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| Decision type: | Single Member Decision |
| Decision date: | 12 th March 2026 |
| Decision maker: | Anna Railton - Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon Oxford |
| Decision title: | Approval of the transfer of the remaining Go Ultra Low (GULO) grant funds to Oxfordshire County Council to deliver up to one hundred and forty (140) additional on-street chargepoints across the city pursuant to the GULO Agreement |

Summary

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| Decision being taken: | <p>To approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The transfer of the remaining GULO funds to Oxfordshire County Council in order to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enable the County's contracted Charge Point Operator to install a further 140 residential GULO funded on-street chargepoints into the city at defined times against defined deliverables. b. Hold to account the obligations County have agreed to uphold in the GULO Agreement to give Oxford City access to charging data and other information so we may fulfil the GULO grant fund reporting conditions. 2. The entering into the necessary contractual agreements with Oxfordshire County Council to give effect to the transfer. |
| Key decision: | No |
| Source of delegation: | <p>The responsibility for approval was delegated to the Director of Corporate Affairs pursuant to the Cabinet decision of 15th June 2022 and Cabinet decision of 18th October 2023. The role of the Director of Corporate Affairs has since the original decision been dissolved.</p> <p>On 4 March 2026 the Leader of the Council (Cllr Susan Brown) pursuant to Rule 4.6 of the Constitution delegated the authority to the Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon Oxford (the Portfolio Holder Cllr Anna Railton) in</p> |

consultation with the Head of Financial Services/Section 151 Officer, and the Council's Monitoring Officer to:

1. Agree the transfer of the remaining GULO funds pursuant to the GULO Agreement between Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council
2. Acknowledge that City Council will remain the reporting authority for the relevant data to the Department of Transport for the GULO chargers.

Rule 4.6 of the Constitution.

The Leader may delegate executive responsibilities to a single Cabinet Member with or without consultation with officers or other Cabinet Members.

Any decisions delegated to a single Cabinet Member shall only be taken having regard to a written report submitted to them by the relevant officer within the senior management structure including any advice from the Group Finance Director and the Director of Law, Governance and Strategy.

Previous Decisions:

Cabinet decision dated 15th June 2022:

[Issue - items at meetings - Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grant and Project | Oxford City Council](#)

Cabinet decision dated 18th October 2023:

<https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=36811>

Delegated decision dated 31st January 2025:

[Decision - Go Ultra Low Grant funding Transfer to Oxfordshire County Council | Oxford City Council](#)

Cabinet Member: Cllr Anna Railton, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon Oxford

Corporate Priority: Net Zero Council.

Policy Framework: none

The Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon Oxford decides as follows:

1. To approve the transfer of the remaining GULO funds in order to:
 - a. Transfer £402,000 to Oxfordshire County Council at defined times against defined deliverables to enable the County's contracted Charge

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| <p>Point Operator to install a further 140 residential GULO funded on-street chargepoints into the city.</p> <p>b. Hold to account the obligations County have agreed to uphold in the GULO Agreement to give Oxford City access to charging data and other information so we may fulfil the GULO grant fund reporting conditions.</p> <p>c. Hold to account the obligations County have agreed to which will ensure the GULO installations will take priority over other EV installation programmes, such as LEVI, in the city.</p> |
| <p>2. To enter into the necessary contractual agreements (GULO Agreement) with Oxfordshire County Council to give effect to this transfer.</p> |

| Appendix No. | Appendix Title | Exempt from Publication |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Appendix 1 | Gulo Agreement Form | Yes |
| Appendix 2 | GULO Heads of Terms | Yes |

Introduction and background

3. The Department of Transport (formerly Office for Lower Emission Vehicles) awarded a Go Ultra Low (GULO) grant to Oxford City Council to trial EV chargers on the highways across the city. To date 52 locations have been installed. Oxfordshire County Council granted permission for these installations.
4. In 2023, Oxfordshire County Council informed the City Council they wished to bring any EV charges installed onto the highways back under their control. As a result, the City Council no longer has permission from Oxfordshire County highways to continue with the next phase of GULO funded charger installations.
5. If approved, Oxford City Council will transfer £402,000 of the remaining GULO grant fund to Oxfordshire County Council to undertake the installation of the remaining GULO chargers using their contracted Charge Point Operator. Working together, the two councils have compiled a list of the proposed charger locations which is set out as an appendix in the GULO Agreement.
6. The GULO Agreement sets out the arrangements in detail for the transfer of GULO funds and the mechanism for delivery.
7. Legal has helped draft the Gulo Agreement and is content it meets the City Council's requirements.
8. For further information please see - [oxfordcityintranet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s75366/Delivery of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure for...](https://oxfordcityintranet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s75366/Delivery%20of%20Electric%20Vehicle%20Infrastructure%20for%20the%20City%20Council)

Reasons for the decision

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9. If approved, the GULO Agreement will be sealed, and the process of transfer can commence. **This is due to take place no later than the 31st March 2026.**
10. If approval is not granted, the City Council will have no choice but to return the grant funds to the Department of Transport as the terms of the grant will no longer be possible to meet.
11. The report should also outline the risks if the decision is not taken and why this is the decision proposed vs any alternatives.

Alternative Options Considered

12. Oxford City Council had few options available owing to the County Council taking back control of EV charging on the highways. If no transfer agreement were put in place, the chargepoints would have to be decommissioned to avoid them becoming stranded assets.

Equalities Impact

13. None

Risks

14. The risks are identified in the table below:

| | Risk | Impact | Mitigation |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | City doesn't approve the transfer and the GULO Agreement | There is no mechanism to transfer the GULO funds to the County. As a result, no further GULO chargers can be installed as per the grant conditions and the funding may need to be returned. | Stakeholder engagement to ensure key parties are appraised of the GULO Agreement content and implications of not approving the signing of it, |
| 2 | Once signed parties do not adhere to the GULO Agreement | Installation progress stalls, breakdown of trust/relationships between relevant parties, end users impacted as supply will not keep up with demand. | Clauses in the GULO Agreement set out clear targets for deployment and release of funds. Additionally remedial routes, impacts of non-compliance and subsequent escalation/compensation/liabilities are set out for each party |
| 3 | Chargepoints are not installed or are slow to be installed by the County's | Installation progress stalls, breakdown of trust/relationships between relevant | Clauses in the GULO Agreement set out clear targets for deployment and release of funds. If these are not met, then money is either returned to the City or if |

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| | nominated Charge Point Operator | parties, end users impacted as supply will not keep up with demand. | later in the programme, the funds are not released to the County. Additionally remedial routes, impacts of non-compliance and subsequent escalation/compensation/liabilities are set out for each party |
|--|---------------------------------|---|--|

Carbon and Environmental Considerations

15. For key decisions only so not relevant to this Decision form

Implications of making the decision

| | | |
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| Financial implications | <p>This section should be completed by finance officers. You will need to provide all relevant background information to the finance officer to enable them to complete this section.</p> <p>IN ADDITION TO GFD CONSULTATION</p> <p>Completed</p> | <p>Completed by: Barbara Smolonska Senior Management Accountant</p> <p>Date: 05/03/2026</p> |
| Legal implications | <p>The Leader of the Council may pursuant to Rule 4.6 of the Constitution delegate executive responsibilities to a single Cabinet Member, as further set out in the Summary section of this report. Such delegation was made by the Leader on 4 March 2026.</p> <p>The previous decisions namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cabinet decision dated 15th June 2022; 2. Cabinet decision dated 18th October 2023; and 3. Delegated decision dated 31st January 2025, <p>have all supported this approach which culminated in an agreement being reached between Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council to transfer the remaining GULO funding ("GULO Agreement").</p> <p>By way of background, the Department for Transport ("DfT") awarded the</p> | <p>Completed by: Justin Zizys</p> <p>Date: 5-3-26</p> |

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| | <p>funding to Oxford City Council to install the charging estate pursuant to the Grant Letter dated 10 February 2016. Consent has been obtained from the DfT to transfer the remaining GULO funding to Oxfordshire County Council on the condition that Oxford City Council remains the accountable body.</p> <p>The GULO Agreement has been drafted and agreed to accommodate this, ensuring that appropriate contractual mechanisms are in place to ensure compliance with the said grant letter as well as to ensure that additional 140 chargers are installed utilising this grant funding (including any shortfalls to be met by Oxfordshire County Council) and maintained for the next 15 years for use by the public.</p> <p>JZ/80640</p> | |
| Other implications | none | <p>Completed by: Insert name and job title</p> <p>Date: Insert date</p> |
| Member declared interests | none | <p>Completed by: Insert name and job title</p> <p>Date: Insert date</p> |

| Background Documents |
|---|
| <p>Note two links offered in case access issues when opening.</p> <p>18th October 2023 Cabinet Report - OxCityCouncil Cabinet report</p> <p>18th October 2-23 Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>oxfordcityintranet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s75366/Delivery of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure for...</p> <p>Or</p> <p>https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=36811</p> |

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GULO transfer decision report:


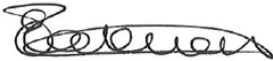
[28012025 Officer Decision Form - GULO transfer.pdf](#)

31st January 2025- [Decision - Go Ultra Low Grant funding Transfer to Oxfordshire County Council | Oxford City Council](#)

22nd June Cabinet report minutes - [Committee Minutes](#) and background notes - [Issue details - Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grant and Project | Oxford City Council](#)

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| Report author | Vikki Robins |
| Job title | Environmental Sustainability Mgr |
| Service area or department | ES, Economy and Regen |
| Email contact | vrobins@oxford.gov.uk |


Consultee checklist

| Consultees | Name and job title | Date |
|--|--|-------------|
| Senior officer e.g. the relevant service manager / Director where the decision maker is the Chief Executive or a Deputy Chief Executive. | N/A | |
| Group Finance Director Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation |  Nigel Kennedy | 12/03/26 |
| Director of Law, Governance and Strategy Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation |  Emma Jackman | 6/3/26 |
| Cabinet Member(s) | | |

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| Where required by the conditions of the delegation | | |
| Ward Members Where required by the Constitution or conditions of the delegation | | |

Decision Maker Approval

| <i>Name and job title</i> | <i>Date</i> |
|---|-------------|
| Cllr Anna Railton- Cabinet Member for a Zero Carbon Oxford (the Portfolio Holder)  | 12-3-26 |

This form must be completed and sent to Committee and Member Services **on the date that the decision maker signs it. This must be only done once all consultees have given their approval. The decision shall be effective from the date of publication; therefore, it is important that you send to Committee and Member Services as soon as it is completed and dated by the decision maker. Please note that it is not effective until it is published and the call in period has passed.**

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NOTES

The law¹ requires the Council to record executive and non-executive decisions taken by officers under delegated powers and to publish them on the Council's website.

These requirements apply to decisions that would have been taken by Council or the Cabinet if delegated powers had not been given to an officer:

- under an express delegation granted at a meeting of Cabinet, Council or a Committee.
- in accordance with Part 4.4 of the Constitution as follows:
 - Awarding a contract where authority has been specifically delegated to officers by Cabinet or a Cabinet Member (regardless of value)
 - Acquiring or disposing of freeholds or leaseholds granting new leaseholds (excluding assignments and rent reviews) where authority has been specifically delegated to officers by Cabinet or a Cabinet Member (regardless of value)
 - Making a regulatory order which affects a number of people, for example a Public Space Protection Order or a Parking Place Order
 - Where the effect of a decision is to grant a licence or permission or it affects the rights of citizens
 - Discharging any other express delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member a committee or Council.

These requirements **do not** apply to:

- planning and licencing matters where there are established arrangements for recording decisions: or
- decisions which are purely administrative or operational in nature

All other officer decisions should be recorded on an officer decision form but do not need to be published. They must though be stored so as to ensure that they are not lost should an officer leave the authority.

Exempt or Confidential information

Information relating to a delegated officer or single member decision does not have to be made public if it is exempt or confidential. Summary information from this decision sheet (excluding all exempt or confidential information) will be published on the Council's website.

¹ the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012/2089 (Regulation 13(4)) and The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095 (Regulation 7)

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Key or Non Key Decision

A key decision is an executive decision which is likely to:

- Have a significant effect on people living or working in a least two wards or
- Involve spending, income, or saving a significant amount – whether an amount is significant depends on the Council’s total budget for the service involved. For this Council ‘significant’ in budgetary terms is:
 - Expenditure, income, or savings of £750,000 or greater in the context of the medium term financial strategy,
 - Acquiring or disposing of freeholds with a consideration over £500,000 in the context of the medium term financial strategy except for disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation
 - Acquiring or disposing of leaseholds where either the rental value is in excess of £250,000 per annum and/or the premium is £750,000 except for statutory lease renewals under Part 2 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 and disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation and disposals pursuant to right to buy legislation.
 - Acquiring or disposing of easements with a value over £750,000 and/or rental value over £250,000 each year

A key decision can only be taken and recorded here if notice of it has been published on the Forward Plan for at least 28 clear days. Key decisions taken by officers may be “called in” by any four councillors or the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee within two days of the notice of decision being published.

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