

## **Western Gateway Sub-national Transport Body**

### **Board Meeting**

#### **Paper B**

Date **27th November 2024**

Title of report: **Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategic Action Plan**

Purpose of report: **To provide an update and seek approval on the South West EV Strategic Action Plan**

#### **Recommendations:**

The members of the Partnership Board are recommended to:

- I. To note progress on South West EV work
- II. To approve the EV Strategic Action Plan

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Both Western Gateway and Peninsula Transport STBs identify decarbonisation and the transition to zero-emission vehicles as a priority within their respective transport strategies, which has led to collaborative working across the South West region.
- 1.2 This project involved setting up a South West EV forum for local authority officers, and to publish an EV Strategic Action Plan for the South West which identifies tangible measures the STBs can undertake to support the accelerated delivery of regional EV charging infrastructure.

## **2. EV update**

- 2.1 Peninsula Transport and Western Gateway STB undertook an analysis on EV uptake, electric vehicle charge point requirements and demand across the region up to 2050. The findings and full report were published on the STB websites.
- 2.2 The two STBs have established a successful EV South West forum, to support the Local Authorities (LAs). These were well attended by officers from all LAs and external stakeholders, such as Energy Saving Trust, to identify the issues and opportunities in delivering the required infrastructure and electrical grid capacity to meet forecasted demand.

### **3. EV Strategic Action Plan**

- 3.1 When developing the Action Plan, the STBs have drawn upon evidence gathered from LAs, other STBs, Distribution Network Operators (DNOs - the organisations responsible for electricity supply), government bodies and independent advisory groups like the Energy Saving Trust (EST) through the EV Stakeholder Forums. Our role also includes engaging with private sector ChargePoint operators to understand the opportunities and challenges within the EV industry.
- 3.2 The STBs have committed to the following actions:
- Ongoing facilitation of the South West EV forum
  - Engage with DfT and the Office of Zero Emissions (OZEV)
  - Engage with external stakeholders, such as Charge Point operators, Network Rail, National Highways, Network Distributor Operators etc.
  - Align with wider objectives and projects, such as Rural Mobility or Alternative Fuels for Freight.
  - Work with Motability and EST to promote accessibility standards
- 3.3 The completed EV Strategic Action Plan can be found as an appendix to this report. The STBs will review and update the Action Plan in Winter 2025.

### **4. Consultation, communication and engagement**

- 3.1 The Strategic EV Action Plan has been discussed and approved by EV officers across all Local Authorities in the Western Gateway and Peninsula Transport regions.

### **5. Equalities Implications**

- 4.1 No adverse impact on any protected groups.

### **6. Legal considerations**

- 5.1 The Western Gateway STB remains an informal non-statutory partnership.

### **7. Financial considerations**

- 6.1 This was drafted by STB officers, so no financial implications.

### **8. Conclusion**

- 7.1 The Board is recommended to note and approve the EV Strategic Action Plan for publishing.

### **Contact Officer**

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