

Environment and Community Services PDS Committee

1st September 2021

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS FOR ORAL RESPONSE

1) Question from Cllr Ian Dunn

Can the Portfolio Holder explain the work the Council is doing to facilitate the installation of on street electric vehicle charging in the parts of the borough without off street parking, and provide details of the expected timescale.

Reply:

Can I refer you first to my answer to Mr McPartlan. The Council is currently in the process of finalising its plans for a comprehensive strategy that will inform the long term plans for installing electric vehicle charging points, this includes the application for Government funding that is essential to the Council's plans.

A strategy document is expected to be discussed at the next PDS meeting, with the initial funding application bid to potentially have been made shortly before.

Plans are being made with suppliers and Procurement in anticipation of successful progress in terms of the strategy and funding.

2) Question from Cllr Ian Dunn

The Table of Earmarked Reserves in the Provisional Final Accounts which came to Full Council in July, showed an Earmarked Reserve entitled "Environmental Initiatives". Its balance at 31st March 2020 was £500k, with £47k spent during financial year 2020/21. What was this £47k spent on? What will the balance of £453k be spent on over what time period?

Reply:

The £47k spend to date was to support the Council's Anti Idling Campaign as set out in the report to this committee on the 28th August 2019

I as Portfolio Holder approve expenditure against this budget heading as and when schemes arise. The funding rolls over year on year. There have been a number of requests this year one of which is on the agenda tonight.

3) Question from Cllr Simon Fawthrop:

What signage is available for schools and other bodies wishing to discourage cars idling in their vicinity?

Reply:

We currently have an A5 informational leaflet, 2 different poster designs and large banners available to schools regarding our Anti-Idling campaign. We are currently in the process of having our poster designs made into signage that can be attached to lamp columns. The provision of signs will have to be consistent with the Council's budget and street clutter policies.

The anti-idling programme is focussed on schools and is progressing through schools in priority order with approximately 25% of primary schools either current or past participants.

4) Question from Cllr Simon Fawthrop

What alternatives are available for hard of hearing and deaf people to the mobile pay and display service?

Reply:

There are multiple ways to pay for your parking session that will assist any customer who may be hard of hearing or deaf:

- Download and pay using Ringo Application.
- Text Ringo directly with the location code and the length of the parking session.
- Or pay using the pay and display machine (when available)

5) Question from Councillor Kieran Terry:

What progress has been made in delivering publicly available electric vehicle charging facilities in Chislehurst?

Reply:

Can I first refer you to my answers given to Mr McPartlan and Cllr Dunn. The Council did propose locations in the Chislehurst area for the TfL rapid charger programme, but ultimately TfL only took forward a limited number of the locations we proposed.

The Council is currently in the process of finalising its plans for a comprehensive strategy that will inform the long term plans for installing electric vehicle charging points, this includes the application for Government funding that is essential to the Council's plans.

A strategy document is expected to be discussed at the next PDS meeting, with the initial funding application bid to potentially have been made shortly before.

Preliminary drawings have been produced that envisage charge points being installed in Chislehurst car parks, these drawings although at the planning stage, propose 4 charge points in the Hornbrook House car park and 8 in the High Street car park adjacent to Red Hill Primary School.

Plans are being made with suppliers and Procurement in anticipation of successful progress in terms of the strategy and funding.

This is relevant to Chislehurst as much as anywhere else. Any formal requests made via the Council website will be considered with the emphasis on providing for residents without off street parking available.