



## Joint Statement on Optimise Prime – Road to Zero Emissions

### Introduction

The Guiding Principles Agreement and Agenda for Growth Agreement commits both Royal Mail and the CWU to working together to positively transform business operations. Throughout the period of the BT 2010 agreement both parties worked to develop and establish improved, constructive working relationships, and effective interfaces with the aim of agreeing shared objectives to take the business forward and at the same time protecting jobs and terms and conditions at all levels within Royal Mail.

Both parties reaffirm a commitment to ensure that our operations are efficient, fair and manageable and meet the needs of the internal and external markets, employees, and provide a platform for new products and services consistent with our jointly shared growth agenda in order to protect jobs, whilst improving terms and conditions.

### Background

Royal Mail issued a media briefing on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 advising of an agreement with Peugeot to purchase a number of Electric Vehicles (EVs) for use as Delivery vehicles. This was soon followed by a Joint Statement between Royal Mail and CWU under cover of LTB 641/17 on the introduction of 100 LE2 Peugeot Partner Electric Vehicles. The Joint Statement advised the decision to purchase these vehicles on a like-for-like replacements of diesel engine, time expired vehicles including space for installation of charging posts necessary for these types of vehicles. As further EVs are deployed, they will be part of the yearly activity associated with the vehicle replacement plan alongside diesel and petrol vehicles.

As reported in the February Brief Fleet have also successfully bid for £90m funding for new vehicles which equates to approximately 4,650 new vehicles in 2019/20. This is higher than the £55m that is normally provided. The clear intention of Fleet will be to address the rise in Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) and increased costs of vehicle access across the UK.

Royal Mail is now involved in what is considered the world's biggest trial of commercial EVs that brings together leading companies in Hitachi technology giants, UK electricity distribution partners and key household operators Centrica, Uber and Royal Mail with £16m of Electricity Network Innovation Competition (NIC) funding awarded by Ofgem to the project.

### Scope of Trial

Energy providers in the UK charge households for their energy usage in units known as kilowatt hours (kWh), so depending on where you live and what tariff you are on, standard electricity rates can range from around 9-17p per kWh. The purpose of the trial is to understand what impact a mass migration of EVs will have on the grid infrastructure and its capacity, including software management utilising a smart charging interface and management tool. The consortium-led trial covers the following streams; Public Charging, Home Based Charging and Depot Based Charging. Royal Mail will participate in the Depot Based Charging.

The key benefits to Royal Mail include fuel savings, reduction in vehicle maintenance costs, avoidance of Congestion Zone and Clean Air Zone Charge as well as road tax and first registration fees. Such benefits may lead to increased opportunities for final mile consolidation in Clean Air Zones to secure additional revenues from parcels. The garage network in Fleet will become the first UK network of scale to offer EV services which will include full exposure to the technical learning and the potential for further commercial opportunities.

## Involvement

Site	Vehicles
Whitechapel	26
Premier Park(WLDC)	42
Islington	18
Dartford	17
Mount Pleasant	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>
Previously deployed	30
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>220</b>

The key data that RM requires to be provided daily from the Electric vehicles is the battery state of charge and fluctuations in the current draw along with distance travelled for the route to build the smart charging depot optimisation tool. Trimble is currently not able to identify this information; therefore, Peugeot will provide their own telemetry connect box free of charge for a 3-month period that will be retro fitted into the new 60 EV Peugeot Partners, that are part of the 190 vehicles above. The 130 Mercedes eVitos will also have their own telemetry devices installed on the production line as part of their standard specification. The Mercedes telemetry boxes which operate in the same way as the Peugeot telemetry boxes via a dashboard. These telemetry boxes will be a standard specification on all future vehicle productions.

The EV telemetry systems do not and cannot, display driver behaviour in the form of a live traffic light system in the vehicle but, the telemetry dashboard will record driver behaviour the same way as the current Trimble system. Given the whole purpose of support is provided through positive help, coaching and encouragement, Driver behaviour cannot therefore be managed in the same way that Trimble telemetry manages good and behaviour that falls below the expected standard. For this project, the data from these vehicles will be recorded and shared with drivers if required, for coaching purposes only. As such driver performance data will remain confidential to the individual and will not be displayed on notice boards or in league tables, nor will it form part of performance management. It is also reaffirmed that this technology is not being deployed for use as a disciplinary tool or a source of information to be used in conduct cases. RM will obtain the daily battery life status and current draw profile to enable Hitachi to build the smart charging depot tool.

There will be full CWU ASR involvement to determine and agree safe installation of charging posts including all relevant documentation, Risk Assessments and subsequent Safe System of Works. In addition, any operational issues that arise because of these vehicles introduction will be jointly resolved with the full involvement of the relevant CWU Representatives and in line with the IR framework where necessary.

### **Fleet Technician and Driver Training:**

Part of the trials and introduction of Electric Vehicles will include a training package for RM Fleet Workshop Technicians on the vehicles including the HV (high voltage) components and safety precautions. Drivers will be trained via 'change-over' vehicle appreciation and awareness training sessions along with ongoing support. Volume and locations may vary slightly subject to survey results.

### **Key Dates**

21 January 2019	Project Launch
23 January 2019	1 <sup>st</sup> Work stream Launch
12 February 2019	Meeting with all partners and external bodies
January to June 2019	Design phase – Locations and Surveys
January to June 2019	Supplier negotiations for EVs and Charging Posts
September 2019	Infrastructure, software and connections requests completed

Aug – end October 2019	Phase 1, 190 vehicle deployments (60 Peugeot Partners and 130 Mercedes eVitos
January to June 2020	Business case for phase 2 to consider the wider deployment of charging posts and the associated infrastructure (subject to the successful outcome of phase 1 with a full evaluation prior to committing to any further activity).
January 2021	Full data trials

### **Review**

Royal Mail and the CWU nationally commit to jointly working together along with full local involvement at each site to enable feedback of activity. There will be a joint review of the utilisation and roll out of the EVs 6 months from the date of deployment that will examine all aspects of its operation including the locally established process for loading in jointly identified areas as per the agreed SSOW, maintenance savings and any potential barriers surrounding sufficient levels of available energy from the local grid. All data collated from Royal Mail systems will be shared with the relevant ADR and / or Unit Reps that will only record the vehicle being charged, the date, start and end times, mileage driven as well as the amount of power drawn down and not the identity of the Driver.

Any questions regarding the interpretation, implementation or application of this agreement shall be referred to the respective signatories for resolution.

Signed by



Mark Baulch  
CWU Assistant Secretary



Paul Gatti  
Royal Mail Fleet Director

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