

EV CHARGING IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE

RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND (REPF)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY (ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITIES & PARTNERSHIPS)

6TH JUNE 2024

EV CHARGING IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE

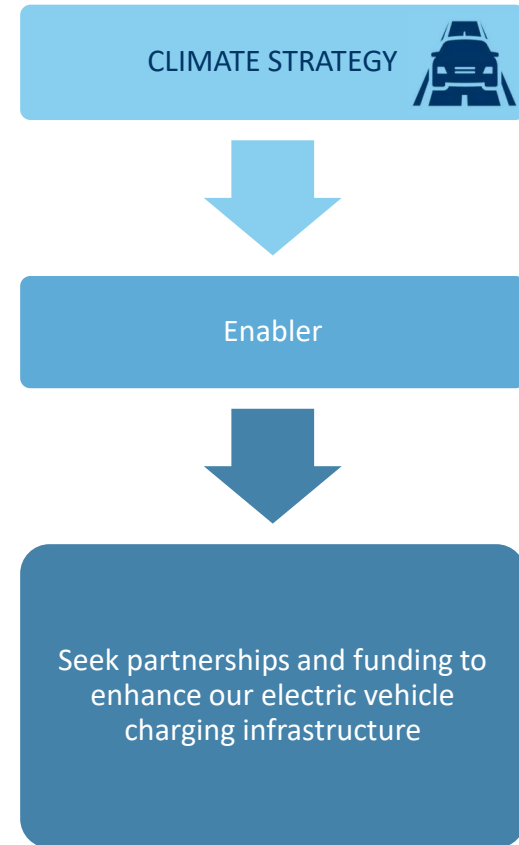
In recent years there has been a **significant growth** in the number of **Electric Vehicles** seen on the roads in the UK with **over 3,500** now registered **in our District**. This is anticipated to further increase in line with restrictions on the sale and manufacture of vehicles.

The Council's **Climate Action Plan** approved February 2023 set out an action to 'Develop an EV Strategy for Huntingdonshire'.

During 2023/24, the Council's Climate Working Group in collaboration with officers developed a Public EV Charging strategy to identify and provide clarity on the Council's role in public EV charging.

In **March 2024**, the Council adopted the **Public EV Charging strategy**.

The Strategy set out what the Council will **Do**, which includes utilising **external funding** to support **rural off-street provision** in proximity to local amenities.



GRANT FUNDING

BACKGROUND

The CPCA bid for and has been **successfully** approved by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (“DLUHC”) for funding from the **Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)**.

This allocation is to help the local authorities within the area to support the UK government’s wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the levelling up objectives.

FUNDING AWARD

Awarded for:

- Capacity building & Infrastructure

Requirement:

- A **minimum** installation of **6 new charging** points in rural locations

Grant:

- £250,000

When:

- Before 31st March 2025

PROJECT OVERVIEW

SCOPE

The project will deliver Rural Community Infrastructure supporting Electric Vehicle Charging with through a minimum of 6 new charging points.

The REPF have specified that project should:

- Undertake the installation of a minimum of 6^{*1} charge points
- Provide an increased number (2^{*2}) of charging locations for community use
- Support the use of community facilities

The REPF Prospectus identifies Rural areas as:

- Towns, villages and hamlets with populations below 10,000 people, and;
- Wider countryside market or 'hub towns' with populations of up to 30,000 that serve the surrounding rural areas as centre of employment and in providing services.



^{*1} a greater number of charge points may be installed where possible within funding

^{*2} the number of charge points may be delivered over a greater number of sites

PROJECT OVERVIEW

APPROACH

A **phased delivery approach** will be adopted for this project. This will incorporate delivery tranches:

- Tranche 1: We will **continue working with Parish Councils** that were **part of the EV Strategy development** to undertake further assessment of sites:
 - Sawtry
 - Holywell-Cum-Needingworth
 - Grafham
 - Yaxley
 - Fenstanton

Working with **remaining budget**, we will progress works into tranches 2 & 3:

- Tranche 2: Review of **HDC car park sites in rural locations** against site identification and feasibility flow.
- Tranche 3: **identification alternate sites** in line with the site identification flow.

The **benefits** to this phased approach include:

- Enabling **ongoing review** of costings to determine remaining budget
- Ability to **review** the grant deliverables against **remaining delivery time**
- Supporting our aim to **fully utilise available budget** to maximise deliverables
- An opportunity to **review** the current tranche and benefit from any **lessons learned**

SITE IDENTIFICATION

Identification of areas within a 'higher population rural area' without publicly accessible EV Charging facilities.



Review of the areas against a list of 'assets of community value' with linked off-street parking where EV will:

- Support residents in the area with no off-street residential parking (overnight)
- Not monopolise the parking facility of the site with EV use.



Confirm ownership of site. This should be a Parish Council owned/linked sited to enable simplification of agreements for use of land.

OUR STRATEGY

ROLE & OBJECTIVES

The Council's Public EV Charging Strategy set out what the Council will Do; this includes:

- Utilising external funding to support rural off-street provision in proximity to local amenities.
- Supporting a Parish who lack the General Powers of Competence (GPC) required to operate a charge point by acting as a 3rd party operator

STRATEGY SPECIFICATION

In line with our strategy, we will follow our principle for charge point type and operation by:

- Aiming to achieve a minimum standard of 7kW charging (subject to site constraints)
- We will consider the average dwell time of a site to further inform an appropriate speed of charging
- Creating charging bays with EV parking bay markings to ensure the use of the bay is apparent to all users



**PUBLIC
ELECTRIC VEHICLE
CHARGING**

Our Role: A
Strategy for
Huntingdonshire
District Council

April 2024

OUR CORPORATE PLAN

CORPORATE PLAN

The Council's Corporate Plan Priority 2 Creating a better Huntingdonshire for future generations sets out our ambition for Lowering Carbon Emissions

We will take positive action to reduce carbon emissions and become a net zero carbon Council by 2040. We will enable and encourage local people and businesses to reduce carbon emissions and increase biodiversity across Huntingdonshire.

CORPORATE PLAN ACTIONS

Action 47 of our Corporate Plan sets out that we will Enable through Delivery of Phase 1 of Rural Electric Vehicle Charging as set out in our EV Strategy



DELIVERY

STRATEGY APPLICATION

To work within the funding time scales, we will **apply our strategy** by:

- Focusing on **maximising use** of available funding
- Undertaking installation of **tranche 1** sites within the **existing supply** unless we are confident it will not impact the overall delivery of the project
- Supporting **Parish Councils without GPC** through an appropriate agreements enabling **us to operate** the charge points
- Progressing sites where **non-complex** arrangements can be made relating to the **land ownership**

OPERATIONAL SCENARIOS

Impacted by the **General Powers of Competence**, the expected scenarios for installation and operation are:

- We will work with a charge point supplier and the Parish Council. We will fund the equipment and the installation process. **Holding GPC**, the Parish may own and operate the charge point.
- We will work with a charge point supplier and the Parish Council. **Without the Parish GPC** in place, an agreement will be in place before works commence granting the Council the right to use the land to operate a charge point which will retain ownership of.



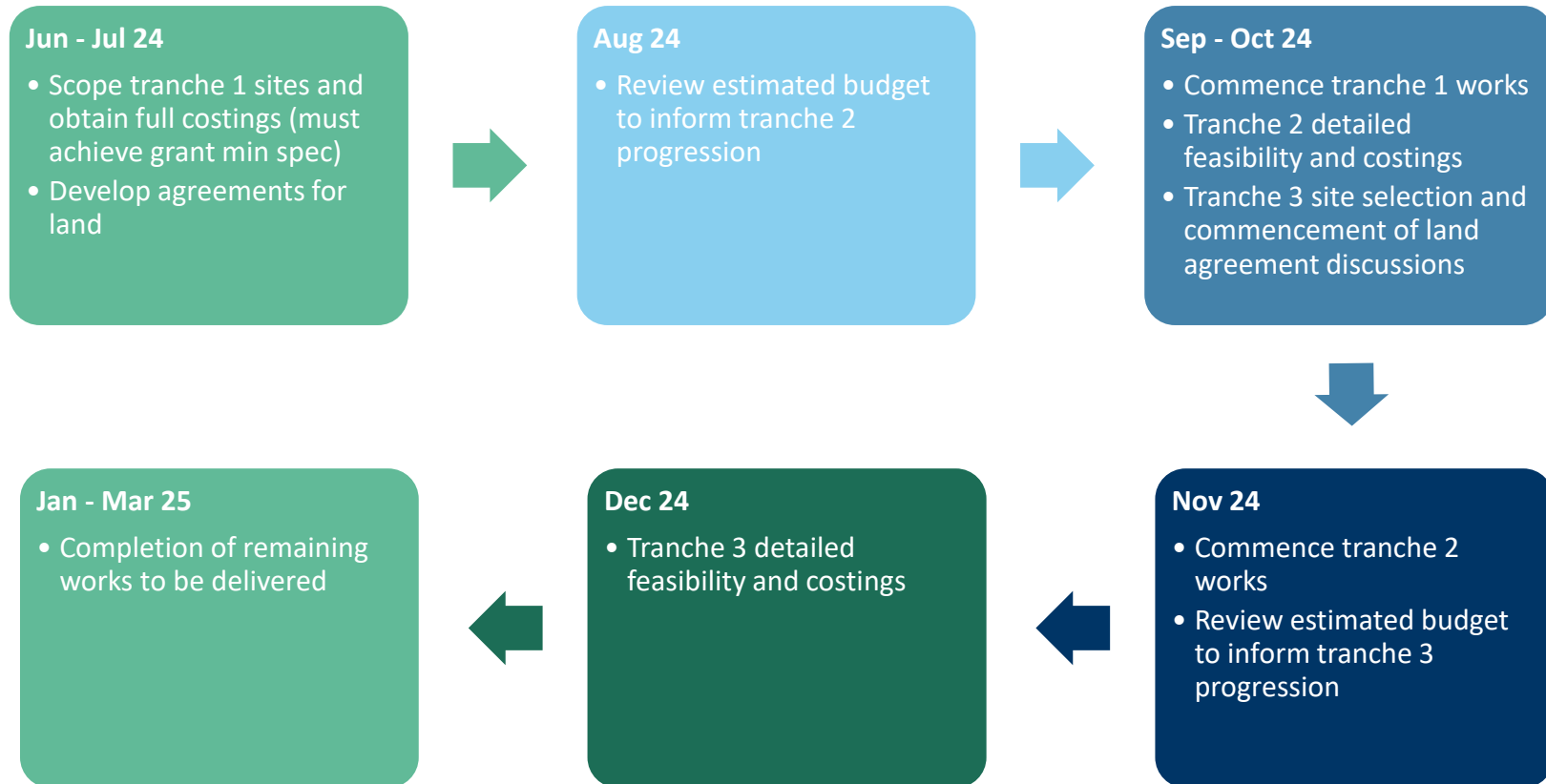
RISK OVERVIEW

A risk log for the project is being maintained. The below is an extract noting the key risk areas. This will be managed in line with the Councils project management process.

Risk	Impact	Mitigation	Status
Ability to meet the grant delivery timescales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputation of the Council to deliver projects. • Ability to draw down funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-site-specific grant enables ability to select /adjust sites based on ease of installation (district wide scope). 	Green
Insufficient funding to deliver minimum grant specification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputation of the Council to deliver projects. • Ability to draw down funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated costs to meet grant scope within the grant allocation based on previous works undertaken. • Communication pathway with UKSPF/REPF Programme to consider rescopeing options. • No undertaking of installation works until costed plan to meet grant scope in place. 	Green
Ability to appoint a suitable supplier to deliver within timescales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to meet the grant delivery timescales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple supplier options within the marketplace available • Procurement route exploration underway. • Grant does not have a power spec so able to work within existing site supply. 	Green

DELIVERY

The project has outlined a pathway that will support **delivery of the grant scope** within the **allocated timeframe**. This approach allows continual review of progress against the requirements to assess remaining time and budget whilst overcoming complex sites.



THANK YOU