

Classification: Public

Key Decision: No

Gravesham Borough Council

Report to: Strategic Environment Committee

Date: 22 November 2022

Reporting officer: Shazad Ghani – Service Manager (Planning Services)

Subject: Dropped Kerb and Electric Vehicle Charging Guidance

Purpose and summary of report:

To present Members of the Strategic Environment Committee with draft Dropped Kerb and Electric Vehicle Charging Guidance documents for consideration and feedback.

Recommendations:

This report is for information purposes only.

Key Implications:	
Item	Implications
Legal	The publication of these guidance documents will assist the Council in dispensing its role as the Local Planning Authority.
Finance and Value for Money	The publication of these guidance documents should assist customers in obtaining clarity regarding their proposals in a more efficient manner, via the Council's website.
Corporate Plan	The guidance documents will contribute towards Local Plan Objectives 1. People and 2. Place.
Climate Change	Increased take-up of EV Charging within the Borough can assist the Borough in achieving carbon neutral status and improving air quality, through the reduction in use of fossil fuel vehicles.

1. Dropped Kerb Guidance

- 1.1 Prior to any resident within the Borough making an application to Kent County Council for a dropped kerb (Crossover), they are required to provide written confirmation from Gravesham's Planning Service that the dropped kerb and any associated works are lawful (i.e. benefit from permitted development rights) or that they have the benefit of planning permission.

- 1.2 The current guidance available for residents was previously reviewed in 2009. Data published as part of the National Travel Survey 2021, shows that nationwide the number of households with a car has increased, with the number of households without a car decreasing. Increased in car ownership is placing ever greater demands on the limited parking spaces available. In the Borough this translates to continued requests from residents seeking preapps/applications for dropped kerbs and driveways for their properties.
- 1.3 To assist local residents an updated guidance document has been produced (see Appendix 1), with a flow chart that will form part of a short guide (Appendix 1b). Members views are sought on the document to ensure that resident queries that Members encounter are adequately addressed.

2. Electric Vehicle Guidance

- 2.1 Since 2011, data recorded by the National Travel Survey shows that the ownership of plug-in hybrid or electric vehicles has doubled. This increase is reflected in the demand for EV charging increases. Member's declared a Climate Emergency in 2019, with the Council subsequently adopting a Climate Strategy. Climate priorities also form part of the Borough's existing Corporate Plan and adopted Development Plan.
- 2.2 To assist residents in understanding what permitted development rights exist for installing EV Charging points at home, a short guide has been produced (see Appendix 2).

3. Proposed Next Steps

- 3.1 Subject to the Portfolio Holder's approval, the documents will be published on the Council's website. Members views are sought on the document to ensure that resident queries that Members encounter are adequately addressed.

4. Appendices

- 4.1 The following documents are to be published with the report:
 - Appendix One – Dropped Kerb Guidance
 - Appendix One b – Dropped Kerb Guidance Flow Chart
 - Appendix Two – Electric Vehicle Charging Guidance

5. Background Documents

- 5.1 There are no background documents.

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Secondary Implications	
Risk Assessment	N/A
Data Protection Impact Assessment	<i>A data protection impact assessment (DPIA) should be carried out at the start of any major project involving the use of personal data or if you are making a significant change to an existing process.</i>
	<p>a. Does the project/change being recommended through this paper involve the processing of personal data or special category data or criminal offence data? A definition of each type of data can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office website via the above links.</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>b. If yes to question a, have you completed and attached a DPIA including Data Protection Officer advice?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>c. If no to question b, please seek advice from your nominated DPIA assessor or the Information Governance Team at gdpr@medway.gov.uk.</p> <p>N/A</p>
Equality Impact Assessment	<p>a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community? If yes, please explain answer.</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality? If yes, please explain answer.</p> <p>No</p>
	<i>In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above</i>
Crime and Disorder	There are no implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.
Digital and website implications	Subject to Cabinet's approval, the Council's website will be updated with these guidance documents.
Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults	There are no implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

