

Support for local authorities on electric vehicles and charging infrastructure

The Local Government Support Programme,
funded by the Department for Transport





The Department for Transport funded Local Government Support Programme is here to help you deliver your council's ambitions on decarbonising transport and improving air quality. If you have declared a climate emergency, we can help with the next steps.

Our support is free, impartial and flexible.

We're a friendly team based across England and you'll have a dedicated regional account manager.

Whichever way we support you, we aim to upskill and connect you with other officers, giving you the tools you need at the forefront of the zero carbon transition.

We're offering the following support on electric vehicles (EVs):

- [EV strategy workshops](#)
- [Chargepoint strategy review](#)
- [Chargepoint site selection support](#)
- [Chargepoint network utilisation assessment](#)

- [Chargepoint procurement support](#)
- [EV planning policy support](#)
- [Electric taxi and private hire vehicle support](#)
- [Business engagement review](#)
- [Go Electric online sessions](#)
- [Monthly webinars](#)

You may also be interested in [our support with other aspects of sustainable travel, such as staff travel plans](#).

Energy Saving Trust can also offer:

- [Application support for the On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#)
- [Fleet support](#)

Next steps

Fill in our enquiry form to start a conversation with your regional account manager.

Sign up to **Authority Alert** to receive the latest updates.

Visit our **Local Government Support Programme webpage** to see our latest webinars.

EV strategy workshops

Our popular, well-received workshops distil what you need to know as a local authority about electric vehicles and charging infrastructure. We're fully funded by the Department for Transport to provide free and independent support - it's not another sales pitch.

Each workshop is tailored to your priorities and can be split into several sessions. All our workshops will be delivered online for the foreseeable future.

If you have declared a climate emergency and would like support with the next steps, or are developing a public chargepoint strategy and have some knowledge gaps, our workshops will be able to help. A workshop can also help you get started if you are interested in the UK Government's [On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#).

Many local authorities have found the sessions an effective way to bring together colleagues from different teams, tiers of local government, councillors and neighbouring authorities. (The group size and invitee list are entirely up to you).

After the workshop, our support continues through regular phone or video calls and we can hold further mini workshops to answer questions and help you keep your plans moving.

Feedback from attendees

"Engaging and knowledgeable facilitators.

Very well presented and informative."

"Excellent workshop. Really beneficial for our local authority as we begin to develop our chargepoint strategy and infrastructure."





Chargepoint strategy review

If you have a draft strategy document or briefing note, we can impartially review it and ensure you have well-rounded and informed plans.

Drawing on our knowledge of the EV charging market and examples from other local authorities, our comprehensive review will highlight the strengths of your strategy and areas for further consideration to ensure it will effectively enable EV adoption. Our focus is the provision of public charging infrastructure, rather than the electrification of council depots.

Chargepoint site selection support

We can help you with the initial identification of suitable locations for public chargepoints for residents without off-street parking, potentially to support a grant application to the [On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#) (ORCS).

Our spatial analysis uses open-source data to map groups of streets or car parks with chargepoint potential based on parking access, grid capacity (where available), existing chargepoints and local demographics. Our spatial analysis can also be tailored to provide justification for sites in an ORCS application.

Chargepoint network utilisation assessment

Many local authorities have installed public chargepoints in recent years. However, for various reasons, they are not actually sure how drivers are using the network or its performance, even if they have the data or updates from their chargepoint operator.

We can offer independent, fully funded analysis of the usage of your existing network, tailored to the data available. For example, we can analyse (anonymous) user behaviour, popularity of sites and trends over time. By looking at the power drawn during each plug-in session, we can also indicate locations where parking enforcement could be more effective, giving you more insight than a 'utilisation rate' offers. Our findings will help inform future network expansion and will complement any information you currently receive from your network operator.

If you have installed chargepoints through the On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme, the data you should regularly submit to the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) is an ideal starting point.

Chargepoint procurement support

We're growing our capacity so we can better assist you through the process of procuring public chargepoints, for example through reviewing draft technical specifications.

Please get in touch to see what support we can offer you.

Fill in our enquiry form to get in touch with your regional account manager.

EV planning policy support

Adding chargepoint requirements to local planning policies, such as parking standards, and producing guidance for developers helps to future-proof new homes, workplaces and commercial sites and can facilitate EV uptake.

If you are developing these documents as a local authority, we are funded to help you. We can review your draft documents and policies, share examples from other local authorities and link you to further information. We will highlight areas in your policy or guidance which are potentially ambiguous and update you on the national picture regarding proposed changes to building regulations.

Our recommendations will be captured in a short report, putting you in a better position to engage with developers.

Electric taxi and private hire vehicle support

We can support you by impartially reviewing draft licencing policies, hosting a driver survey, baselining fleet emissions, and delivering workshops for officers and councillors on EVs and charging infrastructure options.

Business engagement review

Planning to deliver business or community engagement activities focused on EVs or sustainable travel?

Our support can help you implement new engagement projects or update your current programme. We can assist with the planning and delivery of events and help upskill council staff to deliver ongoing EV engagement. Our support includes:

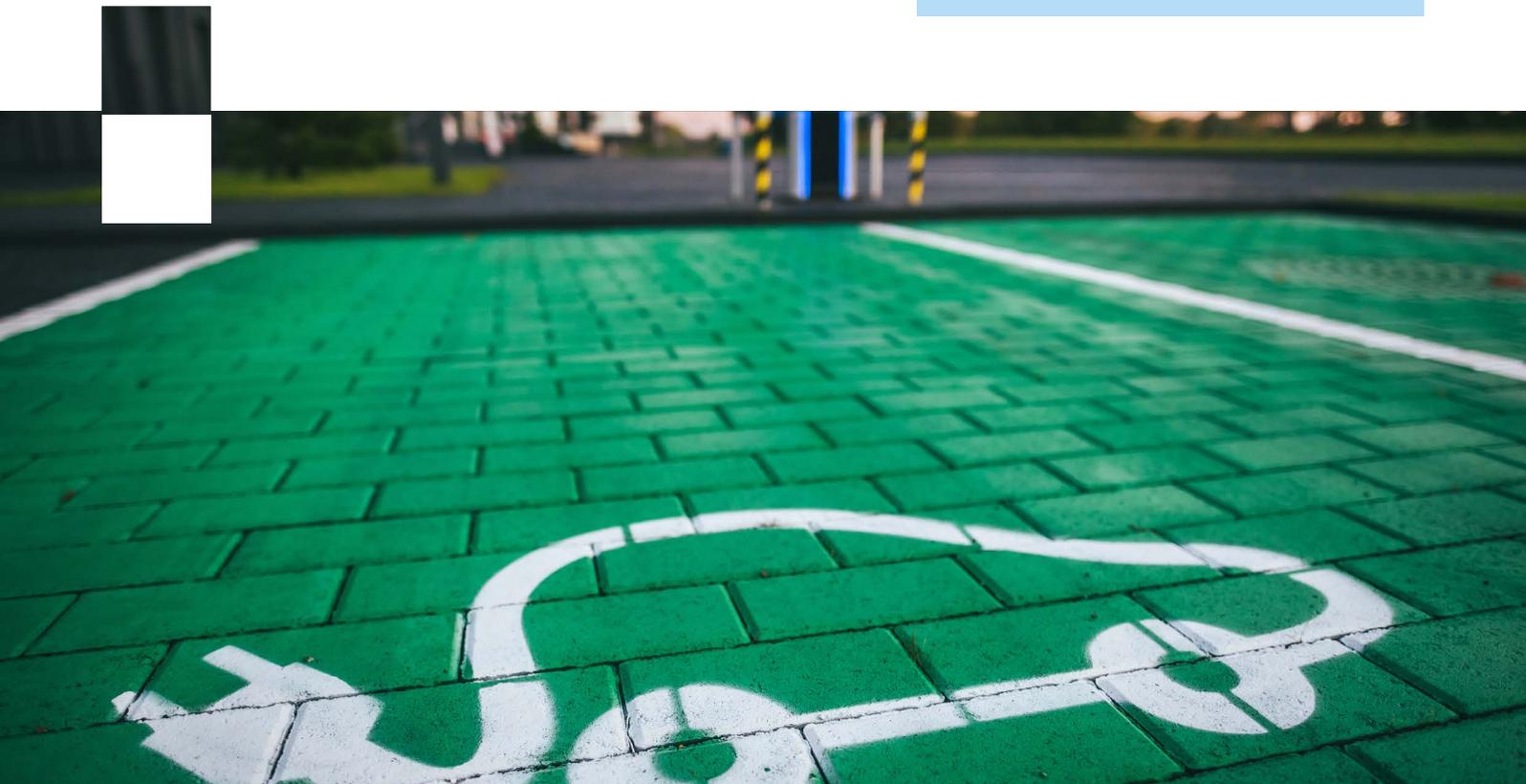
- An engagement project review to develop a new project or analyse current activities
- Event delivery, including agenda planning and virtual event facilitation
- Staff training to upskill your colleagues to deliver ongoing EV engagement activities
- Support as guest speakers at your events

Go Electric online sessions

Want to get the conversation started with your colleagues or drivers about choosing an electric vehicle as their next company or private car?

We can hold a free, impartial one to two hour online session for your council or public sector organisation. Contact us for more information.

Fill in our enquiry form to get in touch with your regional account manager.





How else can Energy Saving Trust support you?

On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) application assistance

Local authorities can apply for funding to cover up to 75% of the capital costs of procuring and installing chargepoints in residential areas without off-street parking, either on-street or in car parks.

Energy Saving Trust administers this scheme on behalf of the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV). We provide free advice to help you prepare an eligible and successful application.

While you must demonstrate value for money, this is not a competitive grant fund. Our team can review your application multiple times. We're keen to talk to you as early as possible if you're considering an application or have started preparing one.

More information can be found at [On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#), including an [information pack](#) and [model application form](#). We have also produced a [blog](#) to help local authorities perfect their ORCS application.

Contact the team at onstreetchargepoints@est.org.uk.

Fleet support

Our dedicated fleet support managers provide in-depth tailored reviews to help organisations make their fleets more efficient, cost-effective and lower emission.

For example, the ultra low emission vehicle review identifies where electric and plug-in vehicles could be appropriate additions for your fleet, and other reviews look specifically at HGVs and grey fleet (employees using their own vehicles for work purposes).

With funding provided by the Department for Transport, these reviews are available at no cost to organisations.

For more information, visit our [Fleet support page](#) or contact transportadvice@est.org.uk.

This support is on a first come, first served basis, so please get in touch for details.



Keeping you up to speed

Monthly webinars

We hold free monthly webinars to help local authority officers build their knowledge and share expertise in many aspects of low emission transport. Recordings of previous webinars dating back to October 2019 are also available.

Visit the [Local Government Support Programme webpage](#) to see what's coming up and browse previous events.

Authority Alert newsletter

Sign up to Authority Alert to receive emails relating to Energy Saving Trust news, support and funding for local authority officers and councillors on sustainable transport.

LinkedIn

Join the [Energy Saving Trust Transport LinkedIn Group](#) to be part of the discussion and receive transport news, events and updates.

Energy Saving Trust is an independent organisation dedicated to promoting energy efficiency, low carbon transport and sustainable energy use. We aim to address the climate emergency and deliver the wider benefits of clean energy as we transition to net zero.

We empower householders to make better choices, deliver transformative programmes for governments and support businesses with strategy, research and assurance – enabling everyone to play their part in building a sustainable future.