

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 the Executive Board at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (BwD BC) approved the proposed Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy. This leverages LEVI funding from the Department of Transport to bring Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to residents that are unable to charge on their own land. The strategy identifies areas that predominantly park on street and predicts short term future demand for EV's.

The decision can be found at <https://democracy.blackburn.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=598>

The strategy has set a target of 259 Electric Vehicle Charge Points (EVCP) to be installed before April 2026. Funding bids will open from April 2024. BwD BC has been allocated £1.6m to achieve this but to be successful the authority will need to demonstrate it can achieve its target.

BwD BC have initiated a pilot program to install three residential charging areas that have a significant number of terrace houses within a five-minute walk. Currently there may be low or no EV take up due to the lack of available chargers.

These charging areas will have new bays constructed on land that is **e**Council owned but not currently adopted highway. The bays will be adopted and maintained as highway and as such will need a TRO to ensure these new bays are available for EV charging. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) will protect the bays all day every day for electric vehicles that are charging.

Without the EVCP's and the TRO the Council will not have the required data or draft contract documents to support the LEVI bid for funding.

For the above reason BwD BC is proposing to introduce a new TRO to restrict the new parking bays to Electric Vehicles while charging.