Divisions affected: Cowley; Isis; Jericho and Osney; St Clements and Cowley Marsh; University Parks

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 21 JANUARY 2021

OXFORD – VARIOUS LOCATIONS: AMENDMENTS TO PARKING PLACES TO ACCOMMODATE NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

Report by Interim Corporate Director Communities

Recommendation

1. The Cabinet Member for Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposals as advertised for electric charging points for vehicles with the exception of the proposal for Barns Road, which it is recommended should not proceed in the light of the objections received.

Executive summary

2. The provision of on-street charging apparatus for electric vehicles is reviewed in response to development proposals, assessments of demand carried out by officers and requests received from external bodies. The current proposals for charging points are delivered under the Go Ultra Low Oxford (GULO) strand of projects, which is funded by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles and Oxford City Council and delivered in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council. T-GULO provides rapid charging for the taxi trade and O-GULO provides fast charging for car clubs and residents without access to off-street parking.

Financial Implications

- The charge points will be funded by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) and Oxford City Council, with match funding contributions from EB Charging Lt and Franklin, under a revenue share agreement to cover operational cost.
- 4. Oxfordshire County Council Parking Officers have been engaged during the design phase to ensure any loss of income is mitigated and design proposals for any pay and display bays lost have been submitted under this order.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

5. No equalities implications have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

6. The proposals will support the use of low-emission vehicles.

Formal Consultation

- 7. Formal consultation on the revised proposals as shown at Annexes 1 to 9 was carried out between 3 December 2020 and 8 January 2021. A public notice was placed in the Oxford Times newspaper and emails sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Oxford City Council and local County Councillors. A letter was sent directly to approximately 340 properties in the area which included the formal notice of the proposals providing details on permit eligibility and costs. Additionally, street notices were placed on site in and around the area.
- 8. Twelve responses were received during the consultation These are summarised in the tables below:

1. Electric vehicle charging points				
Location	Support	Object	Concerns	No Opinion
Southfield Road	7	-	-	5
Stone Street	7	-	-	5
West Street	6	-	2	4
Wytham Street	7	-	-	5

2. Electric taxi parking bays/charging points				
Location	Support	Object	Concerns	No Opinion
Barns Road	6	2	1	3
Keble Road	7	-	-	5
Old Greyfriars Street	7	-	-	5
Rewley Road	7	-	-	5

- 9. It should be noted that at Keble Road, it is proposed that one of the two electric charging points be available for public use as an interim measure as it is not anticipated that initially both charging points will be required solely for electric taxis; a further consultation will be required when it is proposed to limit both charging points to taxis only.
- 10. The individual responses are presented at Annex 10. Copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.
- 11. Thames Valley Police have not objected.
- 12. Objections and concerns have been raised for Barns Road. These have been reviewed and it has been decided not to pursue the installation of electric charging points for taxis at this location.

- 13. Concerns were raised by two members of the public on the proposal for West Street, in respect of three separate matters. An officer response is set out below in italics.
 - a. Effect on attaching point for moveable flood defence barrier at this location: The proposal is not for a new charging location, but for a minor relocation of an existing one. The contractor, Volker Highways, has confirmed that any impact on the siting of flood defence barriers has been considered and mitigated.
 - b. The retention of a feeder pillar adjacent to a property: This will need to be retained to supply energy to the new charge point.
 - c. The risk that the bay will be used by vehicles not using the charging point: it is acknowledged that this will continue to be a risk but past investigations and discussions in respect of the existing charging point concluded that balancing the advantages of a bay legally reserved for electric charging and the need for a large sign to give effect to this restriction directly by a property which was of very significant concern to the property owner the provision of a charging point without a legally reserved bay was the best solution in this specific case.

Monitoring and evaluation

14.All GULO charge points are delivered as part of an innovation project strand that is committed to monitor and review utilisation and performance of the provisions and feedback learnings into the Oxfordshire County Council EV Strategy. As set out in the background papers, the taxi provisions in Keble Rd and Rewley Rd will each feature one bay that is open to the general public while utilisation overall is still low. Once sufficient trade utilisation is received, we expect to revert this public bay to fully trade use only. Any such changes to orders will be subject to a further consultation.

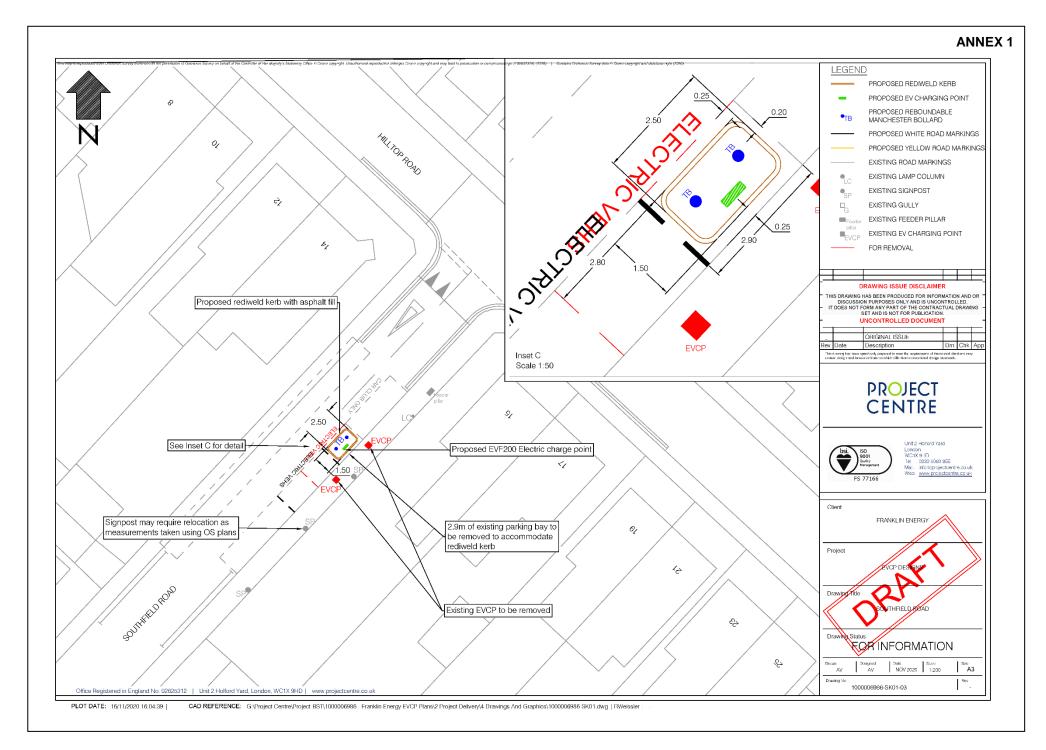
JASON RUSSELL Interim Corporate Director Communities

Annexes Annex 1: Southfield Road proposals

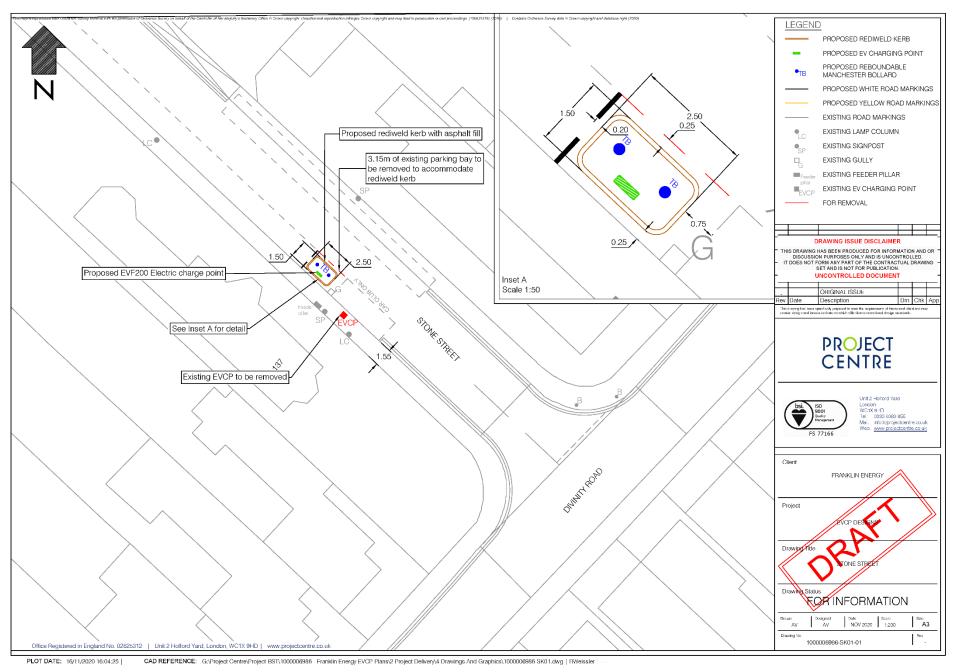
Annex 2: Stone Street proposals Annex 3: West Street proposals Annex 4: Wytham Street proposals Annex 5: general layout of build-out for charger Annex 6: Barns Road proposals Annex 7: Keble Road proposals Annex 8: Old Greyfriars Street proposals Annex 9: Rewley Road proposals Annex 10: Consultation responses

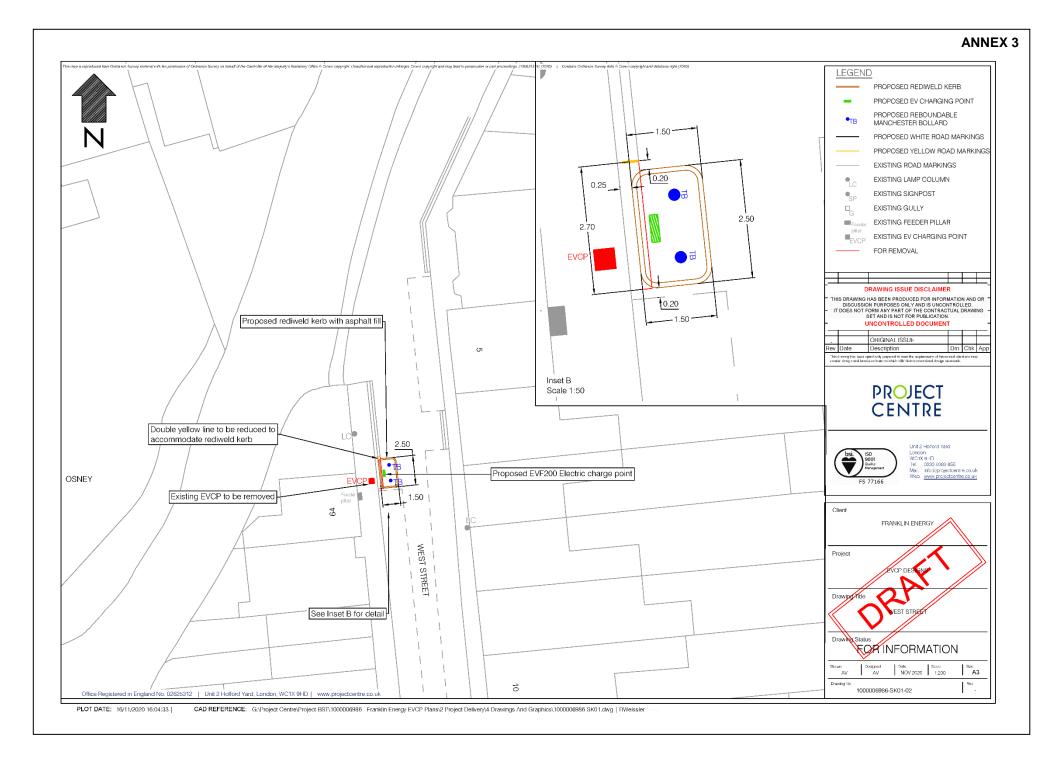
Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704 Elizabeth Bohun elizabeth.bohun@oxfordshire.gov.uk January

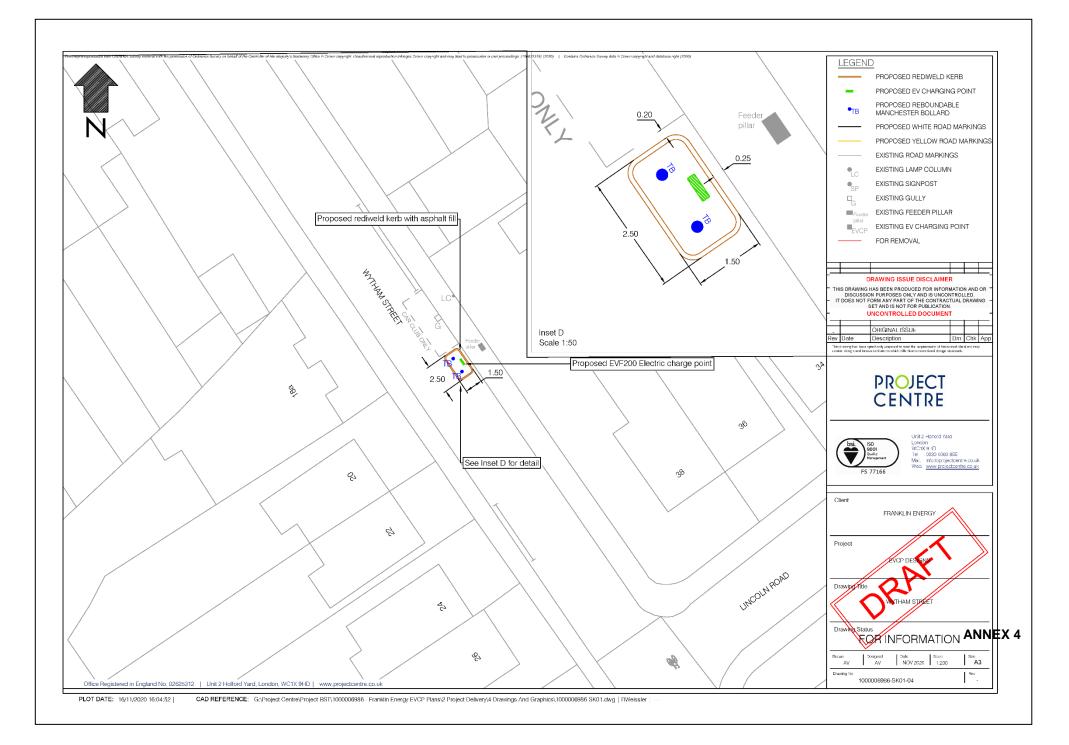
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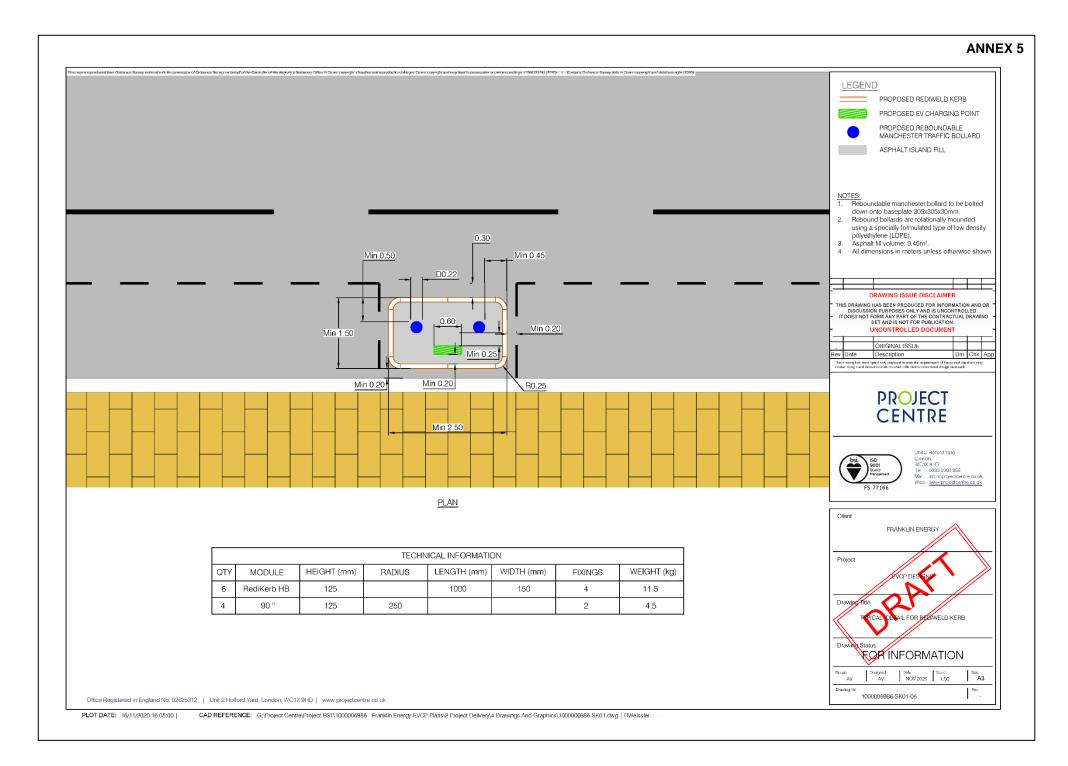


ANNEX 2

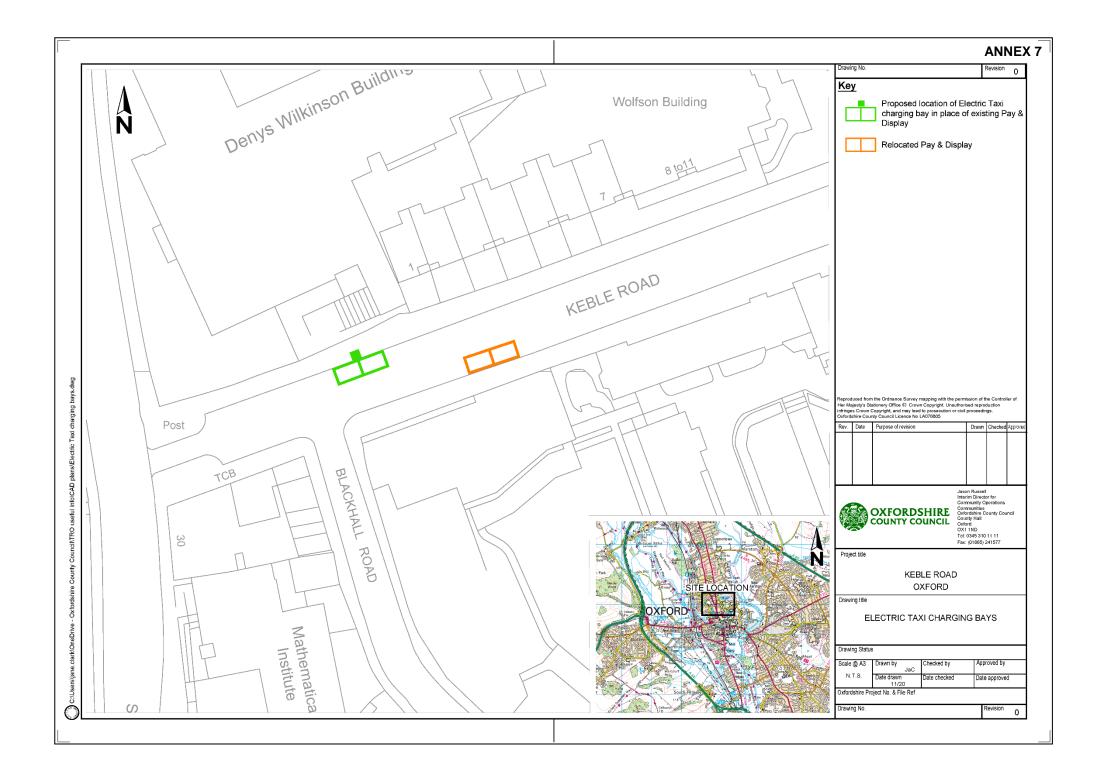


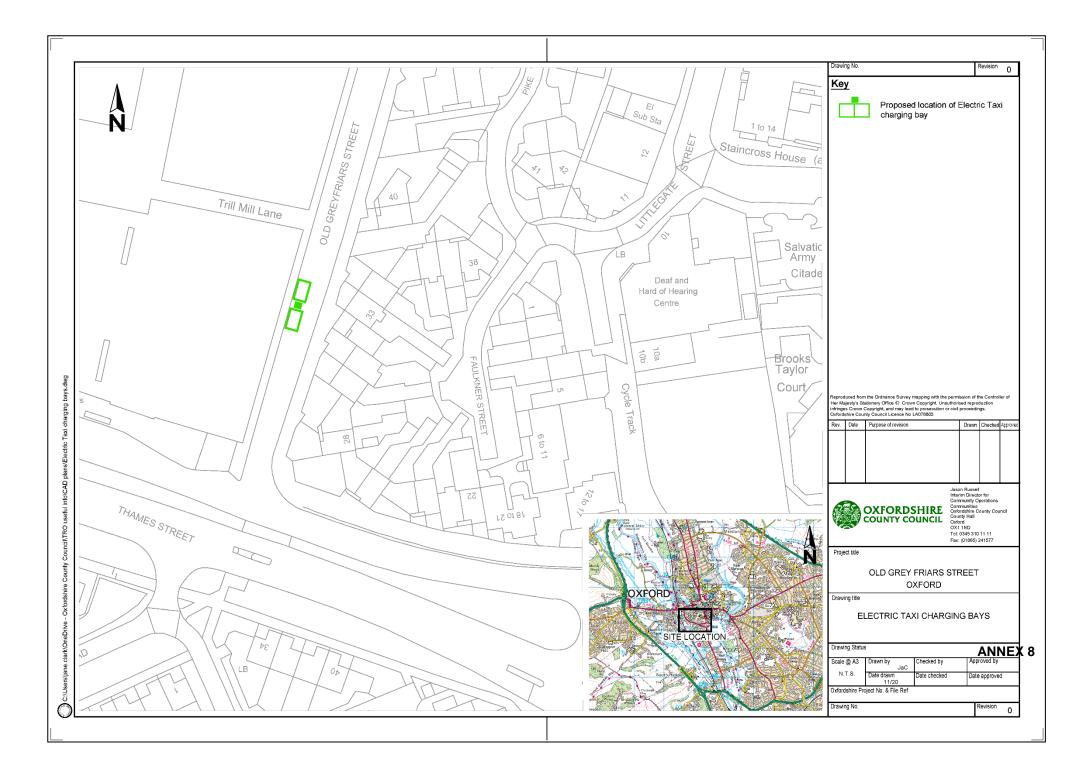


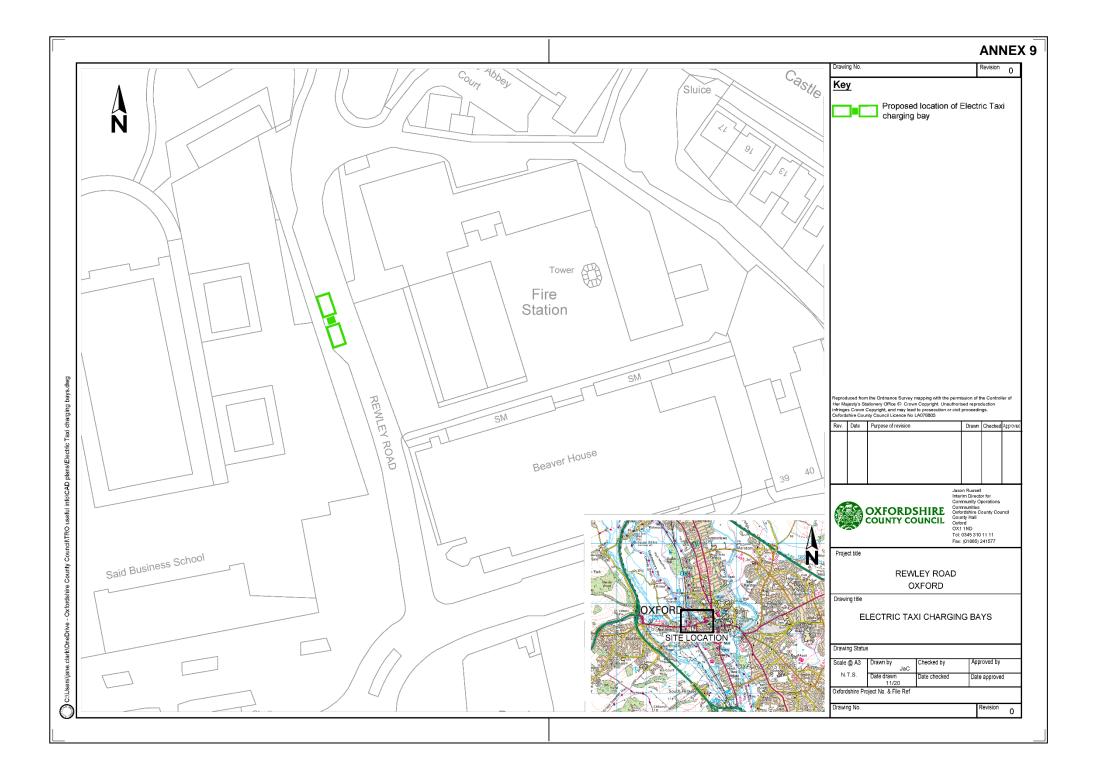












RESPONDENT	COMMENTS	
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection	
(2) County & Ox City Cllr, (Jericho & Osney)	Support – Personally I am very much in favour of these proposals.	
(3) Ox City Cllr, (St Clements Ward)	Support – Very happy with this.	
A. [Concerns/Objections]	
(4) Local Group, (COLTA)		
(5) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Barns Road – Object The precise location of the unit should be clarified as it appears to be sited in the bus stop on the plan but is described as though it will be located in the taxi rank. Notwithstanding, I object to the Barns Road unit for the following reasons:	

	 No impact assessment has been undertaken to consider the impact the charging point will have on neighbouring amenity. The proposed charging point would be surrounded by residential development and in my view, will adversely impact on the residents of Barns Place. I am particularly concerned by additional noise pollution (in the day and especially at night). The unit will remove useable pavement area (which is currently very well used). The area is often crowded due to the bus stop use and because of Templars Bar and Kitchen, which already takes up half of the footpath. The unit would be better located away from residential properties and could be located in the existing Taxi rank on Between Towns Road (outside Co-op/Post Office).
(6) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Barns Road – Object Not enough place.
(7) Local Resident, (Oxford)	West Street – Concerns With regard to the proposals for West Street: Have the proposed changes been discussed with the environment agency? (the proposed new charging point may block the installation of flood defence barriers when these are needed). Is the silver box (perhaps a transformer or electrical distribution box) erected against the front of no.64 going to become redundant with this work? If so may I request that this is removed, otherwise it will remain as an unsightly piece of street litter in this conservation area. (this is not the same as the black charging pillar close to the roadside).
(12) Local Resident, (Oxford)	West Street – Concerns I am strongly in favour of more electric car charging provision in Oxford in general. My specific concern regarding West Street is that I would like to see a bay dedicated for electric vehicles – provision of charging points is of little use if electric cars cannot park near enough to access the points, and that has been my experience of using the previous point at this location.

B. [Support]		
(8) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support – As a resident of Oxford I am keen to see air quality benefits arising from greater use of shared/taxi EVs. Fast charge bays for electric taxis and car clubs are beneficial and should encourage electric mobility.	
(9) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support – Electric cars are coming and the future, but for those without driveways we need ways to charge them. This is a way.	
(10) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support – Environmentalism reasons.	
(11) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support – as a local resident.	
(13) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support – Electric cars are the future - especially with the Councils ZEZ ambitions.	