

ChargeUK Board: Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday 8 May 2024, 11am

Attendees:

Chris Pateman-Jones, Vicky Read, James McKemey (JMK), Steve Dunlop, Jarrod Birch, Natasha Mahmoudian, Dan Simpson, Harry Methley, James Millar (JM), Krisha Indrakumar, Connor Whyton

Discussion

Introduction

1. Welcomes and introductions were exchanged. The competition policy was flagged.
2. HM will forward any response to the CEO appointment email onto CPJ.

Working Groups Update

3. DS updated on the operational safety group, noting its productivity. He added that Richard Stobart had taken on the member lead role for the on street group. DS shared an invite to the Board for the LEVI working group on 6th of June.
4. DS summarised the latest policy committee meeting on deployment and the NIC submission. He noted the National Grid press release around their new charging tool.
5. On the NIC consultation, DS assured that additional feedback from members would be included in the response. VR noted the long-term nature of this work. CPJ noted the importance of keeping all members updated of this work in a member zone.
6. VR highlighted the importance of ChargeUK being the port of call for government departments, even on private charging. CPJ agreed on this, but noted that this could be a contentious point between members. The Board agreed that ChargeUK should lead on communicating what the charging industry needs from the energy sector.
7. DS shared that a plan for working groups would be devised with VR.

Forward Look Grid to Events

8. DS invited VR to look through the grid to determine the events she will attend.
9. JMK highlighted that the appointment of a new CEO was an opportunity to breathe fresh air into the public perception of the industry.

Manifesto and Data Request

10. DS suggested using the manifesto as an agenda focus for the policy committee meeting next week.
11. VR suggested pulling out previous company positions for next Tuesday to help flesh out manifesto positions. She also cautioned against making manifesto asks that could not be substantiated.
12. Members agreed the need for a stronger line on cost and affordability of EVs.
13. CPJ highlighted the importance of showing positive stats, and explaining them outside of the industry. Members agreed, especially regarding the availability of charging. NM also highlighted the importance of not engaging in unnecessary media debates.
14. JMK highlighted that most charging happens at home – and that public charging is not as important as access to private.
15. CPJ suggested that stats around utilisation of public charging is an important point – as it highlights that the industry is responding fast enough to demand.

16. SD suggested an infographic regarding the future of charging, communicating statistics in an understandable way to those outside the industry.
17. DS noted the importance of each working group producing detailed policy positions that sit outside of the manifesto.
18. VR noted the importance of ChargeUK being involved in gathering Zapmap stats, and producing specific narratives and data on pricing.
19. VR shared thoughts that the comms bible need more positivity and data. VR suggested that she works with JMK and JM to formulate what the next draft of the bible will look like before it is presented to the committee.
20. CPJ and VR agreed to make a concerted effort to get members to provide individual data.
21. DS highlighted the demand from government that ChargeUK brings data to the market.

Channel 4 Dispatches Approach

22. JM noted that members agreed on the company line in response, he also asked for feedback by COP today.

AOB

23. JMK highlighted the negative response to the ZEV mandate in the Financial Times.

Actions

1. Secretariat to devise a forward plan for working groups.
2. Secretariat to gather feedback for the NIC consultation.
3. Secretariat to share forward look grid with VR.
4. Secretariat to set out the manifesto as an agenda item for the policy committee next week.
5. Secretariat to liaise with VR and JMK on the comms bible.
6. Secretariat to ask members for feedback on Channel 4 Dispatches programme response.
7. Attendees to encourage members to share specific charging data with the Secretariat.