

## **Report to Partnership Meeting 26 April 2019**

### **RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY**

#### **Regional Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Forum**

##### **Purpose of Report**

To seek Members support for HITRANS to establish a Regional Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Forum

##### **HITRANS Electric Vehicle Strategy**

In partnership with local authorities and other key stakeholders, HITRANS developed a Regional Electric Vehicle Strategy in 2018.

The Strategy identified a series of actions across four key themes that are essential components to achieving the transformation to a low carbon transport system. These themes were as follows;

##### **Regional Planning**

- Increase Levels of EVs in Public Sector Fleets
- Increase the Resilience of the Rural Rapid Charging Network
- Provide Rapid EV Charging Clusters
- Targeted Expansion of the Strategic Rapid Charging Network
- Capture the Costs of Regional Maintenance and Operation of Charging Infrastructure
- Continue to Develop Regional Maintenance Skills
- Introduce a Consistent Payment Mechanism for Charging within the Region
- Introduce Developer Requirements to Provide Charging Infrastructure
- Develop and Publish Regional Best Practice in EV Mobility
- Maximise Existing Communication, Education and Outreach Channels
- Subsidise EV Accreditation for Mechanics
- Explore the Potential for Early Use of Electric Aircraft in the Region
- Establish a Regional EV Stakeholder Group

##### **Modal Integration**

- Continue to Invest in EV Charging Facilities at Regional Airports
- Support Car Club Vehicles at Regional Entry Points
- Support the Establishment of Community Car Clubs
- Make it Easy to Book EV Connections to / from Regional Entry Points
- Work with Taxi Operators to Introduce Electric Taxis in Inverness and Other Key Regional Centres
- Work with Bus Operators to Identify Routes Appropriate for Electric Buses
- Develop Regional Mobility as a Service (MaaS) App
- Engage with Regional Freight Organisations
- Invest in eBike Charging Facilities
- Work with Ferry Operators to Provide Appropriate Charging Infrastructure

## **Tourism**

- Work with Visit Scotland to Develop a Zero Emission Tourism Offering
- Work with Ferry Operators to Increase EV Use and Reduce Pressures on Transport Network
- Work with Hoteliers and Tourist Sites to Encourage Provision of EV Infrastructure
- Encourage Investment in Smart Tourism Offering

## **Renewable Energy**

- Investigate Off-Grid and Battery Backed Charging Solutions
- Trial Smart Charging
- Coordinate Planning of the Electricity Network
- Engage SSE Early in Planning Charging Infrastructure

## **Regional Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Forum**

Among the key early actions identified was the creation of a HITRANS Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Group. It is proposed that this group would seek to perform a similar role as that of the various Stakeholder groups which HITRANS currently administers for other modes such as rail and ferry.

Attached as an appendix to this report are draft terms of reference that set out some initial key objectives for the group including the following:

- Help implement the actions and policies contained within HITRANS Electric Vehicle Strategy
- Help increase the use and adoption of electric mobility solutions across the HITRANS region
- Provide a forum where different delivery public and private sector partners and end users can work collaboratively, share best practice and assist the implementation of respective policies, actions and strategies.

It is envisaged that the Forum will initially meet two or three time per annum.

## **Next Steps / Recommendation**

Members are invited to;

1. Approve the establishment of a HITRANS Regional Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Forum.
2. Approve the draft terms of reference for the Forum as attached in the appendix to this report

## RTS Delivery

Impact - Positive

Comment – A Low Carbon / EV Strategy was a priority identified in the updated draft Regional Transport Strategy Delivery Plan

## Policy

Impact - Positive

Comment – A Regional EV stakeholder forum will help support the implementation of the policies and actions within the HITRANS EV Strategy.

Financial

Impact –

Budget line and value – The administration for the EV Stakeholder Forum will be funded through existing budget lines for similar stakeholder and consultative meetings which HITRANS currently administer.

Equality

Impact – Positive

Comment –

**Report by: Neil MacRae**  
**Designation: Partnership Manager**  
**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

## **Regional Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Group**

### **Draft Terms of Reference**

#### **1. Group Purpose**

- 1.1. To increase the use and adoption of electric mobility solutions across the HITRANS region through coordination and collaboration of stakeholders from local groups, local authorities, transport operators and national bodies.
- 1.2. To provide a forum where different delivery public and private sector partners and end users can work collaboratively, share best practice, assist the implementation of respective policies, actions and strategies.
- 1.3. Meaningful change will be best delivered through a coordinated approach between different public and private sector organisations, providing wider industry thought on regional challenges and demonstrate leadership in EV provision in rural areas.
- 1.4. To consider the costs and necessary requirements to advance the actions outlined in the HITRANS EV Strategy, and address opportunities for funding.

#### **2. Group Composition**

2.1. The Group will have representation from the following:

- HITRANS
- Argyll and Bute Council
- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
- The Highland Council
- Orkney Islands Council
- Moray Council
- Cairngorms National Park
- Energy Saving Trust
- EVAS
- Transport Scotland
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- Scottish and Southern Energy
- Charge Place Scotland

2.2. The Group may also consider co-opting additional members as identified and agreed by the Group.

#### **3. Decision Making**

- 3.1. Decision-making will be by consensus. At the first meeting, members will appoint a chair and deputy chair who will be responsible for chairing future meetings of the group. These positions will be held for a maximum period of 2 years.

#### **4. Frequency and Venue**

- 4.1. 2 or 3 times per annum with an estimated length of 2 hours for each meeting.
- 4.2. Meetings may be more or less frequent as determined by the group.
- 4.3. Meeting dates and venues are to be agreed for a 12 month period.
- 4.4. The group may also consider arranging other events that will assist in the delivery of the groups purpose. Eg. an annual conference/event or establishing a sub group for a specific issue or initiative.

#### **5. Administration and Communication**

- 5.1. HITRANS will provide administration for the EV Stakeholder Group
- 5.2. An action note of each meeting will be distributed to all attendees for approval prior to dissemination to all group members.
- 5.3. Agenda and papers for each meeting will be circulated 1 week in advance of the meeting.
- 5.4. Any Public Relations activity relating to the work of the Group will be agreed by Group members and action by nominated organisations with distribution to all group members prior to wider circulation.