



Association of Directors of  
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

## ADEPT President's Awards 2020/21

### Entry form

<b>Award category:</b>	Delivering Clean Growth
<b>Title:</b>	Delivering charging infrastructure for electric passenger ferries
<b>Entrant:</b>	Plymouth City Council
<b>Main contact name and email address:</b>	Dan Turner – dan.turner@plymouth.gov.uk
<b>Partner/s (if applicable):</b>	In collaboration with: Plymouth University; Plymouth Boat Trips; Universal Marine; Marine Business Technology Centre.
<b>Headline summary (150 characters, c. 30 words)</b>	
Plymouth City Council worked collaboratively to deliver electric charging infrastructure for the UK's first fully electric coastal passenger ferries	

Please attach supporting photos separately as jpg or png files. Please note we need at least one supporting image per award submission.

Please paste links to any supporting video evidence here

Link 1	<a href="#">Plymouth Boat Trips and Voyager Marine launch UK's first sea-going electric ferry - Plymouth Boat Trips</a>
Link 2	<a href="#">Cremyll Ferry goes electric - Plymouth Boat Trips</a>
Link 3	<a href="#">Case Study: eVoyager the UK's first electric ferry – Marine Business Technology Centre</a>



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**500-word project outline** (please ensure you address all the judges' criteria – for more info see [here](#))

Plymouth City Council declared a climate emergency with the aim of being net zero carbon by 2030, developing a citywide [Climate Emergency Action Plan](#). As the 'Ocean City' there is a need to reduce marine transport emissions. Although technology is behind that of land based automotive vehicles, the Council has taking a long-term view supported by the Governments Clean Maritime Plan that highlights the aim to reduce emissions from marine transport up to 2050. The City of Plymouth is leading the way in the electrification of marine vessels in the UK and has put in place measures to continue this progress.

Collaboration is essential in developing new technologies, encouraging behaviour change and strengthening the local economy. The Council created partnerships with Plymouth University, local ferry operators, MBTC, Western Power Distribution and local businesses to understand the barriers to uptake of low carbon vessels. Engagement was through meetings, site visits and the formation of a decarbonising maritime group that meets monthly. This highlighted that support was required in providing the charging infrastructure to enable conversion to zero carbon vessels.

The Council attained grant funding through the Transforming Cities Fund. Working with WPD, the installer and ferry operators three charging points (2X22kW and 1X3 phase commando socket) were installed on the Barbican Landing Stage. This commitment from the Council gave local operators the confidence to convert the UK's first two fully electric coastal passenger ferries.

To fund the boat conversion Plymouth City Council connected operators with Plymouth University's Impact Labs project and grant funding. The ferries undertook a trial phase (October–March) and were monitored by Plymouth University and the MCA (certification body). The electric vessels are quieter, zero emissions, less polluting, improve air quality and provide a more pleasurable passenger experience.

The investment into infrastructure and additional funding achieved through the Transforming Fund Tranche 2 (to deliver charging at 5 further sites) has helped local boat builders commit to retrofitting more vessels to electric through 2021 and beyond. Since the success of the first two ferries both local boat yards have received interest from operators across the UK, which is helping grow their business and strengthen the local economy in a sustainable manner, forming a key element of the Covid 19 economic recovery plan.

With Plymouth selected as a Freeport location it has provided further impetus to decarbonise marine transport and continue to grow as an exemplar city in this area. The planned rollout of marine charging combined with the Council's involvement in the Smart Sound 5G marine network has allowed Plymouth City Council to establish conversations with a number of progressive businesses interested in basing themselves in Plymouth as they buy into the innovation and low carbon vision.

The infrastructure provided match funding for a LEP bid enabling the installation of swimming platforms and improving accessibility to the water. It also plays into the Council's development of the UK's first National Marine Park, which will serve as an area of recreation, increase seagrass beds and encourage people to be more in touch with the nature.

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