

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

to

**Traffic Regulations Working Party
and Cabinet Committee**

on

7th January 2018

Report prepared by: Peter Geraghty,
Director for Planning and Transport

**Requests for Waiting Restrictions
On-Street Electric Charging Bays in Residential Streets**

**Cabinet Member: Councillor Moring
Place Scrutiny Committee
Part 1 Public Agenda Item**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Traffic Regulations Working Party and the Cabinet Committee to authorise the advertisement of Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders in accordance with the statutory processes.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. **That the Traffic Regulations Working Party and the Cabinet Committee:-**
- a) **Consider the requests to advertise Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders to provide electric vehicle charging bays in various locations within the borough.**
 - b) **Note that all unresolved comments will be referred to the Traffic Regulations Working Party for consideration after six months of being implemented.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Ownership and use of electric vehicles is increasing in the borough, however, in order to charge an electric vehicle, off street parking provision is essential.
- 3.2 The Highways Act 1980 prohibits the placing of any wires over the Highway without authority therefore, any residents without off-street parking provision are unable to use electric vehicles as charging them would require the use of a cable from their property to the kerbside.
- 3.3 In order to enable residents to consider electric vehicles, charging points on lamp columns adjacent to the kerbside are required and we have the exciting opportunity to install a number of charging points on lamp columns funded by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

- 3.4 Residents wishing to use the charging points will be required to register with the scheme and receive their charging cable. The resident then pays for the electricity used to charge their vehicle. The council is not required to fund any costs relating to the project and will not receive any income from charging.
- 3.5 In order to enable access to the charging points by electric vehicles only, a Traffic Regulation Order is required. It is recommended that this project is initially completed using an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order.
- 3.4 Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders allow a reduced consultation process enabling implementation and any required changes to be made quickly and efficiently. An Order is made and comes into effect after 7 days. During the following six month period, any comments are collated, changes can be made and after six months, any outstanding comments are considered by this Committee. The Committee can decide at this point to confirm the Order, make any amendments or continue with the Order for a further 12 months.
- 3.5 Colleagues are currently compiling locational information from electric vehicle owners and those wishing to use electric vehicles. Suitable locations will be assessed to ensure the provision of a bay will not impact on safety or traffic flows and where suitable, a bay will be provided using an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order.

4. Other Options

- 4.1 Each request needs to be considered on its individual merits and their impact on public safety, traffic flows or parking and wider impact on the surrounding network. Members may consider taking no further action if they feel it is appropriate.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

- 5.1 To allow for increased ownership and usage of electric vehicles.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

- 6.1.1 Increased use of electric vehicles reduces emission within the borough and reduces the impact on the environment.

6.2 Financial Implications

- 6.2.1 The project is funded by a grant from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

6.3 Legal Implications

- 6.3.1 The formal statutory consultative process will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the legislation where applicable.

6.4 *People Implications*

6.4.1 Each location will be assessed for suitability and progressed where appropriate using existing resources.

6.5 *Property Implications*

6.5.1 None

6.6 *Consultation*

6.6.1 Formal consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements.

6.7 *Equalities and Diversity Implications*

6.7.1 Any use of the highway is assessed considering the impact in all road users.

6.8 *Risk Assessment*

6.8.1 each site will be assess for suitability considering safety and traffic flows.

6.9 *Value for Money*

6.9.1 All works are to be undertaken by term contractors appointed through a competitive tendering process.

6.10 *Community Safety Implications*

6.10.1 All proposals are designed to maximise community safety through design, implementation and monitoring.

6.11 *Environmental Impact*

6.11.1 Increasing the potential for electric vehicle usage will impact positively on the environment. .

7. **Background papers**

None

8. **Appendices**

None