

NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

RECORD OF DELEGATED DECISION BY OFFICER

1. Subject of Decision

Re-location of Northumberland EV charger

2. Delegation Reference (Refer to Meeting Minute Number or Delegation Scheme in the Constitution or Decision Notice)

At the meeting of JTC on 16th March 2021, agenda item 9, recommendation i – ii – a, it was agreed to: “delegate authority to the Managing Director, Transport North East to negotiate and agree the detailed locations of the EV assets and acquisition of and land required for their installation, operation and future maintenance”.

This decision has been delegated to one or more officer(s) under:

(a) A specific express authorisation was given to the Managing Director, Transport North East by the Joint Transport Committee on 16th March 2021 to agree locations of the EV assets being installed under this project.

(b) a general authorisation to take such decisions **and**, the effect of the decision is to:

(i) grant a permission or licence;

(ii) affect the rights of an individual; or

(iii) award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Authority's financial position.

3. Name and Title of Decision Maker

Tobyn Hughes, Managing Director Transport North East

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4. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest

None

5. Executive Summary

As part of the ongoing project to install new EV chargers at seven locations around the north east, one per local authority, it was intended to install one charger at a site in Otterburn, Northumberland. However, due to land ownership issues at the site that potentially threatened a delay in completion, it was decided (in conjunction with Northumberland County Council and the NE LEP) to avoid further delay by selecting a site in Morpeth that would meet the project objectives but could be delivered more speedily.

6. Decision(s)

6(a) To proceed with the installation of a new EV charger at Castle Square, Morpeth.

6(b) If Exempt or Confidential, please provide a reason: Not applicable.

7. Alternative options considered

To continue with the Otterburn site.

8. Reasons for the Decision(s)

The land ownership issues at this site threatened to delay completion of the project and put funding at risk. It was decided to switch to another site considered to be more deliverable at minimal extra cost.

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9. Contact Officer

Tobyn Hughes
Managing Director, Transport North East
tobyn.hughes@transportnortheast.gov.uk

10. Date of Publication

27 October 2023

11. Date of Call-In Deadline

N/A

12. Implementation Date

25 October 2023

Signature of the Decision-Maker



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North East Combined Authority

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NORTH EAST JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

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Please return the following to Emma Reynard in Democratic Services (emmareynard@gateshead.gov.uk) **within 2 working days of the decision having been taken.**

- A Word version of the completed Delegated Decision report
- A Word version of the completed Delegated Decision Record
- A scanned PDF version of the completed and signed Delegated Decision Record

The Delegated Decision will be published by Democratic Services within three working days of it being taken, and it will then be open to call-in for a further five working days.

Decisions must not be implemented until the call-in process is completed. Democratic Services officers will advise report authors and decision makers of the relevant deadlines for call-in.

Transport North East

Re-location of EV charger in Northumberland

Report by: John Bourn, Transport North East

Report to: Toby Hughes Managing Director, Transport North East

1. Purpose

- 1.1 We are nearing completion of a Local Growth Fund project to install new EV chargers at 7 sites around the region (one per local authority). For various reasons, the project is behind schedule and we have agreed with the LEP that it should be completed by the end of this calendar year.
- 1.2 Following discussion with the Parish Council, issues have arisen with the planned site in Otterburn, Northumberland, relating to land ownership. To avoid the risk of further delay, it has been proposed to re-locate the chargers to another site in the county. After liaising with the LEP and the County Council, a new site at Castle Square, Morpeth has been identified which is in council ownership and should not pose any delivery issues.
- 1.3 The estimated cost of the new site is only £900 higher than the Otterburn site, which can be accommodated within the project budget.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To grant approval to re-locate the site of the charger installation from Otterburn to Castle Square, Morpeth.

3. Background

- 3.1 Transport North East (TNE) on behalf of the North East Joint Transport Committee (JTC), is working with appointed contractors (Swarco) to install new EV chargers around the region to assist in the transition to ZEVs.

4. Considerations

- 4.1 Continuing with the proposed Otterburn site would entail legal discussions, possibly lengthy, over land ownership and access which would put completion of the project at risk. Re-location to the Morpeth site is felt to be a more expedient option at this point in the project.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation has taken place with the North East LEP and with Northumberland County Council, both of whom are in agreement with the planned course of action.

6. What happens next

- 6.1 With the approval of the Managing Director, Transport North East, Swarco will mobilise to install the new charging infrastructure and arrange with Northern Powergrid to make the necessary electrical connection.

7. Contact Officers and Background Papers

- 7.1 John Bourn
Senior Transport Partnerships and Policy Officer, Transport North East
John.Bourn@transportnortheast.gov.uk

Approved to proceed:



Managing Director, Transport North East

Date: 25 October 2023