



Swindon & Wiltshire Innovation, Infrastructure and Places Subgroup Meeting

M4 NEV Update

Origins of the New Energy (Electric / Hydrogen) Vehicles – M4 LEPs Collaboration

Building on the existing strengths:



- Large solar generation capacity (Wiltshire 2nd and Swindon 7th largest in the country)
- Swindon Hydrogen Hub
- Important long-distance east-west route

To tackle emerging challenges:



- Limited decarbonisation of transport to date
- Clean growth / Net Zero ambitions

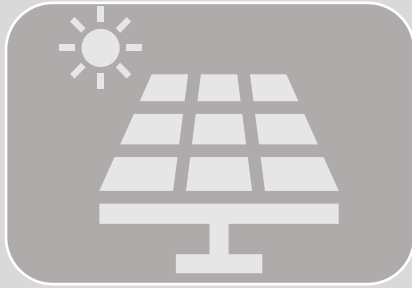
Began by engaging local businesses in late 2019:



- To understand barriers preventing them from adopting electric / hydrogen vehicles: expensive to buy and operate, inadequate infrastructure, especially for hydrogen



We developed four SOBCs to respond to these barriers



Community
Charging



H2 Network



H2 Intercity
Buses



H2 Logistics

Approved by SWLEP Board in Sep 2020

Progress to date



Community Charging

Community Charging

- Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) funding Bath & West Community Energy (BWCE) feasibility study into a pilot community-owned electric vehicle charging network, powered with solar energy, in Bradford on Avon
- Public Power Solutions (PPS) looking into bringing local businesses together to develop and maintain a charging network across Swindon and Wiltshire



H2 Network

Hydrogen Network

- European Fuel Cell Hydrogen Project Development Assistance programme in February 2020 led to joining observation network in September 2020
- Successful funding application to South West Energy Hub for Wroughton feasibility study, which is currently being commissioned



H2 Intercity Buses

Hydrogen Buses

- Working with several highly interested bus operators
- Key challenge is funding to buy and operate buses, alongside the needed infrastructure
- The Wroughton feasibility study will further explore this



H2 Logistics

Hydrogen Forklift Trucks

- UK Hydrogen Strategy mentions £3m investment in Tees Valley Hydrogen Transport Hub, demonstrating hydrogen vehicles including forklifts, cars, buses, HGVs, marine vessels
- The Wroughton feasibility study will further explore this through the market assessment

Next steps

- Responding to the 3 hydrogen consultations in October, focussing on two core areas – transport and green hydrogen production

Consultations



- Exploring ways to create more formal working relationships with the M4 Local Enterprise Partnerships

Collaboration



- Continuing to progress the SOBCs, seeking funding and/or partners for the subsequent phases

Funding

