# Newsletter

Summer 2024 • Issue no. 9



#### SETTING THE STANDARD FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGEPOINTS

# Welcome to the Summer Newsletter

Dear EVCC Member,

I hope you enjoy reading the latest news from EVCC, our Affiliates and the wider chargepoint sector. We cover a wide range of issues including the availability of grants for households, innovations in the EV sector and increasing access to home EV chargepoints. There is also information about the upcoming Solar & Storage Live Show in September. Wishing you a great summer. Happy reading.

# First mass market V2G tariff



Courtesy of EV Clicks- evclicks.co.uk

The first mass market vehicle-to-grid (V2G) in the UK has been launched.

Energy supplier Octopus Energy has launched the 'Octopus Power Pack' which seeks to provide savings to drivers with a tariff dedicated to Electric Vehicle (EV) owners who sell the power from their car batteries back to the grid.

V2G technology enables unused power from an EV battery to be transported back to the power grid. The bi-directional charging (two-way charging) makes it possible to charge an EV battery and sell unused power back to the grid when demand is high.

With the V2G tariff, Octopus separates charging from the rest of the home and it operates in parallel to Octopus' regular import tariff.

Octopus estimates that a 'typical' EV driver could save up to £880 per year in charging costs compared to its standard tariffs.

More information on this vehicle to grid tariff is available here and here.

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# Grants available for chargepoints

An exciting new grant opportunity has been announced which will accelerate the growth of EV infrastructure across the UK.

The Electric Vehicle Chargepoint Grant for Households with On-Street Parking aims to expand the availability of EV chargepoints beyond the current limitations of those with off-street private parking. This grant will now include households which require a cross-pavement charging solution. This initiative is a fantastic opportunity to reduce barriers for prospective EV customers and promote wider accessibility.

#### **Grant details**

EV drivers will receive the necessary support towards the costs of the purchase and installation of an EV chargepoint at their residential property, while also installing a cross-pavement charging solution.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for the grant an applicant must:

- rent or own a residential property in which they live
- ensure adequate on-street parking as defined by the local planning and highways authority
- obtain permission from the local planning and highways authority to install a cross-pavement charging solution between their home and the approved parking space
- install a cross-pavement charging solution before having the chargepoint installed
- own an eligible vehicle

The grant is available to applicants who use an installer approved by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV). We encourage all OZEV approved EVCC members to take advantage of the opportunity this gives to consumers who may otherwise not feel that they could have a chargepoint.

To appy and for more information, please visit the government website here.

#### EV mandate for accessible charging



Courtesy of EVclicks - evclicks.co.uk

RECHARGE UK, the EV arm of the Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology (REA), is calling on Government to mandate accessibility requirements for all public EV chargepoints. The aim is to provide safe and accessible charging options for all, including people with accessibility needs. Other agencies joining this call include ChargeSafe, Motability Foundation and Motability Operations.

RECHARGE UK attended a meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) to provide information and justification for the accessible charging mandate. At this meeting, they spoke about BSI PAS 1899:2022 which gives designers and installers the required specifications for accessible public chargepoints.

Member of the House of Lords, Baroness Jenny Randerson, supports the call for this mandate and urges government action to devise a strategic action plan to ensure good practice and adequate investment in EVs. She goes onto say the current guidance is ineffective and needs to be replaced with the full adoption of PAS 1899:2022.

Matthew Adams, Transport Policy Manager for the REA said:

"Mandating accessibility requirements through a phased approach could transform charging sites up and down the country at a speed that is manageable for all concerned and would give increasingly greater accessibility to wheelchair users across the country as more of them begin to adopt EVs."

British specifications are currently voluntary.



www.electric-vehicle.org.uk

# Over-reliance on public charging



**Courtesy of Dominic Marley** 

A recent study conducted by charging solutions provider ChargeGuru UK reveals 53% of EV drivers residing in flats are not aware of private or home charging solutions available to them.

The study shows that 70% of respondents are heavily reliant on public charging facilities, presenting an over-reliance on the public charging infrastructure.

The survey interviewed residents of flats and property managers across the UK to obtain an insight into their use of EVs, access to charging facilities and their opinions on the transition to zero emission vehicles. According to the report, two-fifths of the respondents indicate that their switch to an EV would be hampered by their current living situation where there is no or limited access to chargepoints. However, drivers with access to personal parking spaces are more open to making the switch to EVs as it may be easier to install a chargepoint.

Further, more than 50% of the respondents expressed an intention to make the switch to an EV within the next few years. 27% of those respondents clearly indicated a desire to move to EVs within 1 to 2 years. This data demonstrates how necessary it is to continually improve private charging facilities, given that drivers are expressing a greater interest in purchasing EVs. It is also important to remove the barriers to the purchase of EVs as quickly as possible.

ChargeGuru UK is calling for property managers to work closely with industry partners and residents of flats to provide more private EV charging facilities. This will only serve to improve the move towards the 2035 phase out of petrol and diesel engines.



#### Opportunities in the EV used car market

A recent EV survey reveals significant opportunities in the EV chargepoint installation market, particularly for prospective buyers in the used car market.

According to May's Startline Used Car Tracker, a survey involving 303 consumers and 60 dealers, approximately 50% of the dealers interviewed report that one of the main barriers to buying an EV is the absence of a home chargepoint. Additionally, many buyers are confused about the extra costs involved in chargepoint installations.

According to Startline, this presents an excellent opportunity for the industry where installers can partner with local dealerships, offering guidance and services to potential EV buyers in the used car market.

Despite other concerns among prospective consumers, such as battery degradation (35%) and range anxiety (48%), the main deterrent for most buyers is the lack of an existing home chargepoint.

This scenario provides an opportunity for dealers, installers and property managers to come together to increase home charging facilities and increase EV sales across the UK. This would be a win-win for all parties and the EV industry.

Other issues of concern which affect the ownership of EVs are insurance costs, battery degradation and comprehensive warranties.

You may find more information on this survey here.



Courtesy of EVclicks - evclicks.co.uk

www.electric-vehicle.org.uk

Landlords have expressed a greater willingness to install EV chargepoints at their properties, once requested by the tenant. That's according to a survey conducted by Direct Line which found over 80% of landlords would install a chargepoint.

The main reasons identified by the landlords for installing an EV chargepoint at home include a potential increase in property value and a desire to make their tenants happy. It would also boost the number of EV drivers able to charge at home, relying less on public charging facilities.

The survey also revealed differing viewpoints on who should bear the cost of installing the chargepoints. A fifth of the landlords surveyed expressed a willingness to cover the cost, 35% expected the tenants to pay while 30% said the payments should be shared.

Landlords and tenants are encouraged to agree in writing what should happen to the chargepoint once the tenant moves out. This would include responsibility for maintenance and repair costs.

More information on the survey may be found here.



Courtesy of EV Clicks - evclicks.co.uk

## Rogue operators in the EV Industry

There have been concerning reports of rogue operators who are posing as qualified electricians. This is compounded by increasing concerns about the quality of EV chargepoint installations by installers and electricians.

There are clear dangers, including serious health and safety hazards, when uncertified and inexperienced individuals take on electrical installations that are outside of their professional skills set. This can not only affect the proper operation of a product, but also the safety of the homeowners.

EVCC condemns this pattern of conduct and urges homeowners to be vigilant in the face of this danger. Homeowners should actively seek out electricians and installers who are certified by official bodies. A list of EVCC members may be found here.

EVCC sets out high standards for businesses who sell and install domestic EV chargepoints for homes. Our members are certified and trained and must adhere to EVCC's requirements when undertaking installations.

You may find more information on guidelines for certified installers and electricians here.

## JLR develops new portable battery

A new portable battery storage system has been created to generate zero emissions power onthe-go. This battery storage system uses second life Range Rover and Range Rover Sport PHEV batteries which can store up to a month's worth of power for the average UK home.

Jaguar, Land Rover Automotive (JLR) has collaborated with energy storage start-up Allye Energy, to produce this battery storage system which can charge up to 9 Range Rover PHEV vehicles at any given time. This device can be charged by plugging it into a CCS-capable vehicle charger.

This novel battery storage system is expected to contribute to the circular economy through the repurposing and re-using of batteries.

More information on this innovation can be found here.



www.electric-vehicle.org.uk

# EVCC represents at Solar Live 24

EVCC participated in the UK's largest renewable energy exhibition, Solar and Storage Live 2024 in April this year. This exhibition celebrates the technologies which assist with the transition to a more sustainable and decentralised energy system.

Solar and Storage Live 2024 took place at The ExCel, London from 29 - 30 April which saw over 8,000 + attendees, 150 + exhibitors and 250 + industry leading speakers and more.

Included in the exhibition, was a stall hosted by EVCC and RECC which was managed by staff. The team engaged with visitors to the stall and provided relevant information on consumer protection and Consumer Codes.



REAL's Chief Executive Officer, Virginia Graham participated in a live panel at Solar and Storage Live in which she addressed the topic "What can we do to help consumers navigate the Solar PV market."



The next Solar and Storage Live Exhibition for 2024 will be held from 24 to 26 September at The NEC, Birmingham.

More details on this exhibition here.

# **EVIES Awards 24**

Successful individuals and companies in the emerging EV sector will be awarded for their contribution at The EVIES awards this year.

The EVIES awards highlight innovation and excellence in this sector.

Submissions close on 23 August.

If you are interested in this event and would love to get involved, check out the link here.

# **Guidelines for EVs**

For anyone looking for more information about owning an EV and how best to charge it, Pod Point has produced a complete guide to charging an EV at home.

You may find this guide here.

# **EVCC works for you**

EVCC members are recognised for their competence, qualifications, reliability, and dedication to high standards of consumer protection.

- Outshine your competitors! Use the EVCC logo to give consumers confidence and set you apart.
- Maximise your visibility! Unlock new opportunities by being listed on the EVCC website
- Resolve consumer complaints efficiently! Benefit
  from access to EVCC's effective disputes resolution
  process
- Receive expert guidance and resources! Access
  training and Trading Standard approved model
  documents free compliance.
- Amplify your voice! Influence the industry by sharing your ideas through us

Click here for information about becoming an EVCC member or visit our website for top tips and guidance.

We offer an EVCC Affiliate Package for energy suppliers, EV and chargepoint manufacturers, and distributors interested in partnering with us. Affiliates will demonstrate their commitment to consumer protection, high standards, and good practices, while enjoying exclusive benefits. Contact us to learn more.