

Electric Vehicle Chargepoints in Wokingham Borough

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I view all existing chargepoints?

Find all available chargepoints within Wokingham Borough and beyond by using [Zapmap](#). This is a UK-wide web map of Electric Vehicle (EV) chargepoints that will help you locate and navigate to your nearest EV charging infrastructure.

The platform also displays information regarding the operator, type, availability and tariffs.

There are a number of different suppliers and many chargepoints, such as those at supermarkets, are not operated by the council. Live status of Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) operated chargepoints can also be found on the VendElectric website <https://app.vendelectric.com/>.

If I have a private off-street parking space what are my options for home charging?

Most people prefer to charge their electric vehicles at home where they park overnight. Home charging offers a convenient, easy and cost-effective option as you can use your own electricity supply (and renewables if you have them).

The Government's [EV chargepoint grant](#), is available to [owner/occupiers of flats and renters](#) of residential property with off-street parking. Landlords can apply for the [EV chargepoint grant for landlords](#). Both of these cover up to 75% of the costs of installing a home chargepoint, up to a limit of £350. Also available for private or social landlords is the [EV infrastructure grant](#) for residential car parks that can help fund the installation of cabling for EV chargepoints.

Are there any grants for businesses?

The Government offers a [Workplace Charging Scheme](#) that can help fund the installation of EV chargepoints at work.

This is a voucher-based scheme that provides support towards the up-front costs of the purchase and installation of electric vehicle chargepoints, for eligible businesses, charities and public sector organisations.

Can I run a cable from a chargepoint fitted outside my property over the pavement/footway to my car?

You cannot place any electric vehicle charging cable across the public footway, even if it is covered by a cable cover or mat.

Trailing cables across the public footway, even if covered, obstruct the movements of other road users especially disabled and vulnerable groups and present a trip hazard contravening s149 of the Highways Act 1980. If an injury occurs, this might result in a liability claim for the homeowner or occupier and the authority.

We will continue to investigate options to address this issue, such as the use of cable channels, and are reviewing what other authorities have introduced or trialled to learn from their experiences.

What is the Council doing to assist residents with no access to private off-street parking charge their EVs?

Around 30% of our residents do not have access to a private driveway or garage and therefore may struggle to install a home charger.

To ensure that this is not a barrier to realising the benefits of owning an EV, we have secured funding through the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme for the installation of a small number of chargepoints across our Borough.

These will be mainly located in residential streets and council-owned car parks catering primarily for those residents who are unable to charge at home due to a lack of off-street parking. The bidding process meant that those locations had to be identified from a data showing that there would be sufficient demand in these locations; for future potential sites we have introduced a request process so that we can monitor and demonstrate where there is particular demand for on-street charge points (see below).

Late last year WBC made an [announcement](#) regarding the likely locations of these chargepoints. To minimise electrical connection costs and disruption to residents some of the locations are subject to minor changes. We are currently working with the Distribution Network Operator and the supplier regarding the commissioning of chargepoints which are estimated to be operational by the end of summer 2023.

Our Energy Team is also running a programme focusing on the installation of destination chargepoints such as in libraries, recreational centres, schools and council owned car parks.

We will continue to monitor demand and seek funding supporting the rollout of EV chargepoint infrastructure.

How the locations for the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme have been selected?

For the identification of the proposed EV chargepoint locations there were multiple criteria that had to be considered meeting the requirements of the funding including the following:

- Residential areas where off-street parking is not available – the Scheme is designed to fund residential chargepoints as opposed to destination

chargepoints – this was based on geospatial analysis, residents’ requests and the results of our EV survey

- Grid connection costs – high electrical connections costs make some sites unfeasible
- Accessibility – pavement widths and minimal street clutter were also considered to accommodate the needs of all road users
- Safety – lighting around public chargepoints enhances the feeling of safety

Has Wokingham Borough Council a plan regarding the future requirements for EV chargepoints?

We are currently developing an EV Strategy that will help us understand the likely demand for EV chargepoints across our Borough. This will help us meet our climate and air quality commitments and prepare drivers for the phase-out of new petrol and diesel cars and vans in 2030 when around 30% of vehicles are expected to be electric.

How does Wokingham compare to other local authorities regarding the availability of EV chargepoints?

The Department for Transport published a handy [online map](#) that shows the density of charging devices by local authority. Viewing options are all devices, devices per 100,000 population and rapid or faster devices. Where a device has more than one speed of connector, it is classified as the ‘highest-speed available’.

Future on-street EV chargepoints locations

To help us plan and submit our future funding applications for on-street chargepoint locations we are considering individual request from residents who do not have access to a private driveway or garage.

Please email your details (including your address) to

evon-streetchargepoints@wokingham.gov.uk

Your address will be taken into consideration in our analysis as and when funding becomes available. Please note we cannot guarantee that we will be able to provide a chargepoint in your street but will aim to have one within a short walk if possible.