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Mr Rob Gibson MSP

Convener

Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee

The Scottish Parliament

EDINBURGH

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26 November 2015



Further to points raised at the last meeting of the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee (RACCE) on 11 November, Dr McLeod has asked me to provide supplementary information about electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

Firstly I would like to congratulate Dave Thompson on ordering an electric vehicle (EV); he is joining an increasing number of drivers and fleet managers across the country who are making the switch to EVs. I'm happy to also provide some additional information regarding the approximate charging times associated with the different types of infrastructure.

In Scotland we have installed:

Charge Place Scotland totals 27 th October 2015				Charging Time*
Power	Total Units	Publically Available		
		Units	Charging bays	
50 kW	103	98	192	< 30 minutes to 80%
22 kW	160	148	296	1 hour
7 kW	371	228	430	200 minutes
3/7 kW	14	5	10	
3 kW	17	7	9	
Total	665	486	937	

*charging time from BEAMA, A Guide to Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

To answer Dave Thompson's questions:

What plans do you have to increase the provision of rapid charge points?

As Dr McLeod stated at the committee meeting, there are a number of rapid chargers due to be commissioned over the coming months. This includes new rapid chargers in the Highlands and islands. This will provide a total of 22 in the Highland Council area; 5 in Orkney; 2 in Shetland; and 6 in the Western Isles.

This financial year we're also working to increase the connectivity and resilience of the ChargePlace network; particularly focussing on strategic routes. This is being achieved by means of a more targeted approach to charger installation, including new units in the Highlands at Nairn and Dingwall.

I will give serious consideration to the continued installation of rapid chargers next financial year; however this is dependent on funding availability, which cannot be determined until after publication of the budget plans for Scotland, which is planned to take place on 16 December.

How can we increase the number of charge points not just in the cities...but in the remote and rural areas...?

We are taking steps to increase the provision of rapid charge points, particularly in more rural areas. The Highlands, for example, are a challenging location for EV charging infrastructure installation due to the large land mass and widely spread population, as these factors impact the availability of power and suitable locations. We are therefore working closely with Highland Council in order to progress the commissioning of chargers and ensure the key transport corridors through the area are available for use by EVs.

I have enclosed a copy of our most recent rapid charger map for your information.

In relation to Dave Thomson's point about businesses, many organisations, including small businesses have benefitted from installation of free charging infrastructure through the commercial workplace scheme which is managed by the Energy Saving Trust (EST). The scheme allowed organisations to apply for installation of a fully funded charge point (up to £10,000) at their premises.

The majority of charging is actually anticipated to be done at home, and EST have also been managing a domestic charger scheme which provided top up funding (in addition to the £700 available from the UK Government's Office for Low Emission Vehicles [OLEV]) to enable Scottish EV drivers to have a fully funded charge point installed at their home.

Both of these schemes have been incredibly popular and are now oversubscribed, which has resulted in their closure to new applications for the remainder of this financial year. Potential for continuation is, again, dependent on funding availability.

Could the Minister...look at getting better co-ordination and better advertising of where the rapid charge points are?

Charge points funded through the ChargePlace Scotland (CPS) scheme make up the vast majority of the EV charging infrastructure in Scotland, and the publically available points can be seen on the Charge Your Car (CYC) website: <http://chargeyourcar.org.uk/>.

CYC is also on Twitter - @ChargeYourCar - and issues tweets under the hash tag '#chargeplacescot' to notify EV drivers when new Scottish chargers have been commissioned and are available for use.

We are also working with hosts to improve signage and marking of charging locations.

On the back of Dundee City Council's excellent work to promote the widespread adoption of EVs, Graeme Dey was interested in learning more about **EV activity and the uptake of TS support across the other LAs**.

Since 2012, £11 million has been spent developing the ChargePlace Scotland electric vehicle charging network which currently comprises over 900 public charging bays (over 450 units) across Scotland.

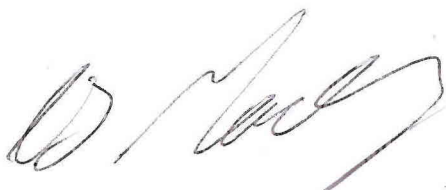
In relation to vehicles, the answer to parliamentary question S4W-08782¹ (Kevin Stewart, Aberdeen Central) provides numbers of vehicles procured using funding from the Low Carbon Vehicle Procurement Support Scheme (2010/11 & 2011/12).

On a similar vein, we are currently in the second phase of Switched On Fleets, an initiative which offers free, evidence-based analysis of public sector fleets, identifying new opportunities for the cost effective deployment of EVs. Grant funding is being offered to each of the 32 Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) (£2.5 million over 2014/15 & 2015/16), to enable match funding for EV purchase, or to cover EV lease costs for up to 3 years.

The first phase of Switched On Fleets has seen over 140 EVs being incorporated into 22 public sector fleets across 12 CPPs.

I trust that the information above answers the Committee's questions, however I would be happy to provide further detail if required.

Kind regards,



DEREK MACKAY

Cc: Dr Aileen McLeod, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform.

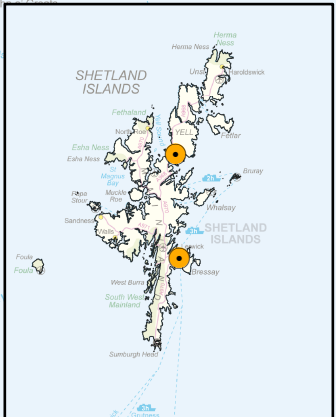
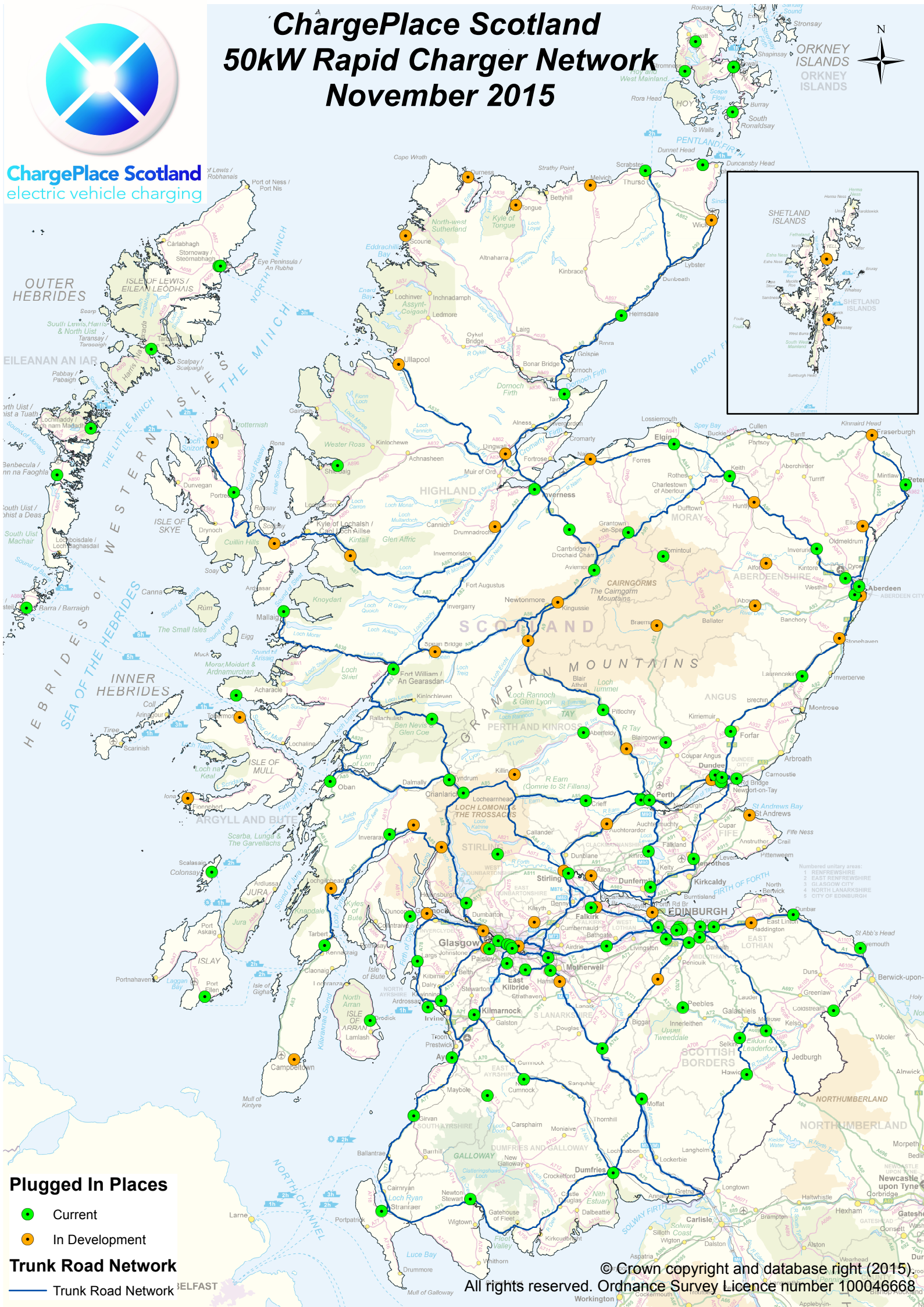
ChargePlace Scotland

50kW Rapid Charger Network

November 2015



ChargePlace Scotland
electric vehicle charging



Numbered unitary areas:
1. RENFREWSHIRE
2. EAST DUNDEE
3. GLASGOW CITY
4. NORTH LANARKSHIRE
5. CITY OF EDINBURGH

Plugged In Places

- Current
- In Development

Trunk Road Network

— Trunk Road Network