





Annex B

Electric Vehicle Strategy: Interim Public Consultation Appraisal

Headlines

The Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy consultation took place between 4 June and 26 August 2018:

-  The Surrey Transport Plan consultation web page was visited over **16,007** times by different visitors.
-  The EV Strategy itself was read by **373** different visitors to the Surrey Transport Plan web page.
-  **101** written responses to the EV Strategy were received by email, letter or online survey.
-  Over **40** comments relating to the EV Strategy or Low Emissions Transport Strategy were received on the #cleanertravel theme via the Surrey Matters Twitter and Facebook platforms

Written responses received on behalf of organisations included borough and parish councils and a neighbourhood forum.

What we did

- **Web page:** A consultation home page at surreycc.gov.uk/cleanertravel with a web banner link on the Surrey County Council home page.
- **Survey:** Hosted on the online Surrey Says platform.
- **Libraries:** For those without internet access copies of the EV Strategy and consultation posters were handed out to fifteen libraries across the county.
- **Posters:** In addition to libraries, posters were also distributed and displayed at county council offices, district and borough council offices and parish councils.
- **Social media:** Facebook and Twitter posts were coordinated through Surrey Matters and the consultation was also promoted through accounts run by the Local Committees and Borough/District Councils.
- **Mailout:** Notification emails were sent to over 1,000 stakeholders including statutory groups, special interest forums, businesses and individuals signed up to the Surrey Transport Plan mailing list.
- **EV round table:** Event hosted by Cllr Mike Goodman and attended by industry representatives, organisations and officers from the county, borough and district councils.
- **Press coverage:** The consultation was reported in local media sources including Get Surrey and Guildford Dragon
- **Local newsletters:** The consultation was promoted via county and borough newsletters.
- **Disability networks:** The consultation was shared with disability and partner networks through the Information and Engagement team in Adult Social Care

- **Internal networks:** S-net, Jive Surrey and staff newsletters were used to promote the consultation amongst Surrey County Council officers.

Feedback

The total number of responses represents a reasonably strong level of feedback in comparison to other public consultations on the Surrey Transport Plan. Over a quarter of individual responses were received from current EV owners and whilst this is higher proportion than the average split, it is seen as a positive aspect in that we are able to learn from first-hand experiences.

An interim appraisal of feedback received to the consultation indicates a strong level of support for what the EV Strategy seeks to achieve with a desire to see the council do even more where possible.

Focussing solely on online survey responses:

- Over **two thirds** of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the aim and objectives stated within the strategy.
- All of the proposed actions were supported by **over 50%** of respondents
- Furthermore, many of the proposed actions received overwhelming support. For example, actions relating to public charging provision and bus fleet electrification received **over 80%** agreeing or strongly agreeing.

A large number of the written responses to the consultation were particularly detailed and nuanced in their content. A detailed analysis of responses is ongoing and will be used to help update the final version of the document, however for the purposes of this interim summary a few of the key themes that were raised are described below:

More public charge points / greater urgency: Many respondents wanted to see greater urgency in the rollout of publicly accessible charge point provision, including time-measured commitments from the council. A number of responses felt it was of importance for the council to address provision for residents without access to off-street parking.

Beyond the private car: Some respondents felt that there was an overly large focus on private vehicles and would like to see greater emphasis on public transport and active travel. They cautioned that a transition to EV should not be to the detriment of other sustainable modes.

Wider approach / universality: Another recurring theme was the desire for the council to adopt an approach that mirrored that of other areas in the region in terms of consistence of technology and universality of access. The borough and parish councils that responded to the consultation indicated a keenness to work with Surrey County Council and each other to ensure consistency, a number of whom cited the county's planning guidance for electric vehicle parking as a positive example of this in action.

The draft strategy will be reviewed and amended in light of the feedback received. Any potential changes to the strategy that require a greater level of commitment and

direct intervention will be balanced against both the positive level of ambition of the council as well its ability to influence, invest resources or take financial risk.

This page is intentionally left blank