

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD SHEET

Name of decision maker: Cllr Robin Bromham

Portfolio: Neighbourhood Operations

Date of Portfolio Holder Decision: 11/03/2025

Title of Decision: To introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to enable parking enforcement of Electric Vehicle Charge Point (EVCP) bays in neighbourhood shopping centre locations

Decision made and reasons:

Decision:

- To continue to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order to enable the enforcement of the electric vehicle charging only parking bays in five neighbourhood shopping centre locations.

Reason:

The Council have commenced with the installation of EVCPs in the Council's car parks, the enforcement of the EVCP bays in off-street car parks is already covered by the existing off-street Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), however, there is a need to install new information boards in the car parks that have not previously had EVCPs installed in them.

It has also been identified that the parking areas in neighbourhood shopping centres are not covered by the off-street TRO, so enforcement of these spaces is not permitted. Enforcement will only be applicable to vehicles that are not electric that are parked in the EVCP bays, or for electric vehicles that park in the EVCP bays but are not connected up to the charger.

There was a need to undertake a statutory consultation to introduce a TRO in these parking areas to enable enforcement of the EV only bays to be legally conducted. A previous Portfolio Holder decision was made as part of this undertaking: [Decision - PH-012-2024-To undertake a statutory consultation on the enforcement of Electric Vehicle Charge Point \(EVCP\) bays in neighbourhood shopping centre locations](#).

The neighbourhood shopping areas that will be covered by the TRO is as follows:

- Leverstock Green – (off-street)
- Bennetts End – (off-street)
- Queens Square – (off-street)
- Bellgate – (off-street)
- Henry Wells Square – (on-street)

The statutory consultation to enforce EVCP bays in neighbourhood shopping centre locations was undertaken on the Council's corporate consultation platform 'Lets talk, Dacorum'. The statutory consultation was drafted by the Council's parking consultants ADL Traffic & Highways Engineering Ltd.

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The consultation has now concluded and having considered the feedback, Parking Services now recommends continuing to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order as proposed.

Reports considered:

Statutory Consultation Report produced by ADL Highways Traffic & Highways Engineering Ltd:



Town Centre EV
bays - Report (DR ec

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders consulted:

Leader of the Council
Portfolio Holder for Climate Change
Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Operations
Strategic Director (People & Transformation)
Head of Commercial Development
Parking Manager

The following stakeholders were consulted:

Hertfordshire Constabulary Road Policing Strategy Unit
Hertfordshire County Council Traffic Order Manager
Hertfordshire County Council Highways Locality Officer
Hertfordshire County Council Highways Strategy Manager (Dacorum)
Hertfordshire County Council Passenger Transport Unit
Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
East of England Ambulance Service
Hertfordshire County Council land charges
Ward Councillors
Freight Transport Association (FTA)
Road Haulage Association (RHA)

Site notices were erected in the affected areas, and an advertisement was placed in the local newspaper.

Deputy Monitoring Officer Comments:

The power to make a Traffic Regulation Order derives from the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Officers should ensure that the relevant procedures under the legislation have been complied with prior to the introduction of the parking restrictions.

Deputy S151 Comments:

The Traffic regulation Order costs will be covered from budgets. It is important to protect income streams to deliver budgeted requirements, the ongoing enforcement costs should be met from existing revenue budgets.

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Implications:

Value for Money:

The Council are unable to enforce vehicles that are not electric from parking in these bays, or for electric vehicles from parking in these bays but not connecting up to the charger. By not enforcing the EVCP bays, it is likely that this will see these bays not being used for their intended purpose which will not provide value for money.

Financial:

Although the investment for the EVCPs will be provided through a mixture of grant funding and private sector investment, the Council will benefit from a share of operating profit from the EVCPs. Therefore, it is essential that the EVCP bays are enforced to ensure maximum availability for their use.

Based on previous projects, the costs to introduce the TRO is estimated to be approximately £9,000 consisting of advertising and consultancy fees (including the consultation, reports and Traffic Regulation Order). The consultancy selected for this function have previously conducted consultations and design works for DBC and are familiar with the area. They are also the named contractors in the framework agreement for the provision of consultancy for traffic related operations and parking.

The cost will be taken from the Parking Services 'On-street consultancy budget' - MB200 3950 drawn down from the parking reserve account.

There will be on-going revenue costs for line and signs and enforcement.

Risk:

Not enforcing the EVCP bays will lead to complaints from electric vehicle owners that the Council have allowed an EVCP infrastructure to be implemented but are not enabling it to be delivered.

Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection:

The Council could decide not to enforce the EVCP bays, but this is highly likely to impact on the usage and the projected income. The Service providers that have invested in the EVCP infrastructure are expecting a return on their investment.

The installation of the EVCP infrastructure is also designed to support non-electric vehicle users to change to electric vehicles, the non-enforcement of these bays will not support this objective.

Portfolio Holders' Signature:



Date: 10/03/25

Details of any interest declared and any dispensation given by the Standards Committee:

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For Member Support Officer use only	
Date Decision Record Sheet received from portfolio holder: 10/03/2025	
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Date of Expiry of Call-In Period: 18/03/2025	
Date any Call-In received or decision implemented:	