

HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

12 October 2021

TITLE:	Questions of which notice has been given
CONTACT OFFICER:	Linden Vernon Head of Democratic Services
WARDS INVOLVED:	Non-Specific

1. Question received from Councillor Atkins for the Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure

“Concerns about the availability of petrol supplies have recently dominated media headlines. However, we could easily envisage a much-more testing situation concerning electric vehicle charging facilities in the run up to the year 2030, when Britain will cease to manufacture petrol and diesel powered vehicles and move to electric and hydrogen powered cars, vans and lorries. This will involve major changes which will require in-depth planning at several levels. Could Cllr Greenhalgh assure the Council that planning is in hand to ensure that we do not have serious shortages of refuelling points for electric vehicles in High Peak in the coming years? These plans need to include not only Council-charging points but on-street facilities for the many residents without off street parking. The Council will presumably also liaise with current and potential commercial suppliers - through traffic and tourist vehicles being a major factor in our area.

Could I also ask that all the areas initially considered for council charging points but which to date have been rejected (which include my own home town of New Mills) be included in the next action list, as presumably there was sufficient evidence of potential current customer demand for these to have been originally considered?”

Response:

“In 2019 the Council gave permission to BP Chargemaster to install a number of chargepoints on council land as part of a project funded by our Local Enterprise Partnership, D2N2 and supported by Derbyshire County Council (DCC). As part of phase 1 of the project we put forward a number of town centre “priority” sites, which included all the major town centre car parks.

D2N2 and their selected partner, Chargemaster surveyed the sites and selected the following car parks based on the feasibility of costs under the funding:

- Hope, Hope Valley
- Miry Meadow, Chapel
- Municipal Buildings, Glossop
- Sylvan, Buxton
- Canal Street, Whaley Bridge

Separately the Council secured funding from Highways England under another scheme for a further charger at Hadfield, Station Road.

A second phase of the project asked for potential sites in Council control to several areas of high density housing, where charging overnight on driveways was not possible. Projects at Victoria Park Road in Fairfield and Edwards Street car park in Glossop were successful.

Unfortunately, the funding did not stretch to facilitating installations at every town in the district. Across Derbyshire only High Peak and Derbyshire Dales were successful in delivering chargers under this particular project.

Costs vary depending on the location of the charge points depending on the nature of the electricity supply required. The installs completed under phase 1 varied between £25,000-35,000 per charger. The costs of an installation for New Mills exceeded this and was therefore unfortunately deemed prohibitive for this funding.

The Council is now looking to commission consultants to determine a delivery strategy for the roll out of EV charge points to the benefit of our residents, business and visitors as the technology develops and the uptake of EV increases. This will include working with Derbyshire County Council to ensure a cohesive approach that best utilises our Council's car parks and other land assets to support any on-street delivery that DCC are looking to deliver. We are in the process of bolstering resources around Climate Change, with an advert for a Climate Change and Biodiversity Officer currently out of recruitment and are looking into the resources available to our car parking service in order to meet the challenges of the future.