

MINUTES OF THE CHARGEUK POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

7 November, 11:00-12:00

ACTIONS

ACTION	DETAILS	OWNER
1	Update the RTFO paper before submitting it to DfT	Secretariat
2	Circulate amended proposals in barriers paper to members	Secretariat
	Members to feedback on amended proposals by 3PM Friday 10 Nov	Members
4	To amend launch plan (e.g. engagement) with members' comments	Secretariat
5	To create two versions of the barriers report for different audiences	Secretariat

ITEM ONE

Welcome and Introductions

1. DAN SIMPSON noted that today's discussion was on the 'accelerating rollout' report launch and media plan.

ITEM TWO Weekly Update

- 2. HARRY METHELY noted the competition policy. HARRY noted that there was no planned EV focus in the King's Speech today but there will be mentions of the 'future of transport'.
- 3. HARRY noted that there were no updates on <u>RCF</u>. Regarding <u>barriers</u>, the Secretariat have continued meetings with key stakeholders. The reception so far has been positive.
- 4. Regarding <u>consumer experience</u>, OZEV are interested in the OCPP and OCPI document. CharegeUK are currently doing a FAQ document with OZEV any consumer reas auestions can be sent to the Secretariat and will be included in the paper.
- 5. It was noted that next week's PCG will be with Zemo in attendance to discuss terminology. Zemo will be giving a presentation for the first half of the meeting, with PCG members having the opportunity to discuss in the second half. Only the names for the bandings are up for discussion, not the actual bandings.

- 6. HARRY updated on <u>RTFO</u>, noting that DfT are carrying out a piece of research regarding the inclusion of electricity in RTFO. They have appointed a consultancy to assist with this. The Secretariat will update the RTFO paper from earlier this year before submitting it to DfT.
- 7. MARTINA HUNT asked whether the public chargepoint regs are coming into force on the 15th or 24th November. HARRY noted that this will be checked but it does look like the 24th November.
- 8. ROSANNA TURNHAM questioned what the meeting with the Zemo was regarding. OLIVIA RYAN clarified that it was Zemo coming to present to the PCG on naming the bandings and the background to this.

ITEM THREE Barriers - Launch and Media Plan

- 9. OLIVIA RYAN ran through the slides (can be accessed via the member share drive) and spoke on the barriers launch plan. There are some final changes to the paper as a result of external stakeholder meetings, and these will be amended and flagged to members. To note, all meetings with stakeholders have been positive and they have appreciated CPOs' willingness to cooperate.
- 10. OLIVIA RYAN noted some of the stakeholders we have already met with such as Bill Esterson, ENA, INA, OZEV, XST, UKPN, Highways, National Grid, and Coventry City Council.
- 11. RICHARD STOBART noted that one of the biggest barriers for AC providers has been local authority procurement. Have we spoken to those covering these areas, like the CCS?
- 12. DAN SIMPSON noted that the Secretariat did meet with the CCS earlier this year, and they will be issued an invite to the planned roundtable for the launch. VICKY READ also noted that we met with a Coventry County Council representative last week, in her role as EV Infrastructure Programme Manager.
- 13. ROSANNA TURNHAM asked if ChargeUK are speaking with political stakeholders e.g., DfT, OZEV, No 10 Delivery Unit
- 14. OLIVIA RYAN clarified that the Secretariat has shared the results and proposals with key political stakeholders, but not the full report. Key political stakeholders will be invited to the roundtable, and contact will also be made with DESNZ and DLUHC officials.
- 15. OLIVIA RYAN spoke through the proposed changes to the paper. Following ChargeUK's discussion with Highways, there has been an addition to the voluntary code of conduct section. Rather than suggesting that Highways are bound to a statutory

- amount of time before they respond, we are now suggesting collaboration to help streamline the process.
- 16. OLIVIA RYAN spoke on the public launch and the proposed breakfast briefing roundtable. The roundtable is being proposed as a hybrid meeting, to be scheduled in around 2-3 weeks, and to cover all medium and lower priority stakeholders (e.g., Energy UK, CCS, LGA). These will also include priority attendees such as the SoS for Transport, Minister for Transport, National Grid, Shadow Transport SoS/Minister.
- 17. BEN WALKER spoke on the follow up with Mark Harper following the previous roundtable discussion on ZEV and questioned whether this new roundtable was in replacement of this. BEN also noted whether getting Labour and Conservatives in a room together would happen easily. DAN SIMPSON clarified that not all invitees may attend, but it is worth inviting in order to flag ChargeUK's work on the barriers. The breakfast briefing will not replace a potential follow up with SoS Mark Harper. To note, all members will also be invited to the roundtable.
- 18. It was noted that ChargeUK also have a meeting with the Scottish Government's Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition next month.
- 19. OLIVIA RYAN spoke on other launch engagement, such as letters to relevant departments and ministers. Devolved regions and their relevant representatives will also be included here.
- 20. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted that DLUHC needs to be added to the key stakeholders due to the planning asks in the paper. There also needs to be a wider conversation about publishing the whole report on the website and making it publicly available the merits of this needs to be considered alongside the wider picture, e.g., the possibility of negative press.
- 21. VICKY READ asked what the specific concerns were as it would be good to be aware of.
- 22. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted that there are often stories in the Daily Mail that are a negative focus on EVs. ChargeUK need to think about framing the debate well when sharing things with the media.
- 23. IAN JOHNSTON although no one wants negative press, what is the downside of the negative headlines now as opposed to later?
- 24. NATASHA MAHMOUDIAN noted that the framing of the debate does need to be positive. The current consumer perception towards EVs is negative and this is detrimental given they are our customers.
- 25. DAN SIMPSON noted that the 'barriers' paper is about accelerating rollout and what can be done to help this. ChargeUK can't move to the next stage with the government unless the key asks are clearly identified. If there is concern surrounding publishing the full report, there is an option to create a redacted version to share with certain stakeholders.

- 26. VICKY READ noted members' concerns. It is hard, however, to describe how to accelerate roll out without touching on what the challenges are and providing this evidence.
- 27. NATASHA MAHMOUDIAN questioned what the plan was with publishing a full report. Could we have a full version for Government and a redacted version for media etc?
- 28. DAN SIMPSON noted that the executive summary of the report can be pulled (pages one and two) and published separately to the full report. A media launch can be done with just the summary.
- 29. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted that the media objective is about consumers having confidence that charging infrastructure is being delivered and for ChargeUK to show the delivery of charging infrastructure. As a result, different papers for different audiences would be a good idea. There can be references to research, but it doesn't need to be published.
- 30. IAN JOHNSTON spoke on the purpose of the report and the need for it it is ultimately about achieving change with DNOs.
- 31. MARTINA HUNT noted that there does need to be a separate objective for policy makers, the media and the public. There is a lot of detail in the paper and journalists are unlikely to look through all this. Engagement with DESNZ is critical due to the grid and we don't want to risk annoying them by criticising what they do and what DNOs do.
- 32. DAN SIMPSON noted that the Secretariat would circulate a document with the final changes. There will then be a further discussion on the two different versions of the barriers paper. There are risks with having two different versions out there, especially if stakeholders understand there is a fuller report.
- 33. KARL ANDERS suggested that leading with the public, then engaging with stakeholders will perhaps help to negate some of the risks.
- 34. MARTINA HUNT noted her agreement with Karl's above point about 'getting ahead of it'. People are more likely to read a one pager as opposed to the full report.
- 35. DAN SIMPSON spoke through the next steps. The Secretariat will circulate a final draft of the wording and changes to final recommendations in the paper. The barriers paper will also be adapted to create different versions; one to be shared with the public and one for policy makers and a limited audience.
- 36. ROSANNA TURNHAM suggested that since DNOs have been positive so far regarding the paper, perhaps there can be a joint release/message for the release of the paper to prevent a negative media spin.
- 37. DAN SIMPSON noted that this is a possibility and can be further explored once the new versions of the paper are shared with members.

ANNEX A ACTIONS

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Attendees:

Vicky Read, Connected Kerb Ian Johnston, Osprey Natasha Mahmoudian, Tesla James McKemey, Pod Point Laura Hardy, Gridserve Antoine Picron, Chargepoint Fay Clarke, Shell Perran Moon, Believ Martina Hunt, Gridserve Rosanna Turnham, bp Tom Hurst, Fastned Randal Smith, Urban Fox James McKemey, Pod Point Simon Kendrew, Equans Andreas Atkins, Ionity Jarrod Birch, Shell Richard Stobart, Char.gy Antoine Picron, Chargepoint Karl Anders, Mer Ben Walker, SSE Hannah Fairley, Fastned

Secretariat for ChargeUK, Connect:

Dan Simpson Harry Methley James Millar Olivia Ryan Krisha Indrakumar