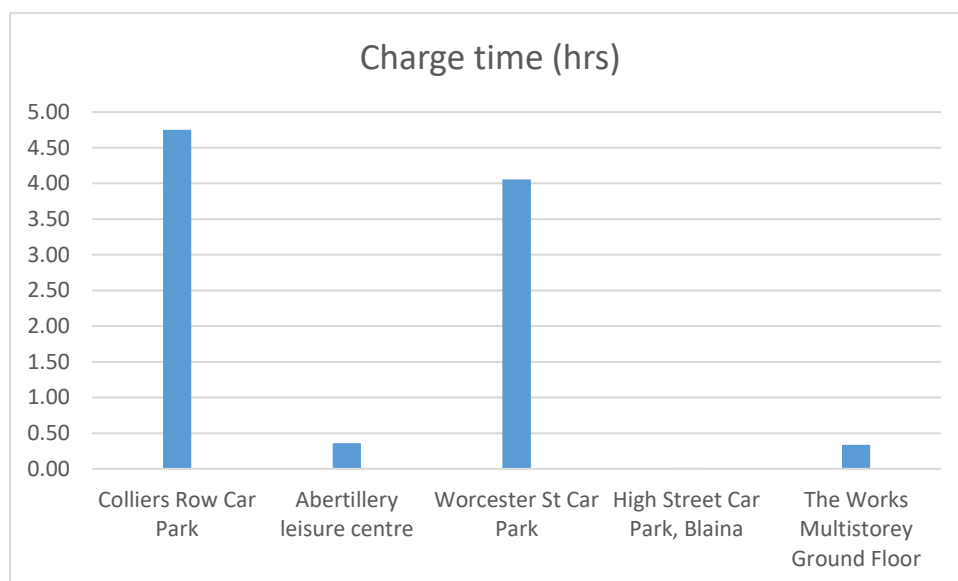


Members briefing Note – Electric Vehicle Chargepoints

Over the last year the Council has been working with Silverstone Green Energy to provide Electric Vehicle chargepoints for public use. This has included:

- eight dual chargepoints funded through UK Government's Office for Low Emission Vehicles on street residential grant scheme which went live the end of November
- replacement of damaged chargepoints at the Multi Storey Car Park, Lime Avenue, Ebbw Vale
- installation of two wall mounted chargepoints at the Council's Depot to allow charging to the four new electric vans being purchased for the Council fleet.

Please see below usage data from November 2020 to July 2021 for these chargepoints:



There are also plans in place to install chargepoints at the new hybrid units and Boxworks on The Works site, Lime Avenue, Ebbw Vale within the next few months. The Council has entered into a Concession Agreement with Silverstone Green Energy to operate and maintain the chargepoints for the next 4 years with the option to extend this by 3 years in exchange for a profit share arrangement. We have agreed with Silverstone that we can add the new sites into the Concession Agreement.

Cardiff Capital Region City Deal

Following on from this work Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) has secured funding from Welsh Government to install rapid chargepoints for taxi ranks, purchase electric taxis to be offered under a 30-day free trial for taxi drivers and install chargepoints for general public use. CCRCD went out to procurement for a supplier for the installation of rapid chargepoints for taxis earlier this year and appointed Swarco. As part of this contract they are installing 50kW rapid chargepoints at the following taxi ranks in Blaenau Gwent:

1. Carmel Street car park Abertillery. This location was chosen over the taxi rank itself due to the small size of the taxi rank, location of street furniture and pavement width.
2. Brynmawr taxi rank, Station Road Brynmawr. The charge point will be located at the rear of the taxi rank.

3. Ebbw Vale taxi rank. The charge point will be located at the rear of the taxi rank.
4. Tredgar taxi rank in Gwent Shopping Centre. The charge point will be located in the row behind the taxi rank.

CCRCD has purchased 50 electric taxis that will be available for trial across the region and are currently out for procurement for a management company to oversee this. Blaenau Gwent has taken delivery of two electric taxis which are parked at the rear of the Energy Centre.

As part of determining the sites to be included for general use by the public the Council has put forward 11 sites based on previous work undertaken and demand. These sites are:

1. Two car parks at the General Offices, Steelworks Road, Ebbw Vale



2. Council owned land opposite Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale



3. Armoury Terrace car park, Ebbw Vale



4. Car Park opposite Blaentillery Club, Tillery Road, Cwmtillery



5. Llanhilleth Railway Station Car Park



6. Worcester Street / Somerset Street / Davies Street Car Park, Brynmawr



7. Ebbw Vale Parkway



8. Gwent Shopping Centre Car Park



9. ViTTC, Tredegar Business Park, Tredegar



10. Bryn Bach Park



11. Market Square Car park Brynmawr



We would appreciate your feedback on our site selection and any suggestions you have for new sites going forward.

Welsh Local Government Association – EV Infrastructure Grant

Within Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales, the Welsh Government (WG) has set ambitious targets for the decarbonisation of the public sector fleet. From this, the key target and ambition of current relevance requires that all new cars and light goods vehicles in the Public Sector fleet are ultra-low emission by 2025 and where practicably possible, all heavy goods vehicles are ultra-low emission by 2030.

Welsh Government has been able to award a £300,000 EV charging infrastructure grant to each Local Authority. This scheme is being administered by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and a condition of the WG grant is that each Local Authority must produce a ULEV Transition Plan and submit it to **WLGA by 22nd October 2021**.

Officers are currently looking into site selection on a wider basis than just the Council Depot due to the decision to relocate. We are considering the option of installing chargepoints at schools within the borough and working on a site appraisal to score based on set criteria in collaboration with colleagues in Education.