



MINUTES OF THE CHARGEUK POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP
20 February 2024, 11:00-12:00

ACTIONS

ACTION	DETAILS	OWNER
1	Members to feedback on Connection Actions Plan and PAS1899 Review Group meeting one (interpretation).	Members

ITEM ONE
WEEKLY UPDATE

1. DAN SIMPSON flagged the competition policy. Dan reminded members that the AGM will take place next week. Reps will need to send in who will be attending the meeting so invitations can go out. Each member will be allowed one in-person representative, but members of the PCG will be able to dial into the meeting.

There will be drinks after the AGM for all, and final papers are being circulated for the meeting and will include the the final draft for the policy workplan.

2. Updating on RCF, DAN SIMPSON noted that OVEV have informed us that we will not be expecting an update in the immediate future, but it will be monitored.
3. Updating on CX, DAN SIMPSON confirmed that the next meeting will be on Friday with OZEV and OPSS to discuss the FAQ document. Dan will be attending the first PAS1899 review group session on behalf of ChargeUK next week and requested that if members have any comments on the first meeting topic, please let the Secretariat know.
4. It was noted that the next sessions of the ChargeUK Terminology Group and On-Street Group are next week.
3. Updating on VAT, DAN SIMPSON highlighted that we have had a request from FairCharge to sign a joint letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer We have circulated this letter with members – it is within ChargeUK’s policy position, but some language used is outside our agreed language. So far, we have received some agreement from members. ROSANNA TURNHAM agreed although it is in line with ChargeUK policies, it does not align with agreed language. As ChargeUK, we cannot say that charging is unaffordable. Rosanna also questioned whether it was an open or a private letter. DAN clarified that it is intended to be an open letter. If members feel the letter needs to be revised, we are happy to take that away.

5. MARIANNE WOLFF asked for a copy of the letter, which DAN SIMPSON confirmed that this would be circulated.
6. Oli-Freeling Wilkinson asked how the calculation of £40 million had been made in the letter DAN SIMPSON assured that this will be clarified, and that the Secretariat will go back and tweak the letter accordingly. The letter will only be signed and supported if relevant asks can be approved.
7. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted that there hasn't been any updates on RTFO since Ricardo gave an initial assessment. DAN SIMPSON clarified that the position is being looked at, and that the call is that government should do a full call for evidence. The Secretariat are currently updating the paper due to the Opposition noting that RTFO will be prioritised over VAT in their manifesto.

ITEM TWO

BARRIERS REPORT – UPDATE

8. DAN SIMPSON began by noting that if members are interested in attending the meeting with ENA and DNOs, they are welcome to get in touch with the Secretariat.
9. With regards to the connections action plan, DAN SIMPSON noted that we are expecting a review document next month, and feedback will be presented to members before it goes back to government.

He noted specific feedback that in four key areas, local authorities are misinterpreting policy. These are;

- Resident consultation
 - Accessibility
 - Reliability
 - Health and safety
10. DAN SIMPSON highlighted that the government have identified seven action areas; and that we have engaged them through 3 workshops. We don't yet endorse all their actions in these areas, but the broad areas give us enough scope to take our points forward.
 11. DAN SIMPSON noted that the feedback we have received on these areas so far is that:
 - That energisation of ChargePoint assets point. Members have said that this is too crude to use.
 - Increasing the accessibility of the offer process. We have responded saying that we need to clarify this.
 - Standing charge points – we welcome this.
 - Providing forward look on ChargePoint investment to DNOs – we accept but note that government should play an active role in ensuring viability.
 - Wayleaves – ChargeUK should commit to exploring the points mentioned in the plan, noting concerns below.

12. Dan noted the local government priorities and noted that we are asking to bring the LEVI fund forward and are requesting for better collaboration. The resident consultation scheme is one we have given significant engagement to and will be continuing this. We will also encourage local authorities to consult and continue to do so..
13. With regards to land rights ,DAN SIMPSON noted that this is not what will make a difference today, but what will instead is:
 - DNO acceptance of precedent lease forms.
 - DNO acceptance of licenses where possible
 - DNO acceptance of access rights where already provided to a previous project.
14. JAMES MCKEMEY raised concerns that the DNOs are requesting conflicting things, and that although DNOs struggle processing applications, they are asking for more data.
15. DAN SIMPSON clarified that the reading of the text is more that government are saying people complain that DNOs aren't good, but the excuse is nobody says what they're planning. It was confirmed that we will feedback to government on the piece by Monday, so members should provide feedback before then.
16. DAN SIMPSON confirmed that section 50 license consultation and permitted development consultations are now open, and will both close in April.
17. ROSANNA TURNHAM asked if an evidence base was requested around current delays in the process and if we have that in the barriers report?
18. DAN SIMPSON clarified that some of these questions that we can answer with data from the barrier review, the Secretariat are happy to take a lead on. Dan requested that members feedback on the list of questions to CPO's on the proposals, and confirmed that the Secretariat will circulate these questions.
19. Dan flagged that with the PDR consultation, the most relevant item to ChargeUK is the change of PDR for EV infrastructure. There are three broad changes to proposals, including size and location outlets. Dan spoke though the proposed changes and questions, noting that planning permission omission is a good question. They do specify size limits, and we would be grateful for feedback from members on this matter in particular.
20. JAMES MCKEMEY noted that there needs to be less bays per charger in non-domestic car parks.
21. DAN SIMPSON summarised the proposals as positive and good for businesses, and good for communities due to the increase in uptake.
22. DAN SIMPSON noted that we are principally looking for technical insights or evidence to support the consultations, however if anyone strongly disagrees we

would also welcome this. Dan noted the government progress here, and the need to push on to maximise the benefits.

23. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted the consultations are a good outcome as a result of the barrier's report , reflecting it's success, considering that one of the main objectives was to influence planning.

1	Members to feedback on the Connection Action Plan and Local Authorities' roundtable	Members
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Attendees:

Sam Hazeldine, Gridserve
James McKemey, Pod Point
Hannah Fairley, Fastned
Marianne Wolff, Wattif
Karl Anders, Mer
Rosanna Turnham, bp
Jasbir Basi Singh, SSE
Andreas Atkins, Ionity
Simon Kendrew, Equans
Martina Hunt, Gridserve
Oli Freeling-Wilkinson, Urban Fox
Laura Hardy, Gridserve
Liv Gomez, EVC
Wendy Gallagher, ESB
Marie-France Van Heel, Be Ev
Jarrod Birch, Shell
Fred Leballois, Totale

Secretariat for ChargeUK, Connect:

Dan Simpson
Harry Methley
Connor Whyton
James Millar
Krisha Indrakumar