

FAQs on street residential electric vehicle charging points

Which streets will receive chargepoints?

Local residents, Councils and Councillors have contacted the EV team and suggested locations for on-street EV charging points where off-street charging is not possible. These requests were reviewed for suitability by the EV team. Where the sites were considered to be suitable, the site locations were then shared with the charge point supplier so that they can undertake their own assessment and survey of the site to ensure that the site meets the necessary requirements. The next batch of charge points to be installed are throughout the district. If you have a site in mind, please contact the EV Team (ev@westberks.gov.uk).

How do I charge?

The charge point draws electricity from the supply to the lamp column. To charge an electric or plugin hybrid vehicle, a charging cable is required. Each charge point is fitted with simple instructions for use, and are compatible with either a standard charging cable, or with a 'SmartCable'. For Pay As You Go access, simply turn up and scan the QR code using a mobile phone, then plug in your standard charging cable. For SmartCable access, providing preferential rates, simply plug in and the charging begins.

How much does it cost to charge? (May to October 2023)

To charge using Pay as You Go access for on-street charging, it costs £0.40 per kWh standard and £0.37 per kWh off-peak (midnight to 7am), plus £0.35 connection fee per charging session.

How long does it take to charge?

The exact charging time will depend on the size of the vehicle battery and how much charge is left. To get an idea of charging time, divide the battery size or available capacity by the charge point rating (typically 5kW). For example, an empty 40kWh battery at one of our charge points will take approximately eight hours to charge.

Will the parking bays be reserved for electric/plug-in hybrid vehicles only?

Initially there will be no restrictions on the type of vehicle that can park by the charge point. However, the intention is to introduce restrictions for the parking bay through a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) once the charge point has been installed. At present, we cannot put a timeframe to the introduction of the TRO.

Why were these areas chosen?

Residential streets where the houses predominantly do not have off-street parking were chosen for this project. This is to make plug-in electric vehicles more accessible to people who do not have driveways or the option to install a charge point. If you would like to request a site, please get in touch using ev@westberks.gov.uk.

What consultation was held?

We wrote to residents to inform them that the charge points would be installed in/near their streets. We are not introducing any parking restrictions, so did not need to do a statutory consultation. It would not have been practical to consult every individual resident about each charge point locations. We encourage residents to give us their feedback following the installation of the

charge points. We want to hear about any problems that have arisen due to the installation of these charging points.

How is it being funded?

The installation of these charging points will use funding from central Government via the ORCS (On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme) and LEVI (Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) funds. In addition, money from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) may also be used.

Impact on existing parking pressures?

We are aware that parking is limited on many of the streets where we have/propose to install electric vehicle charge points. This project does not intend to address any pre existing problems but we are not intending to make any problems worse either. The charge points are being installed for the benefit of residents, and if used by residents will not create any additional demand for parking spaces - some of the cars parked on the street may be electric rather than petrol or diesel, but the number of residents' cars will be the same. The chargers are not particularly fast and are best suited to being used overnight, so it would not be worthwhile for a non resident to make a special trip.