Electric Vehicle Charging Points

EDTCE Scrutiny Working Group

Electric Vehicles in Leicester

- 3,802 battery electric and plug in hybrids in Leicester as of June 2023.
- 2% of total cars registered in Leicester



New Vehicle Registrations by Fuel Type (National)



Public Charger Availability (117)



Charger Types and Speeds

| Slow | Standard | Fast | Rapid |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <7.1kW | 7.1kW – 22kW | 22kW – 50 kW | 50kW – 150kW |
| <5:29 hours | 5:29 – 1:46 hours | 1:46 – 0:46 hours | 0:46 – 0:15 hours |

Charging times based on a new Nissan Leaf, 39kWh battery. Not all vehicles will support all charger types

Delivery Streams

- On Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) –
 22 (slow) chargers - Delivered
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – 5 rapid and 30 fast chargers – Being delivered
- Local Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Fund (LEVI) – indicative allocation of £3.38m – Planned Delivery

Types of charging solutions

Hyper-Local

Off street parkingKerb channels and fitments

Local

Lamp column chargersOn street charging docks

Destination

Charging hubsCar park charging

National Policy

- Decarbonisation of road transport a key part of the government Net Zero Strategy and Transport Decarbonisation Plan.
- All new cars are to be zero emission by 2035.
- 80% of new cars and 70% of new vans to be zero emission by 2030.
- Most of the demand for EV charging to be provided by the private sector.

Local Objectives and Policy

- Transitioning vehicles to zero emission a key part of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap – largest possible impact on transport related emissions.
- Also a key feature of the Local Plan, Climate Emergency Action Plan, and Air Quality Action Plan, recognising the benefits to local air quality as well as decarbonisation.

Challenges

- Grid capacity
- Cost
- Highway space/constraints
- EV uptake
- Market development for chargers

Grid Capacity

- Grid capacity a primary barrier to the volume and type of chargers that can be deployed
- Grid capacity can be an issue at various levels, from substations through to transformers.
- Not always logical where streets are grid connected, each site requires engagement with National Grid.
- In discussions with National Grid

Cost

- Electrical vehicle chargers can range from £22,000 £57,000 dependent on type. This does not include potential upgrades to the power network.
- Upgrades to electrical grid expensive, but within scope of LEVI grant though this will reduce the number of chargepoints that can be installed.
- Expectation is that LEVI grant will provide around a fifth of the necessary level of support, nationwide, with the private sector to provide the remainder.

Highway Space and Capacity

- In many areas of the city, there is limited space for the necessary infrastructure without sacrificing some amount of utility e.g. general parking.
- Solution such as kerb channels and cables create expectation of reserved parking outside of homes, and in many locations will only support one side of the street.
- Insufficient highway space to provide one charger for every formal or informal parking space in the city.

EV Uptake

- Most electric vehicles continue to come at a higher price premium compared to ICE counterparts. Second hand market still growing.
- Increase in electricity costs reduces value benefits over conventional fuels for those without private charging options.
- Lingering concerns over driving range, battery life, fire safety, and viability continue – government information campaign promised to begin to challenge myths around EVs.

Market Development

- Charger suppliers, systems, and solutions are entering the market rapidly – confusing market.
- Advances in battery technology are leading to new vehicles having over 300m of range, and being suitable for charging within 30 minutes – approaching ICE vehicle utility.
- Charging solutions standards still being developed and risk of installations not supporting new generations of vehicles.