved in the development of the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy has also been considered by the Transport Advisory Group and the Environment Board and their comments have been included and have influenced the preparation of the Strategy.</p>
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## 4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 The government's 2018 Road to Zero Strategy sets out the ambition that by 2040, no new petrol or diesel cars, or vans will be sold. Government then announced in February 2020, its intention to bring this forward to 2035, and sooner if possible. Hybrid vehicles would also be banned, and only new full electric or hydrogen vehicles would be sold from 2035.
- 4.2 This presents a huge challenge and Local Authorities have their part to play in delivering this ambition. In West Berkshire our declaration in July 2019 of a climate emergency and the target of being carbon neutral by 2030 sets an even greater challenge. Developing our own strategy on how we will encourage the uptake of electric or hydrogen vehicles and provide any necessary supporting infrastructure is therefore essential for guiding the work is required to meet these ambitious targets.
- 4.3 The strategy provides a lot of information about this fast developing area of ultra low emission vehicles and acts partly to educate and inform and present the current situation in West Berkshire.
- 4.4 Vehicle licensing data from the Department for Transport (DfT) shows that there were 119,664 vehicles registered in the district in 2019. Of these, 1007 were ULEV, representing 0.84% of vehicles registered in West Berkshire. In 2019 for the UK as a whole, ULEVs represented 0.68% of the vehicles registered suggesting West Berkshire has slightly above average ULEV uptake.
- 4.5 Clearly there is a long way to go before we are at the levels required both nationally and locally to meet targets. The strategy sets out what can be done to help to increase the uptake and discusses incentives, changing the Council's fleet, taxi and private hire vehicles, provision of charging infrastructure, setting appropriate planning policies, knowledge sharing and provision of guidance.
- 4.6 The strategy and its supporting actions will be reviewed more regularly than a number of Council strategies due to the fast changing nature of this area of work and the ever developing new technologies involved. The strategy will therefore be reviewed and updated as necessary every two years.
- 4.7 The development of this strategy is an early project to be achieved as one of the actions flowing from the Council's Environment Strategy. It is essential that progress is made quickly in order to meet our target for carbon neutrality and this supporting strategy will help to achieve this.
- 4.8 It is proposed that the Council adopt this Strategy so that progress can begin on the short term actions required to assist take up of electric vehicles and we can have the necessary influence on relevant policies and plan making across the Council.

## 5 Supporting Information

### Introduction

- 5.1 The government's 2018 Road to Zero Strategy sets out the ambition that by 2040, no new petrol or diesel cars, or vans will be sold. Government then announced in February

2020, its intention to bring this forward to 2035, and sooner if possible. Hybrid vehicles would also be banned, and only new full electric or hydrogen vehicles would be sold from 2035.

- 5.2 The West Berkshire Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) and Charging Infrastructure Strategy seeks to map out a programme for supporting ULEV uptake in the district. It is the intention that this document informs the general direction for West Berkshire, with more detailed policy or guidance documents produced where appropriate. Whilst some improvements have already been implemented, we recognise that we are at the start of the transition, there remains uncertainty for the future to the technical advances we are seeing and the resulting changes to driver behaviour, therefore this Strategy will be regularly reviewed, at least biannually to ensure it is kept current.

## Background

- 5.3 The Strategy aims to help inform by explaining more about ultra low emission vehicles and charging infrastructure, such as:
- (a) Government plans and future plans for vehicle availability
  - (b) Current number of low emission vehicles in West Berkshire
  - (c) Current number of electric chargepoints in West Berkshire
  - (d) Detail of technical developments and the impact of these
- 5.4 The Strategy and its Actions provides detail on how the council will assist with low emission vehicle uptake and some of the short term actions that will be taken to aid this. It will be regularly reviewed and reported on to monitor progress and changes of direction within the industry.

## Proposals

- 5.5 The Proposal is that West Berkshire Council approves the attached Strategy for low emission vehicle uptake. Having a Strategy approved will enable officers in the various departments involved to work to a plan of Actions to help assist vehicle take up and annually report back to Environment Board on progress.

## 6 Other options considered

- 6.1 An alternative option would be to do nothing and not to develop a specific strategy. Without a clear Strategy setting out how West Berkshire will assist the increase of low emission take up, the works will continue to be piecemeal with no clear plan. The district's emissions from transport may continue to rise and this will go against the target for West Berkshire being carbon neutral by 2030.

## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Council approves the proposed Strategy as an early action flowing from the Environment Strategy. Work needs to begin on the actions within this proposed Strategy as soon as practical in order to build on existing use and improve uptake in the district promptly.

7.2 Government may bring forward the requirement for all new vehicles to be electric to 2035, however if the aims of the Environment Strategy are to be achieved, transport emissions need to decrease rapidly and ideally be zero by 2030. Any delay effectively reduces the chance of achieving this by delaying measures to increase low emission vehicle uptake.

## 8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix A – Equalities Impact Assessment

8.2 Appendix B – Data Protection Impact Assessment

8.3 Appendix C – West Berkshire Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Strategy

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### Background Papers:

West Berkshire Ultra Low Emission Vehicle and Charging Infrastructure Strategy

#### Subject to Call-In:

Yes:  No:

The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval

Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council

Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position

Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee or associated Task Groups within preceding six months

Item is Urgent Key Decision

Report is to note only

**Wards affected:** This is a District-wide Strategy. Some wards will require on-street EVCPs or other public EVCPs more than others – this will depend on the nature of the housing in the area and the presence of public car parks.

#### Officer details:

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## Document Control

<b>Document Ref:</b>		<b>Date Created:</b>	03/07/2020
<b>Version:</b>	1	<b>Date Modified:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Evangeline Haggarty		
<b>Owning Service</b>	Environment		

## Change History

Version	Date	Description	Change ID
1	14/07/2020	Report Created	EH
2	11/08/2020	Amendments to report following Corporate Board	JG
3	24/08/2020	Amendments to report and final strategy following Operations Board and in preparation for Executive	JG



## Appendix A

### Equality Impact Assessment - Stage One

We need to ensure that our strategies, policies, functions and services, current and proposed have given due regard to equality and diversity as set out in the Public Sector Equality Duty (Section 149 of the Equality Act), which states:

- (1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:***
  - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;***
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; This includes the need to:***
    - (i) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;***
    - (ii) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;***
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it, with due regard, in particular, to the need to be aware that compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.***
- (2) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.***
- (3) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.***

The following list of questions may help to establish whether the decision is relevant to equality:

- Does the decision affect service users, employees or the wider community?
- (The relevance of a decision to equality depends not just on the number of those affected but on the significance of the impact on them)
- Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?
- Is it a major policy, or a major change to an existing policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?
- Will the decision have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?
- Does the decision relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?
- Does the decision relate to an area with known inequalities?
- Does the decision relate to any equality objectives that have been set by the council?

Please complete the following questions to determine whether a full Stage Two, Equality Impact Assessment is required.

<b>What is the proposed decision that you are asking the Executive to make:</b>	The recommendation is that the Board approve this Strategy and its Actions, as the direction for aiding the uptake of low emission vehicles in West Berkshire
<b>Summary of relevant legislation:</b>	N/A
<b>Does the proposed decision conflict with any of the Council's key strategy priorities?</b>	No, it enhances their commitment.
<b>Name of assessor:</b>	Evangeline Haggarty
<b>Date of assessment:</b>	03/07/2020

Is this a:		Is this:	
<b>Policy</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>New or proposed</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strategy</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Already exists and is being reviewed</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Function</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Is changing</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Service</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

<b>What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the proposed decision and who is likely to benefit from it?</b>	
<b>Aims:</b>	The Strategy outlines progress in low emission vehicle uptake across the district to date, the projections for the future and the actions WBC will undertake to support increased vehicle take up.
<b>Objectives:</b>	To increase low emission vehicle uptake in West Berkshire.
<b>Outcomes:</b>	The Strategy will inform the council's current direction around low emission vehicles and charging.
<b>Benefits:</b>	The public will have an idea of what is planned next and council staff have a plan for short term delivery

<b>Note which groups may be affected by the proposed decision. Consider how they may be affected, whether it is positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this.</b>		
(Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.)		
<b>Group Affected</b>	<b>What might be the effect?</b>	<b>Information to support this</b>

Age	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Disability	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Gender Reassignment	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Marriage and Civil Partnership	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Pregnancy and Maternity	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Race	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Religion or Belief	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Sex	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a protected characteristic than on anyone else.
Sexual Orientation	None	This Strategy would be unlikely to have any more impact on a person with a

		protected characteristic than on anyone else.
<b>Further Comments relating to the item:</b>		
The Strategy and Action Plan merely provide a plan for how West Berkshire will increase low emission vehicle uptake across the district.		

<b>Result</b>	
<b>Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please provide an explanation for your answer: The Strategy and Action Plan merely provide a plan for how West Berkshire will increase low emission vehicle uptake across the district.	
<b>Will the proposed decision have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please provide an explanation for your answer: The Strategy and Action Plan merely provide a plan for how West Berkshire will increase low emission vehicle uptake across the district.	

If your answers to question 2 have identified potential adverse impacts and you have answered 'yes' to either of the sections at question 3, or you are unsure about the impact, then you should carry out a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment.

If a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment is required, before proceeding you should discuss the scope of the Assessment with service managers in your area. You will also need to refer to the Equality Impact Assessment guidance and Stage Two template.

<b>Identify next steps as appropriate:</b>	
<b>Stage Two required</b>	N/A
<b>Owner of Stage Two assessment:</b>	N/A
<b>Timescale for Stage Two assessment:</b>	N/A

**Name:** Evangeline Haggarty **Date:** 03/07/2020

Please now forward this completed form to Rachel Craggs, Principal Policy Officer (Equality and Diversity) (rachel.craggs@westberks.gov.uk), for publication on the WBC website.

## Appendix B

### Data Protection Impact Assessment – Stage One

The General Data Protection Regulations require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for certain projects that have a significant impact on the rights of data subjects.

Should you require additional guidance in completing this assessment, please refer to the Information Management Officer via [dp@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:dp@westberks.gov.uk)

Directorate:	Environment
Service:	Environment Department
Team:	Energy & Programme Delivery
Lead Officer:	Evangeline Haggarty
Title of Project/System:	West Berkshire Ultra Low Emission Vehicle and Charging Infrastructure Strategy
Date of Assessment:	03/07/2020

#### Do you need to do a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)?

	Yes	No
<p><b>Will you be processing SENSITIVE or “special category” personal data?</b></p> <p><small>Note – sensitive personal data is described as “data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person’s sex life or sexual orientation”</small></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Will you be processing data on a large scale?</b></p> <p><small>Note – Large scale might apply to the number of individuals affected OR the volume of data you are processing OR both</small></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Will your project or system have a “social media” dimension?</b></p> <p><small>Note – will it have an interactive element which allows users to communicate directly with one another?</small></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Will any decisions be automated?</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
Note – does your system or process involve circumstances where an individual's input is "scored" or assessed without intervention/review/checking by a human being? Will there be any "profiling" of data subjects?		
<b>Will your project/system involve CCTV or monitoring of an area accessible to the public?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Will you be using the data you collect to match or cross-reference against another existing set of data?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Will you be using any novel, or technologically advanced systems or processes?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Note – this could include biometrics, "internet of things" connectivity or anything that is currently not widely utilised		

**If you answer "Yes" to any of the above, you will probably need to complete [Data Protection Impact Assessment - Stage Two](#). If you are unsure, please consult with the Information Management Officer before proceeding.**