

ELECTRIC POWERED FLEET VEHICLES

Direct & Trading Advisory Committee - 13 March 2018

Report of Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services

Status: For information

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of a green environment

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Matthew Dickins

Contact Officer(s) Ian Finch Ext.7407

Recommendation to Direct & Trading Advisory Committee: That the report be noted.

Reason for recommendation: To update Members on electric vehicle procurement and to provide an opportunity for their views to help further inform future decision making.

Introduction

- 1 Members will be aware that Sevenoaks Direct Services has a rolling programme for replacement of its commercial vehicle fleet. The fleet includes light vans as well as small tippers, road sweepers, tankers and the heavy trucks used for refuse and recycling collections. Development of the technology behind electric-powered vehicles has progressed substantially over recent years with improved power and mileage per charge figures. Manufacturers such as Nissan, Renault and BMW now offer fully electric cars for retail sale.
- 2 With these improvements it has been possible to purchase, through a competitive quotation process, the Council's first electric-powered vehicle in replacement of an old diesel-powered car-derived van. The new vehicle, a BMW i3, has been substantially discounted and cost analysis demonstrates a saving over the whole vehicle life when compared to a diesel-powered equivalent. Delivery is expected in April and once the Council's livery has been applied it will be assigned to the civil enforcement officers in the parking team.
- 3 For commercial vehicles the carrying capacity, mileage covered per charge (in all weathers) and the charging infrastructure all need development before a move away from diesel-powered vehicles is viable. For example,

the electric vans currently under development have a range of only 60 miles per daily charge on average. It is likely that electric-powered light commercial vehicles with increased payload and range will become available in future. Members are asked to note these will be considered for purchase along with diesel-fuelled equivalents on a whole life cost comparison basis to ensure that the Council continues to procure and operate the most economically advantageous vehicles that are fit for purpose.

Key Implications

Financial

None directly arising from this report.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

None directly arising from this report.

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Conclusions

Members are asked to note the information.

Appendices

Background Papers: None

Richard Wilson
Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services