

Publicly Accessible Vehicle Charging Infrastructure



Proposed Regulations - September 2021

The Gozo Business Chamber's Feedback to the Proposed Regulations

Version: 1.0

Date:	17/09/21
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THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

1. The Gozo Business Chamber's feedback

The Chamber welcomes the proposed regulations within the overall endeavour to encourage a greater uptake of electric vehicles.

A point to be noted is that it is to be ensured that there is an equitable distribution of public charging pillars around the whole island, as there may exist the risk of a concentration of pillars in popular public places with less points in less populated areas, leading to an unequitable distribution of the network points.

To this end the Government must ensure that there is a form of public service obligation on all interested operators. This obligation would ensure that all areas are serviced and consequently encourage a greater uptake of electric vehicles. Interoperability is very important, and this would ensure that customers are not locked out if they need to use a particular service point, which is not the same as that of their operator of choice.

The Chamber however would like to point out to the following, with special reference to point 15 (2):

Price Transparency.

15. (1) The price per kWh of electricity delivered from a publicly accessible charging point shall be as established in the Electricity Supply Regulations and the operator of publicly accessible charging infrastructure shall make no profit on the resale of electricity.

(2) The price to be charged to users of publicly accessible charging infrastructure for the use of the recharging service (excluding the electricity component) shall be determined by the operator. The operator may add a premium per kWh for the charging service to the regulated tariff as established in the Electricity Supply Regulations. This premium shall be deemed to cover the cost of installation, maintenance and management of the charging point and any software platform and a reasonable profit.

With respect to point (2) the Chamber would like to highlight that if for example we need to ensure that Gozo achieves carbon neutrality prior to Malta, it would be important if the premium to be charged in Gozo is less. This would ensure that people who travel to Gozo, would do so with electric vehicles, and also enhance the uptake of electric vehicles by persons who do not have a charging point at home, and would need to charge their vehicle through the publicly accessible vehicle charging infrastructure.
