



MINUTES OF THE 'CHARGEUK POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP' MEETING  
5 September 2023, 11:00-12:00

## ACTIONS

ACTION	DETAILS	OWNER
1	Slide deck on policy asks to be shared with members, feedback requested	Secretariat
2	Scope for agencies to work with on economic impact research	Secretariat
3	Summary paper on AC/DC discussion to be shared with members	Secretariat

## ITEM ONE

### Welcome and Introductions

1. VICKY READ, the Chair of the PCG, introduced the meeting and noted the competition policy. This week's meeting was the second of the two meetings on barriers and was surrounding policy asks and solutions.

## ITEM TWO

### Weekly Update

2. DAN SIMPSON gave an update on the individual policy items. DAN updated on RCE, noting that OZEV have scheduled in a working group for this Thursday which the Secretariat will be attending on behalf of ChargeUK. A de-brief meeting with members will occur after the working group as an opportunity for members to discuss. The ChUK PCG are also scheduled to discuss RCF on the 19 September. A bi-lateral meeting with OZEV and ChUK is also currently being set up.
3. DAN SIMPSON updated on the House of Lords' inquiry into electric vehicles, noting that the Secretariat have shared the draft response to the inquiry with members. Next week's PCG meeting on 12 September will focus on the submission (due on 15 September) and will be before Ian Johnston, as Chair of ChargeUK, provides oral evidence to the committee on 13 September. If members could provide any feedback on the written submission by Tuesday 12 September, this will give ample time for any comments to be included in the final submission.
4. ROSANNA TURNHAM asked whether the Secretariat have been liaising with the Committee which DAN confirmed, noting that draft questions from the Committee clerk will be given to Ian this week.
5. DAN SIMPSON updated on ChargeUK's research options, flagging that a policy paper on both RTFO and economic impact have now been shared with members. It has now

been agreed that ChargeUK will not be working as a lead sponsor in the proposed research put forward by Cenex but there is potential to do some work with them in the future. Regarding RTFO, the feedback from No10 and DfT is that although RTFO is something that is being looked at, it is being seen as something to be reviewed by the next Government. As a result, the economic impact paper is the best option for ChargeUK to continue with at this time. VICKY READ noted that a spec on what ChUK wish to see from the research will be drafted and shared with members for approval, unless there are any objections.

## ITEM THREE

### Barriers – Solutions and Policy Asks

6. DAN SIMPSON recapped the initial findings discussed last week and went through the slide deck ([this can be access via the ChUK Shared Member Drive](#)) for this week. Today's meeting focused on the broad category of 'asks' that ChUK can make to the government, as well as what could possibly be included in upcoming manifestos. Following last week's PCG meetings, separate meetings for AC and DC providers have been scheduled to discuss today's points in further detail.

The five solutions proposed were as follows:

1. Where public funding is available it should be deployed in a consistent, timely and transparent way
  2. The process of selecting and agreeing sites with local authorities must be simplified
  3. The cost of energy must be clarified and reduced to make more sites viable
  4. The process of securing relevant permissions and agreements necessary for construction to begin must be streamlined
  5. There should be an overarching duty to cooperate for all authorities, utilities and operators involved in the process
7. IAN JOHNSTON flagged that that the issue is not so much with the cost of energy but with the cost of associated chargers, to which members agreed. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted that the framing of energy and costs could be re-worked.
  8. ADRIAN FIELDEN-GRAY spoke on point five noting that although we want DNOs to co-operate, the challenge is for them to change what they need/require for them to co-operate easily. Different DNOs also have different practices and this needs to be considered.
  9. DAN SIMPSON spoke on asks and outputs. ChargeUK's proposals were noted as:
    1. Inviting industry stakeholders to agree to negotiate a voluntary code of conduct for EV infrastructure rollout
    2. Asking government to encourage the adoption and implementation of this code through ministerial directions, government guidance and secondary legislation as appropriate

3. Developing a manifesto for EV infrastructure rollout focused on longer term legislative change
10. DAN SIMPSON spoke through public funding and what this means as a barrier. ROSANNA TURNHAM flagged that there may be a small update on LEVI coming this week.
11. DAN SIMPSON covered the short, medium and long term asks on public funding. The long term ask, which was noted as a 'commitment to a public funding regime that remains stable through to 2030', was clarified to be more regarding putting the right mechanism in place and one that will prevent frequent change.
12. VICKY READ noted that with LEVI, it will be harder to change some of the process as it quite drawn out.
13. JAMES MCKEMEY questioned whether ChargeUK want to be asking for more public funding. ADRIAN FIELDEN-GRAY noted that they would rather they were funding it and that in any future public funding regime, there will be elements where operators can fill the gaps. Ideally by 2030, the industry should not be needing anything directly from the public purse.
14. ROSANNA TURNHAM noted the ask should be more about re-defining the fund as it was a huge win to get public funding in the first place. DAN agreed noting that it must be about re-defining exactly what the role of public money will be through to 2030.
15. DAN SIMPSON spoke through the short – long term asks on simplify local site selection and resident/TRO consultation. VICKY READ flagged the problem with local authorities having a lack of guidance. Local authorities are often required to engage with residents about applications etc, but there is a lack of clarity on what the best practice is, and it facilitates a never-ending cycle with the process as a result.
16. DAN SIMPSON spoke through the short – long term asks on the clarity on costs. IAN JOHNSTON noted that the issue with building DC hubs is that there is no clarity on what standard sites will concur.
17. VICKY READ questioned how we can evidence the issue with site specific costs and barriers. There needs to be more to say than there has been an increase in the cost over the past year, for example.
18. DAN SIMPSON spoke through the short – long term asks on streamlining the pre-construction process. It was noted that the planning system is what it is in the meantime, but the focus is on what can be done with or without government changes. Timing has consistently been flagged as the biggest issue.
19. JAMES MCKEMEY questioned whether we should be asking DNOs for additional resources (the long term ask). There needs to be real proof that they will need more

resources to make the process quicker for them. The current long term ask will essentially make electricity costs higher for consumers.

20. ADRIAN FIELDEN-GRAY noted his agreement, further noting that it was important to consider that the process differs from company to company.

21. DAN SIMPSON spoke through the short – long term asks on the duty to co-operate. VICKY READ noted her agreement with the concept of co-operation but questioned what co-operation actually entails.

22. DAN SIMPSON discussed the next steps, noting that there will be engagement with a variety of different stakeholders such as the ENA and the LGA who ChargeUK can go to with the voluntary code of conduct. DAN re-flagged the separate AC/DC discussions this week and that a written paper on the two discussions will be drafted and shared with members following the meetings. DAN thanks members for their comments thus far, noting that feedback on what members agree with in relation to the asks would be useful to know.

## ANNEX A ACTIONS

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### Attendees:

- Vicky Read, Connected Kerb
- Andreas Atkins, Ionity
- James McKemey, Pod Point
- Liv Gomez, EVC
- Ian Johnston, Osprey
- Adrian Fielden-Gray, Be Ev
- Sam Hazeldine, Gridserve
- Martina Hunt, Gridserve
- Laura Hardy, Gridserve
- Jarrod Birch, Shell
- Agnese Chiesa, Believ
- Rosanna Turnham, bp
- Wendy Gallagher, ESB
- Simon Kendrew,
- Fay Clarke, Shell
- Jaynesh Patel, Chargepoint
- Karl Anders, Mer

Secretariat for ChargeUK, Connect:

- Dan Simpson
- Cameron Scott
- Harry Methley
- James Millar
- Olivia Ryan
- Krisha Indrakumar