

Tracy Millmore

Electric Vehicle Project officer



About County Durham (Rural)

- 526,980 people live in County Durham. (Office of National Statistics 2018 mid-year estimates)
- The county covers an area of 223,260 hectares. (2230 square kilometres/862 square miles) (Office of National Statistics 2011 Census estimates)
- 53 miles of motorway run through the county. (2010)
- Durham City is 265 miles from London and 125 miles from Edinburgh.
- 147,000 hectares of the county is agricultural land. (DEFRA 2013)
- 40% of the houses in County Durham are terraced houses.
- Durham County Council declared a climate emergency February 2019
- 30% of County Durham's carbon emissions is from road transport.



Durham County Council – Climate response

In 2019 Durham County Council declared a Climate Emergency and pledged to:

- Reduce carbon emissions from Durham County Council's operations by 80% from 2008/09 levels by 2030 and make significant progress towards making Durham County Council and County Durham as a whole carbon neutral.
- Investigate what further actions are necessary to make County Durham Carbon Neutral by 2050 and pledge to achieve this
- Link to our Climate Emergency Response Plan:
- <https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s119824/7%20Climate%20Change%20Action%20Plan%202020.pdf>



Decarbonising Transport

- We need to tackle carbon emissions from all sectors.
- 30% carbon emissions are transport related.
- Enabling the switch to EVs is essential.
- In 2018 we established a Corporate EV Working Group, chaired by the Head of Transport and including council officers from all relevant departments.
- In November 2019 we appointed an Electric Vehicle Project Officer to manage our Innovate UK project and create the right infrastructure for EVs for the Council and across the County.
- In 2020 we set up an EV Community User Group for EV owner and interested parties.



Origins of DCC EV Working Group

- 2018 – Challenges, Dilapidated Network, No dedicated resource, Decisions Required!!
- 2018: Corporate EV Working Group established at request of Durham Head of Transport
- Cross-departmental group including Council officers from all relevant departments – legal, low carbon team, fleet, planning, procurement, assets, parking and more...
- November 2019: Electric Vehicle Project Officer appointed to manage our Innovate UK project (SOSCI)
- August 2020 – x2 ORCs projects
- In 2020 we set up an EV Community User Group to hear residents concerns
- August 2021 – REV UP project.
- June 2022 Best EV project at MJ Awards, Bid for LEVI pilot, looking into pilots for Mats and Gul-E projects.



Challenges in Durham with EV infrastructure

- 40% of residents do not have a drive or garage way to charge EV at home.
- Durham is a rural area.
- Majority of street lights are on the property side, rather than the Kerb side.
- Cables across pavements cause hazards which we cant control.
- Lack of DNO available or can be costly.
- Car parking isn't big enough.
- Making a grassed land needs planning permission for a 'change of land use' 28 days, £462.
- Cost of EVs is still expensive.
- Reluctancy to make bays EV.
- Accessible EV charging bays.
- Knowing the right place to put the charge points – Site selection.



SOSCI Project

(Scaling On Street Charging Infrastructure)

Started October 2019 – March 2022, 2 year project extended due to covid.

Focus of project:

For people who do not have off-street parking to own an EV and be able to charge it

SOSCI created a framework for communities to identify, finance and install charge points.

- £4m project; £2.97m funded from Innovate UK.
- SOSCI was a project consortium involving LAs, installers, data managers, car club.
- Research project – to find out what we can do, how we can overcome barriers and encourage the transition to EVs .
- The project aim was to fit 200 EVCPs (100 Durham, 50 Carlisle, 50 South. Lakes. **Durham installed 151 charge point sockets.**
- Those charge points were installed in Leisure centres, community centres, libraries etc.
- We gained a lot of lessons learnt, but we also knew we had a lot more to do!
- Produced guidance reports on making EV bays accessible.

- SOSCI 'Best EV Project' winner at the MJ awards June 2022.



ORCs application (OZEV) - Role of WEVA & DOCs projects

- In August 2020, DCC made an ORCs application to OZEV for funding to cover more EVCPs, this funding covers 75% of the cost of a charge point. We applied for funding for two projects:

WEVA – (Weardale electric Vehicle Accelerator) completed December 2021.

A National demonstrator project which aimed to install 10 EVCPs across the town of Stanhope.

- LA Land with DNO power availability
- Installed 17 EVCP, 5 min walk between.
- Supported by a car club from Weardale hub.

DOCs (Durham Other Charge points) ongoing..

- 50 EVCP to install
- Support parish councils and community centres
- Installing is happening now.



REV UP

Regional Electric Vehicle Unified plan

- REV- UP was fundamentally a research project.
- 8 Month project, completed March 2022.
- DCC, Elmtronics (now MER) and Cybermoor (5G).
- Stakeholder engagement with other local authorities.
- Researching a **STEP Model** of installing EVCP. An innovative business model can help Local Authorities to develop a strategic approach to working with DNO, while reducing resource implications for LA's.
- Produced a **Best Practice guide** to support LAs with EVCP installation, using lessons learnt from SOSCI, WEVA and DOCs.
- Accessible DDA reports for EV infrastructure available.
- We held a REV-Up North event in March 2022
- LEVI pilot bid success August 2022.



Lessons Learnt / Best Practice Guide from projects

Our lessons learnt and best practice guide involved dealing and working in the following areas:

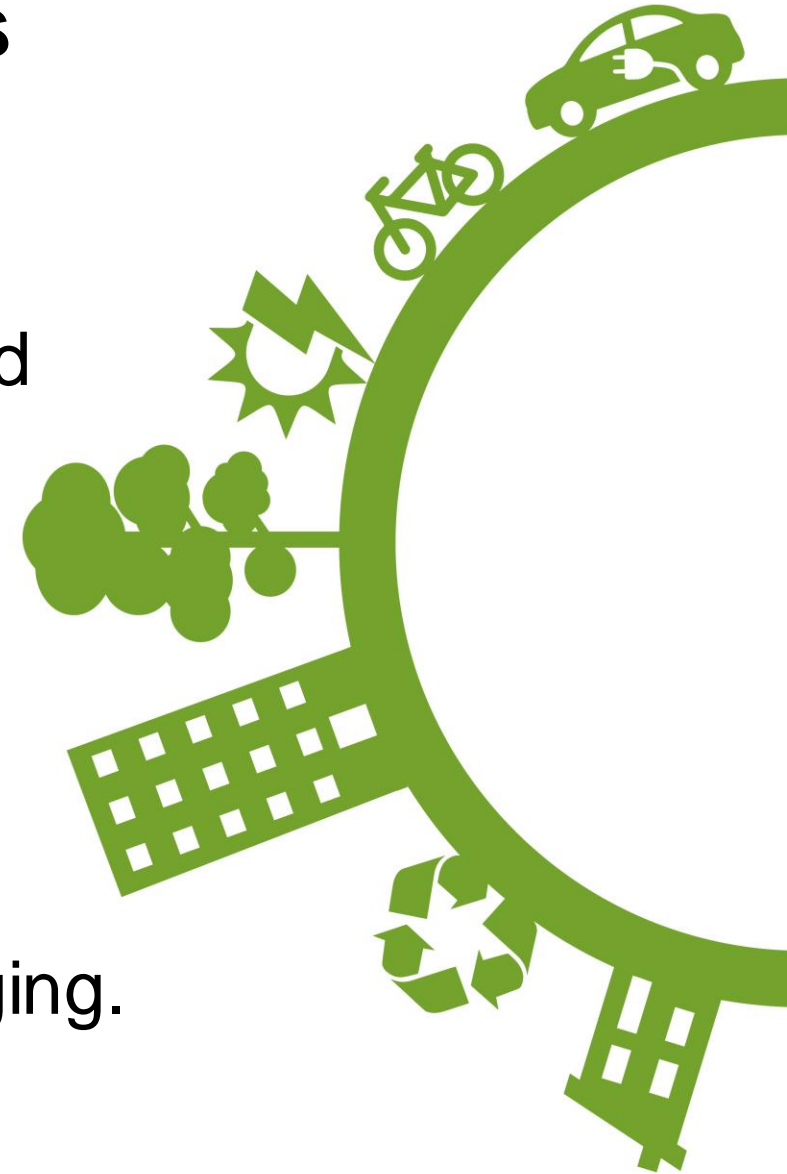
- Member Support
- Resources
- EV Strategy
- On-Street Charging
- Equalities and Accessibility
- Legal – Procurement and Assets
- Planning Permission
- Electricity and Grid Connection
- The STEP solution



Our Future EV funding bids / plans

- LEVI Pilot (100 sites) 1 of 9 authorities.
- Derwent Valley ORCs bid with OZEV (8-10)
- Level up fund (30 EVCPs Willington, Crook and Tow Law).
- Gul- E pilot (30-35)
- Mat Pilot (30-35)

- Expanding and becoming an EV infrastructure team within DCC (3 officers).
- Continue to plot, plan and implement EV charging.



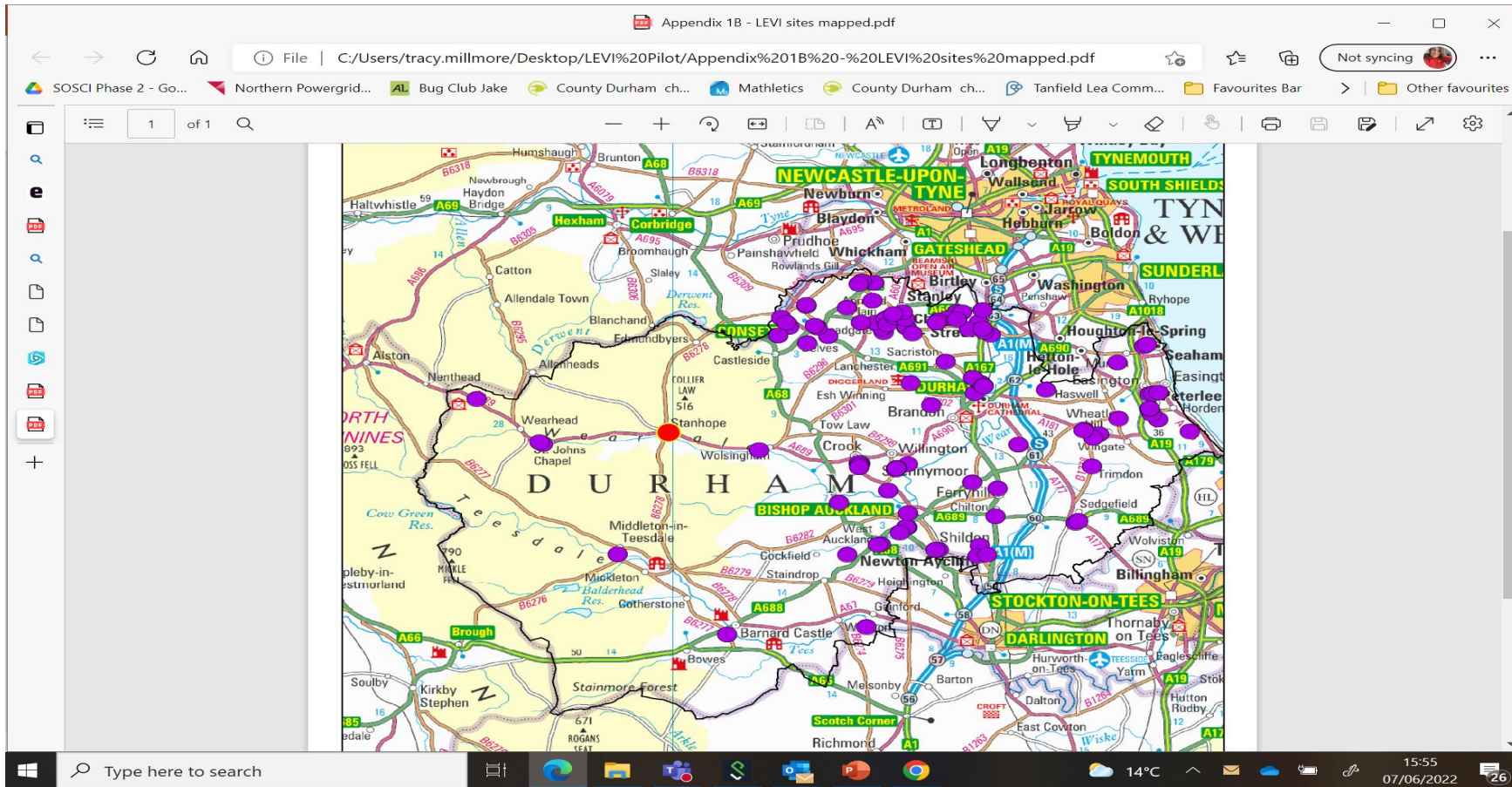
LEVI Pilot

(Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure)

- LEVI Pilot £10m pot of funding.
- DCC has been 1 of 9 Local authorities awarded funding under the LEVI pilot.
- DCC has £1.25m to install 100 EVCP
- Using a STEP model to install charge points.
- Working with Northern Powergrid (DNO)



Potential EV charge point sites



We still welcome suggestions for EVCPs evcharging@durham.gov.uk

2 Pilot schemes to support On-Street Charging

Gul-E Trial

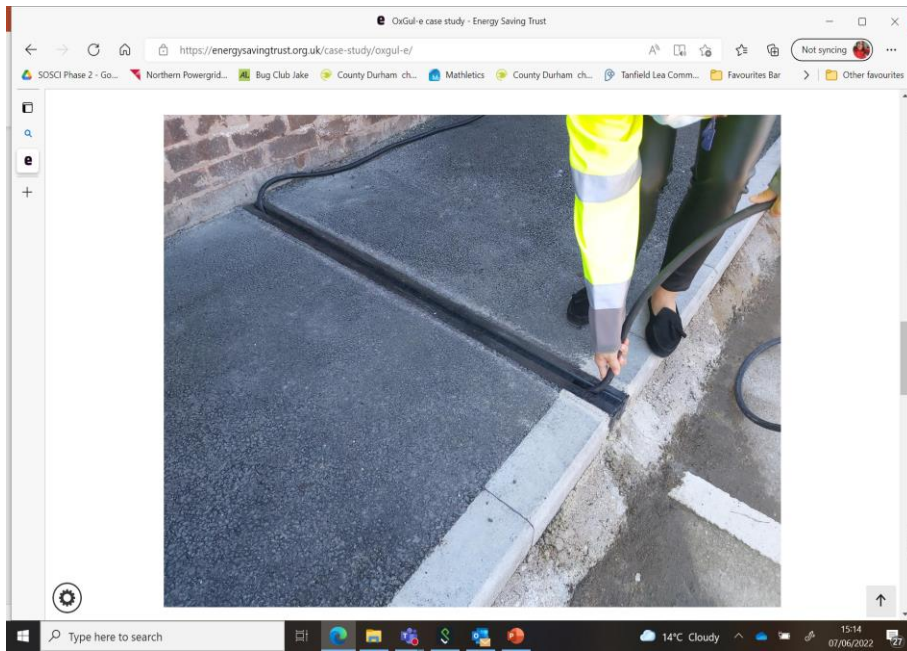
- Oxfor's Gul-E project.
- We are looking into ways of developing a plastic Gul-e and cutting into pavements.
- Trial in County Durham with 30-35 residents.
- Working with our Highways team to survey and install the Gul-E.
- Resident will install their own CP on property.

Mat Charging

- 30-35 residents will be able to apply for a licence to use DCC tried and tested specialist equipment to put a mat and signage down outside their property to charge an EV.

From the residents will gather research information;

- Residents only need to charge 2-3 times a week
- Preferably overnight



Thank you for listening.

For more information: [InstantAtlas Durham – SOSCI –
Scaling on Street Charging Infrastructure
\(durhaminsight.info\)](#)

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