

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure FAQ's



Parking and Access

Will we lose parking spaces?

No, there will be no change to parking. There is no traffic regulation order (TRO) being enforced on any of the proposed EV bays in West Sussex. We are not reducing or increasing the number of parking spaces, but instead adding the future ability to charge to already established parking areas.

What happens if you restrict the bays in the future for EVs only?

If electric vehicles become the dominant type on West Sussex roads, WSCC may consider restricting certain bays for EV use only. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis, and any changes would be subject to a full public consultation, ensuring that the affected area has an opportunity to provide input.

Why can't the chargers go in the nearby car park?

The funding we receive from the central government comes with strict guidelines. One rule is that car parks can only be considered if there isn't a viable on-street location nearby. Car parks are considered a 'last resort'. While future plans may include EV points in nearby CDC car parks, there are no current plans to do so.

I want a cross-channel gully installed in the pavement outside my home.

While cable channels (cross-channel gullies) may be considered in the future, WSCC is awaiting government legislative guidance. This guidance will address the legal and safety issues around cable connections for home EV chargers. Once published, WSCC will make informed decisions on this.

Funding and Costs



Why aren't you spending the money on other services?

The funds used for this programme come from a mix of central government grants and private investment from our ChargePoint operator, Connected Kerb. This means no local council funds (WSCC) are being used, and no money is being taken from other WSCC services.

On-street public chargers are expensive.

While on-street chargers can be more expensive to install than offroad options, Connected Kerb chargers are among the cheapest public charging solutions in the UK. They provide an affordable option for residents who do not have off-road parking and the ability to charge at home.

Why is there no planning literature?

These ChargePoints do not require formal planning permission, which is why no planning literature has been circulated. They fall under permitted development rights, making the installation process quicker and easier.

Futureproofing and Infrastructure



No one on our street has an EV. Why are you installing here?

While no one in your immediate area may currently own an EV, the sale of new internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles will be phased out by 2030. Central government funding allows us to provide the infrastructure now, ensuring that the community is prepared for the future shift toward electric vehicles.

Environmental Benefits of EV Chargers

Installing EV chargers is part of a larger effort to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. By providing convenient access to public EV chargers, we encourage more residents to switch to electric vehicles, which produce zero tailpipe emissions. This helps improve local air quality, reduce carbon emissions, and contributes to West Sussex's overall goal of achieving a greener, more sustainable environment.

Can EV chargers be installed in conservation areas?

There are no specific restrictions preventing the installation of EV chargers in conservation areas. We take care to ensure that installations are sensitive to the character of the area and that the visual impact is minimal. The need to install future-proof infrastructure is balanced with preserving the aesthetic integrity of these locations.

Additional Considerations



What happens if I want to install my own home charger?

Residents who wish to install their own EV chargers at home are encouraged to do so, provided they meet the necessary legal and safety requirements. WSCC recommends consulting with a certified installer to ensure compliance with local regulations.

Are electric vehicle chargers safe to use?

Yes, electric vehicle chargers are designed with safety as a top priority. The chargers installed by Connected Kerb comply with all relevant safety standards and regulations. They are equipped with multiple safety features, including protection against electrical faults, weatherproofing for outdoor use, and secure connections to prevent overloading. Additionally, all installations are carried out by certified professionals to ensure that both the public and the infrastructure are protected. Regular maintenance and inspections will also be conducted to ensure continued safe operation.

