

Community EV Microhubs

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), in partnership with Oxfordshire local authorities, is looking to use government funding to provide a network of public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging across Oxfordshire, including through a Community EV Microhubs scheme that would provide one or two chargers in towns and villages across the county, especially in areas that currently have limited EV charging provision.

As part of this process, parish councils and community-focused non-profit organisations are invited to provide OCC with details of sites under their management or ownership, which they would consider suitable for public EV charging. Councils and groups that submit an expression of interest will help inform the planning process, assess demand for the scheme and understand the sites available. The grant scheme itself is expected to open in early 2024.

Expressions of interest can be submitted through the OCC's consultation platform Let's Talk Oxfordshire: <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ev-microhubs-eoi>

The closing date for expressions of interest is **15 September 2023**.

More info on EVs in Oxfordshire is here www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/energy-and-climate-change/electric-vehicles

HIF1 planning application:

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has called in the recent decision of the county council's planning and regulation committee on the HIF1 Didcot and surrounding areas infrastructure project. This means there will be a review by the government-appointed planning inspectorate and the Secretary of State will now take the final decision about whether to approve the application.

The plans for the road(s) and bridge linking the A34 Milton interchange to Golden Balls roundabout finally came to the OCC planning and regulation committee on July 17th and 18th. After over 10 hours of discussion and speakers, the committee decided to reject the detailed application for a number of reasons. The council's planning and regulation committee is independent from the council leadership, and councillors who sit on the committee are tasked to make planning decisions based on what is presented to them in the application.

The timetable for the decision process will be confirmed shortly via the County Council.

Councillor priority fund.

A reminder that this is now live, and the application details can be found here: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund