Barbican Estate - Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points – Provision of additional facilities

Briefing update to stakeholders

Background to current EV provision

In December 2016, a Working Party was established by the Barbican Residential Committee to look to pilot the introduction of EV charging points across the Barbican Estate.

In 2018, a pilot of the charging points for 30 EV charging bays which had been installed in five car parks on the Barbican Estate (Breton, Bunyan, Cromwell Tower, Thomas More and Willoughby), funded by the Low Emission Neighbourhood was carried out (funding was for the electrical infrastructure, charge points and pilot study which included free electric charging for users). This funding ceased in April 2019 and a charging policy was agreed for the current users but further work was required on the long-term proposals for an extension of EV charging on the Barbican Estate.

Extension of EV charging provision

In Summer 2020 the BEO contacted a number of different grant schemes including the Office for Low Emission Vehicles to ascertain the viability of securing additional funding via the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme for the provision of additional EV charging points on the Barbican Estate. It was confirmed that applications would be accepted for off-street underground car parks.

In Autumn 2020, following a number of on-site inspections by the potential provider of the scheme; an application to secure funding for the remaining Barbican Car Parks (Andrewes, Defoe, Thomas More and Speed) for the provision of a further 32 EV charge points was put forward. This application included funding for the electrical infrastructure and charge points and was fully specified and costed.

In Winter 2020, the application based on the fully specified and costed proposals was approved and the City received the funding to enable the above works. These works are anticipated to take 6-8 weeks and are due to be completed in the Spring 2021.

Due to the pandemic and short timescales to put forward applications; the roll out programme was based on the first project in 2018 and the EV Charging Working Party was not reconvened, although some of the local Ward Members of the Working Party were subsequently updated on progress.

The Residents Consultation Committee are due to be provided with this update at their meeting on 25 January, the Barbican Residential Committee on 2 February and residents generally will receive information in our weekly bulletin in February.