

## REPORT OF FINANCE MANAGER

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### **SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIVE ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

#### Purpose of Report

To seek approval for £46,000 from Capital Receipts Reserve to part fund the purchase of five electric vehicles.

#### Background

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 established an 80% emissions reduction target for 2050, while regulations passed in December 2018 set interim targets for 2020, 2030 and 2040, as well as the first two carbon budgets (2016-20 and 2021-25). Ministers have since declared a climate emergency and have committed to strengthening Wales's targets early next year. The transport sector, as one of the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, has a significant part to play in achieving net zero.

In March 2019, the Welsh Government published "*Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales*"<sup>1</sup> where it sets out how Wales aims to meet its carbon targets. This includes proposals to address the adoption of electric vehicles and the required charging infrastructure. Included in these policies is an aim to explore the possibility for all new cars and light goods vehicles in the public sector fleet in Wales to be ultra-low emission by 2025.

The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority currently has thirteen fossil-fuel light commercial vans within its fleet. In line with Welsh Government targets for the public sector fleet to be ultra-low emission by 2025, and to fulfil the Authority's commitment to cut carbon emissions through effective management of our vehicle fleet and responsible business travel practices, the Authority is seeking to replace all current fossil-fuel light goods vehicles with electric vans.

A Welsh Government capital grant in 2020/21 funding has enabled the Authority to replace three diesel fuelled pool cars with petrol hybrid vehicles and orders have been placed for two electric vans. The Authority wishes to purchase a further five electric vans within the 2020/21 financial year.

### Financial considerations

The 2020/21 capital grant funding has a remaining balance of £20,000, which has to be committed before the end of the grant period. The cost of each electric van is approximately £26,200. The Welsh Government Energy Service have offered part funding of £13,000 per electric van which, when combined with the £20,000 balance from other Welsh Government capital funding, leaves a short fall of £46,000. It is expected that the £46,000 will be funded from the Authority's Capital Receipts Reserve which currently stands at circa £310,000.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Members resolve to allocate £46,000 from the Capital Receipts Reserve to part fund the purchase of five electric vans.**

***Authors: Richard Griffiths / Debbi Church***