

UK Government doubles funding for on-street electric car charging

Additional £2.5 million for chargepoints on residential streets.



UK government will release additional £2.5 million to fund the installation of over 1,000 new chargepoints, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps announced this week.

The funding will support the on-street residential chargepoint scheme, launched in 2017, which helps people access charging infrastructure near their homes when they don't have off-street parking. It will go towards helping local authorities to install these chargepoints, which can be built into existing structures like lamp-posts.

The scheme aims to encourage more people to choose an electric vehicle by making it easier to charge their cars near home, following a 158% increase in battery electric vehicle sales compared to July last year.

The scheme has already seen 16 local authorities prepared to install 1,200 chargepoints this year. The Transport Secretary is now doubling funding for the popular scheme to meet demand and

accelerate the take-up of electric vehicles as the UK moves towards net zero emissions by 2050 and further improve air quality.

“It’s fantastic that there are now more than 20,000 publicly accessible chargepoints and double the number of electric vehicle chargepoints than petrol stations, but we want to do much more”, said Transport Secretary Grant Shapps.

The allocation of funding for on-street residential chargepoints is part of the £1.5 billion investment underpinned by the Road to Zero Strategy. The strategy consists of one of the most comprehensive packages of support for the transition to zero emission vehicles in the world, supporting the move towards a cleaner, greener, accessible and reliable UK transport network.

As part of this, the government is also investing £37 million into British engineering to develop electric chargepoint infrastructure that could rapidly expand the UK chargepoint network for people without off-street parking.

Innovations to receive investment include underground charging systems, solar powered charging forecourts and wireless charging projects.