

Our Electric Future: ChargeUK's manifesto for the next Government



Further accelerating the rollout of high-quality EV charging infrastructure is critical to support the UK's transition to net zero. ChargeUK members are committed to providing convenient and affordable charging for all drivers as they make the switch to EVs. An open and competitive market, which maximises private investment and targets public subsidy, will deliver the charging the UK needs. We ask that all political parties commit to work with the sector to accelerate rollout, support investment and make the UK the best place in the world to drive and charge an EV.

Getting even more public chargers in the ground

Charge Point Operators (CPOs) are deploying infrastructure at record pace, but the next Government can help us go faster:

1. Speed up grid connections by agreeing a voluntary Code with all DNOs, with regulation brought in if required.
2. Ensure the streetworks regime supports timely deployment, by enabling CPOs to use permits rather than Section 50 licences and preventing unnecessary use of Section 115e licences.
3. In England, extend Permitted Development Rights to include essential supporting infrastructure (such as substations) and an increase in charger height, to reflect the approach to charging infrastructure in Scotland.
4. Include renewable electricity in the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation, creating a market-based mechanism to support private investment, at no expense to the taxpayer.

Make charging and owning an EV easy and more affordable

Owning and charging an EV should be as easy and affordable as possible. The next Government can take steps to enable this:

5. Equalise VAT at 5% for public and private charging – giving those who can't charge at home access to more affordable charging.
6. Reform the electricity wholesale market to encourage more sustainable, lower cost and competitive electricity generation.
7. Work with industry and National Highways to develop standard charging signage and ensure it is widely used across the Strategic Road Network and other major roads.
8. Continue, and potentially expand, the current incentives that help people make the switch to EVs, whether they choose to buy or lease new, used or fleet EVs.

Supporting private investment

The private sector is best placed to lead the rollout, with timely public subsidy targeted where private investment is not commercially viable. The next Government can support this:

9. Urgently confirm the design of the Rapid Charging Fund to remove uncertainty and address market distortion
10. Ensure Local Authorities deploy Local EV Infrastructure funding quickly and provide clearer guidance on resident consultation for charge point site selection.
11. Address recent significant increases to standing charges, which have seen costs to CPOs rise by up to 300%.
12. Commit to engage with industry as the fleet, eLVC and eHGV market continues to develop.

About ChargeUK

ChargeUK is the trade association representing over 40 companies that install and operate the charge points enabling the UK's transition to electric vehicles and Net Zero. Together, we are publicly committed to investing billions of pounds to deliver and operate a world-class charging infrastructure by 2030, creating jobs, supporting economic growth and powering the UK's switch to electric vehicles. Membership can be found [here](#).



1,000,000
EVs in the UK

Britain's millionth battery electric car (BEV) reached the road in January 2024.



61,232
public charge points

At the end of April 2024 there were 61,232 EV charging points across the UK. This is up 45% on April 2023.



Over £6bn
committed

ChargeUK members are investing over £6bn installing and operating new infrastructure by 2030.