



MINUTES OF THE CHARGEUK POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP  
19 Sept 2023, 11:00-12:00

ACTIONS

ACTION	DETAILS	OWNER
1	A summary paper on RCF to be circulated to members	Secretariat

Welcome and Introductions

1. VICKY READ opened the discussion, noting that today's discussion was focused on RCF. DAN SIMPSON made note of the competition policy.

ITEM TWO

Weekly Update

2. DAN SIMPSON updated on barriers, noting that the next two scheduled PCG meetings will be focused on this.
3. DAN updated on consumer regs following OZEV's Working Group last week. As those who attended are aware, the meeting was not productive. The Secretariat have expressed to OZEV separately that more progress is needed. The next scheduled Working Group will likely not occur unless they have something to share.
4. The meeting with the Exchequer Secretary was noted to be scheduled for 1 November.
5. DAN SIMPSON spoke on ZEV and The Times article, noting that it was positive that ChargeUK were quoted in the article.

ITEM TWO

RCF

6. DAN SIMPSON spoke on the on the RCF call with OZEV, noting that it was underwhelming. As we move forward, they need to make sure significant changes to the main fund remain complaint with the pilot. The main reason that it has yet to go to consultation is most likely due to delays in ministerial sign off.
7. DAN SIMPSON spoke on next steps and that there are still outstanding questions about what ChargeUK should do. ChargeUK can either engage directly or hold our position and prepare for a consultation response when we get a sense of OZEV they are.

8. DAN SIMPSON spoke on the bilateral meetings with OZEV, encouraging members to take these up and meet with them sooner rather than later as the policy direction is changing quite quickly.
9. IAN JOHNSTON asked whether there is a clear message that members should be more relaxed that the pilot is not linked to the main scheme – do we not then accept the pilot as the precedent for what the main scheme will be? IAN queried what the next step will be for ChargeUK.
10. DAN SIMPSON noted that the question is whether ChargeUK wish to do something before the consultation – do we want to collate our collective asks and do something about it? Unless there is wide disagreement, the way forward will be to wait for them to consult and look to align with the consultation response and lobby this.
11. BEN WALKER noted that the challenge is that we don't know what will be in the consultation or how long we have in terms of a timeframe. BEN wondered whether there was opportunity to get a session in with a minister, either in the form of a roundtable or something similar, to give a chance for different members' perspectives to be heard.
12. NATASHA MAHMOUDIAN asked whether the proposal is that ChargeUK supports RCF in its current form because it is a pilot. DAN SIMPSON clarified that the proposal is that ChargeUK acknowledges that there are only limited changes to the pilot, which we are aware of, but only on the basis that we have been promised a consultation on the main fund.
13. KARL ANDERS asked whether the best outcome was to get as much access to the output and consultation afterwards to have as much influence on the main scheme. VICKY READ noted that the question to the group is whether ChargeUK want to be proactive in trying to shape the consultation, despite not knowing when this is, or wait for the consultation and respond to this (although this will mean we will not be able to shape it in the same way). DAN SIMPSON noted that the timing will be dependent if and when there is ministerial approval.
14. NATASHA MAHOUDIAN noted that ChargeUK should be influencing the final scheme.
15. ROSANNA TURNHAM agreed that the view is ChargeUK should definitely influence what is put into the consultation but appreciate that getting consensus can be difficult. If members could provide their point of view to the Secretariat within the next week, this may provide some opportunity to scope out a consensus. VICKY READ agreed, noting it may be helpful to capture what members agree on and members can then easily respond to this.
16. MARTINA HUNT questioned whether we are saying anything regarding the pilot – is there an intention to send comments as ChargeUK? In regards to the main fund, ChargeUK should try and shape as much as possible. It doesn't need to be detailed but it would be good to provide OZEV different options on how this could be done.

17. DAN SIMPSON said he can flag to OZEV that our members are interested in the imminent consultation on the main fund and whilst there are significant ongoing concerns about the pilot, we wish to engage with them directly on this matter.
18. DAN SIMPSON outlined the matters that needed to be consulted on as: competition issue, what the funding model is and discussions around where this will leave the rest of the strategic road network.
19. DAN noted that the Secretariat will follow up with this in writing and share it with members – if members could provide feedback within the next week, comments will be incorporated into the final paper. IAN JOHNSTON noted that member engagement would be good as ChargeUK have yet to be fully assertive on RCF and this is a good opportunity to have an impact.
20. NATASHA MAHMOUDIAN noted that it would be worth including how the changes fail to protect the consumer. Natasha flagged that the UK needs to copy the EU CEF funding scheme – *“The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) for Transport is the funding instrument to realise European transport infrastructure policy. It aims at supporting investments in building new transport infrastructure in Europe or rehabilitating and upgrading the existing one.”*
21. TOM HURST noted how OZEV are still focused on the MSAs. A CEF-type solution opens up the SRN to competitive, cost-effective delivery.
22. NATASHA MAHMOUDIAN noted it can be MSAs and other sites that meet the requirements. ANDREAS ATKINS noted his agreement noting the reason it is messy is because of how specific the UK is about sites.
23. MARTINA HUNT flagged that it would be useful to see notes on the EU system but would be wary of calling it the ‘EU system’ given the context.

## ANNEX A ACTIONS

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1	A summary paper on RCF to be circulated to members	Secretariat

### Attendees:

Vicky Read, Connected Kerb  
 Karl Anders, Mer  
 Liv Gomez, EVC  
 Martina Hunt, Gridserve  
 Sam Hazeldine, Gridserve

Ian Johnston, Osprey  
James Jodie Brown Clarke, Shell  
Jodie Brown, Shell  
Ben Walker, SSE  
Tom Hurst, Fastned  
Rosanna Turnham, bp  
Agnese Chiesa, Believ  
Antoine Picron, Chargepoint  
Andreas Atkins, Ionity  
Wendy Gallagher, ESB  
Perran Moon, Believ  
Natasha Mahmoudian, Tesla

Secretariat for ChargeUK, Connect:

- Dan Simpson
- Olivia Ryan
- Krisha Indrakumar