

## Consultation on a draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy

Southampton City Council is consulting on a draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy. We would like to hear your thoughts on the proposals and any impacts or alternative suggestions you would like us to consider. Now is your opportunity to have your say.

An online version of this questionnaire can be found on Southampton City Council's website at [www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy)

You can also email your consultation feedback or queries to [yourcity.yoursay@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:yourcity.yoursay@southampton.gov.uk)

This consultation closes **Monday 18 March 2024**.

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### **Background**

Southampton is a large and growing city faced with a series of current and future challenges and opportunities. Social, environmental, and economic sustainability needs to be achieved in the city going forwards to ensure the city can continue to grow and prosper without compromising the environment, health and wellbeing.

The city faces the dual challenges of climate change and air pollution. Over the coming decades the city is expected to experience more extreme heat and flooding events, some of which we've already witnessed. Poor air quality will also continue to have a direct impact on the health of the city's residents, burdening our NHS and worsening health inequalities. To reduce our contribution to climate change and reduce the burden of pollution on residents, cleaner transport is essential.

Road transport is one of the most significant sources of carbon emissions in the city (approximately one third of total emissions) and is the most significant source of key air pollutants. As the city continues to grow, there will be a growing need to encourage new technologies to help mitigate the impact of transport emissions. In the future, an estimated 19,450 homes will need to be built to support the estimated 30,000 more people living in the city.

The Council recognises that electric vehicles (EVs) play an important role in tackling these issues as part of a wider series of projects and policies which prioritise active travel and public transport.

Our draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy sets out the approach the council will take to encourage and facilitate the uptake of EVs through the provision of a comprehensive EV charging network which can meet future demand for electric vehicles across the city. It includes five key goals we hope to achieve through the strategy:

- Building an integrated transport solution for the city of which EVs are part
- To utilise an effective blend of charging solutions to meet the needs of users
- Enable fair and equitable access to EV charging for all
- Facilitate a step change in the provision on public EV charging infrastructure
- Support businesses to transition to low carbon transport

The full draft strategy is available to read online: [www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy)

## **Proposed Goal 1**

### **Goal 1: Building an EV infrastructure network built to accommodate an integrated transport solution for the city**

The council recognises that EVs play a role, as part of an integrated transport system for the city, which also includes as a priority, provision for active travel and public transport.

The council has identified four ambitions which we propose to deliver on this goal:

#### **1. Delivering Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) as part of wider Local Transport Plan and transport programmes. To do this, we propose to:**

- Consider opportunities for electric vehicles as part of the develop of future transport strategies
- Ensure EVCP is considered as part of the delivery of broader transport projects, including Park and Ride and road space reallocation.

#### **2. Working with developers through the development control process to ensure that new developments contribute towards the rollout of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs). To do this, we propose to:**

- Require developers to implement sufficient and robust EVCPs as part of the emerging City Vision Local Plan and new national Building Regulations.

#### **3. Developing a network of Travel Hubs offering shared transport options, including shared electric vehicle car clubs. To do this, we propose to:**

- Explore delivering EVCPs and shared car club EVs as part of local Travel Hubs including smaller residential hubs and larger hubs in the city centre where residents also have access to buses, micro mobility options including e-scooters and bikes, and other facilities and services including local Sustainable Distribution facilities, such as lockers.

#### **4. Working with other public and private sector partners to decarbonise other forms of transport. To do this, we propose to:**

- Work with other public and private sector partners to investigate opportunities to decarbonise other forms of transport, including water, rail and freight.
- Investigate opportunities to better integrate other forms of transport into key transport hubs.

The full draft strategy is available to read online: [www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy)

### **To what extent do you agree or disagree with this goal and what we propose to deliver?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

### **How important is this goal and what we propose to deliver to you or your business?**

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Neither
- Fairly unimportant
- Very unimportant

**How effective do you feel the following ambitions will be in working towards the goal?**

	Very effective	Fairly effective	Neither	Fairly ineffective	Very ineffective
Delivering Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) as part of wider Local Transport Plan and transport programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working with developers through the development control process to ensure that new developments contribute towards the rollout of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing a network of Travel Hubs offering shared transport options, including shared electric vehicle car clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working with other public and private sector partners to decarbonise other forms of transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:**

***Proposed Goal 2***

**Goal 2: To utilise an effective blend of charging solutions to meet the needs of all users**

No single type of charge point will meet the needs of residents and visitors. Instead, access to different types of charge points is needed to provide a comprehensive charging infrastructure. The two key types of chargers we need in the city are:

- Home and on-street residential charging for slower and cheaper overnight charging.
- Destination charging including rapid chargers, charging hubs and workplace chargers for 'top-ups'.

The council has identified four ambitions which we propose to deliver on this goal:

**1. Home charging**

- Explore innovative options for home charging solutions including promoting discounts for off-street chargers and co-charging solutions where driveway chargers are rented to other EV drivers.
- Provide clear advice and guidance to developers, homeowners and landlords on the installation of home chargers and ensuring there are clear policies on the installation of dropped kerbs and hard standing to support home charging
- Assess opportunities and provide clear guidance on home charging vehicles parked on the highway including the potential use of cable gullies and other means of keeping the pavement safe for all users.

## 2. Street charging and Off-street public chargers

- Deliver a step change in the provision of street chargers through a partnership agreement with a private provider.

- Ensure businesses and households are given the opportunity to identify priority locations for chargers and are involved in ensuring that access to them is managed in a reasonable and fair manner.

## 3. Off-street public chargers

- With our delivery partner ensure our public charging network offers the right number and type of chargers to meet customer's needs.

## 4. Work related charging

- Support the needs of businesses by identifying where the public charging network can supplement and compliment work-based charging needs.

- Identify shared charging opportunities between local businesses including satisfying the council's own charging needs as it modernises its own fleet.

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### To what extent do you agree or disagree with this goal and what we propose to deliver?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

### How important is this goal and what we propose to deliver to you or your business?

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Neither
- Fairly unimportant
- Very unimportant

### How effective do you feel the following ambitions will be in working towards the goal?

	Very effective	Fairly effective	Neither	Fairly ineffective	Very ineffective
Home charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street charging and Off-street public chargers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-street public chargers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work related charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:

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### ***Proposed Goal 3***

#### **Goal 3: Enable fair and equitable access to EV charging for all**

While the council recognises that not everyone will be able to or will want to purchase an EV, it remains committed to ensuring that the EV infrastructure delivered for the public can meet the needs of any resident or visitor who wishes to use it.

The council has identified five ambitions which we propose to deliver on this goal:

##### **1. Support home charging options**

- Explore options which could facilitate safe home charging including gullies, cable covers, lamppost chargers, co-charging, and lamppost schemes.
- Develop policy and guidance to ensure home charging requirements, including dropped kerbs and new driveways are not in conflict with green infrastructure and flooding priorities.
- Develop and trial residential Travel Hubs including the provision of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) on housing land.

##### **2. Locate more on-street chargers across the city**

- Apply for funding to deliver over 170 chargers on-street across the city.
- The layout of charging points will be planned for the ensure footways are clear of clutter and that paths aren't narrowed to ensure access for residents isn't impaired.

##### **3. Ensure that new chargers are located where they support uptake of EVs, not just in locations with current high demand or where it's commercially viable**

- Secure funding to deliver on-street EV charging points across the city.
- Work with our delivery partner to ensure further Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) are located in underserved areas of the city, where there is demand or predicted future demand.

##### **4. Work to optimise effectiveness of charge points**

- Implement policies to prevent overstaying and overcharging vehicles and prevent other vehicles blocking charging bays and preventing use.
- Ensure our delivery partner optimises the use of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) through a contractual obligation.

##### **5. Ensure new charge points are accessible for all vehicles and residents**

- Establish minimum standards for the design of charge points and bays to ensure disabled access and ease of charging for all vehicles.

- Work in line with central government policies to reduce the need of apps or fobs to access the EVCP network.

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**To what extent do you agree or disagree with this goal and what we propose to deliver?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**How important is this goal and what we propose to deliver to you or your business?**

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Neither
- Fairly unimportant
- Very unimportant

**How effective do you feel the following ambitions will be in working towards the goal?**

	Very effective	Fairly effective	Neither	Fairly ineffective	Very ineffective
Support home charging options	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Locate more on-street chargers across the city	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure that new chargers are located where they support uptake of EVs, not just in locations with current high demand or where it's commercially viable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work to optimise effectiveness of charge points	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure new charge points are accessible for all vehicles and residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:**

## **Proposed Goal 4**

### **Goal 4: Facilitate a phased increase in the provision of public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI)**

In line with the suggested target figures of Energy Saving Trust, there is a clear need to significantly increase the provision of EV charging in the city in anticipation of future demand and to encourage use of electric vehicles.

The council has identified three ambitions which we propose to deliver on this goal:

#### **1. Enter a partnership arrangement with a supplier to deliver large increase in EV destination charging**

- We will ensure new Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) installations are accompanied by robust feasibility studies to understand limitations in our neighbourhoods and public car parks including electricity capacity, structural and space requirements as well as highways regulations and parking policy.
- The arrangement will involve working with a provider to deliver city-wide infrastructure in line with expected future demand.
- The arrangement will align with the upcoming Local Area Energy Management Plan in ensuring electricity supply to sites across the city is sufficient, including the possibility of utilising local produced sustainable energy ie. from solar panels on Multi Storey Car Parks and above travel/ EV hubs.

#### **2. Implement reliable charging infrastructure where faults are responded to promptly**

- Ensure the current system for reporting and responding to faults is sufficient to allow reliable access to charge points.
- Ensure our partner provides a robust process for maintaining charge points and minimising faults on the network.
- Ensure Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) are protected against vandalism and water damage from flooding through waterproofing and elevating new installations in areas of flood risk, or prioritising areas with lower risk where necessary.

#### **3. Promote the Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) and EVs**

- The EVCP network will be promoted by our partner and through the council's communication channels, including the My Journey Behavioural Change Programme and the Workplace Travel Network.
- We will also organise communications and campaigns highlighting the benefits of EVs to residents, commuters, and visitors.

The full draft strategy is available to read online: [www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy)

#### **To what extent do you agree or disagree with this goal and what we propose to deliver?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**How important is this goal and what we propose to deliver to you or your business?**

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Neither
- Fairly unimportant
- Very unimportant

**How effective do you feel the following ambitions will be in working towards the goal?**

	Very effective	Fairly effective	Neither	Fairly ineffective	Very ineffective
Enter a partnership arrangement with a supplier to deliver large increase in EV destination charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implement reliable charging infrastructure where faults are responded to promptly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote the Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs) and EVs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:**

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**Proposed Goal 5**

**Goal 5: Support Businesses**

The council recognises that private organisations need to play a large role in the provision of EVCP across the city. While the council is likely to continue being the largest provider of infrastructure in the city, workplaces and developers can integrate EVCPs into their premises to meet the needs of their residents, staff and visitors and supplement the city-wide network.

The council has identified three ambitions which we propose to deliver on this goal:

**1. Support the uptake of electric buses, taxis and demand responsive transport through incentives, infrastructure and partnership working**

- Investigate delivering new taxi incentives including the recent try before you buy electric taxi scheme and previous low emission taxi incentive scheme.
- Work with bus operators to deliver electric buses for the city and help address local restrictions to charging these vehicles.

**2. Support electric freight and logistics movements, including return to home vans**



- Investigate opportunities to increase uptake of Sustainable Distribution Centre and onward last mile journeys by electric vehicles.

- Investigate home charging options for return to home vans including battery packs, dedicated bays in charging hubs etc.

- Support businesses to develop Delivery and Servicing Plans to identify opportunities for freight consolidation and sustainable last mile deliveries.

### 3. Encourage workplace and support work related charging

- Support workplaces in applying for government schemes to introduce EV chargers into their workplaces

- Ensure the council's public charging infrastructure is able to support the needs of businesses and those running a private vehicle.

The full draft strategy is available to read online: [www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/DraftEVChargingStrategy)

#### To what extent do you agree or disagree with this goal and what we propose to deliver?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

#### How important is this goal and what we propose to deliver to you or your business?

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Neither
- Fairly unimportant
- Very unimportant

#### How effective do you feel the following ambitions will be in working towards the goal?

	Very effective	Fairly effective	Neither	Fairly ineffective	Very ineffective
Support the uptake of electric buses, taxis and demand responsive transport through incentives, infrastructure and partnership working	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support electric freight and logistics movements, including return to home vans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage workplace and support work related charging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:

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***Reading the draft strategy***

**Have you read the proposed draft strategy?**

- Yes, all of it
- Yes, some of it
- No

**If you have read the proposed draft strategy, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The draft strategy is easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The draft strategy provides sufficient information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**If there were parts of the draft strategy that you did not understand or you feel need more information, please provide further details:**

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***Overall feedback on the draft strategy***

**Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the broad goals for this draft strategy?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Overall, how ambitious do you feel the goals are for this draft strategy?**

Too ambitious

Just right

Not ambitious enough

**If this draft strategy was to be implemented, what impact do you feel this may have on you, your family, your business or the wider community?**

A very positive impact

A slightly positive impact

No impact at all

A slightly negative impact

A very negative impact

Don't know

**Please use the following space to tell us more about your opinions on the draft strategy and if there is anything else we should consider:**

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***About you***

**Which of the following describes your interest in this consultation?**

*Please tick all that apply.*

As someone that currently drives an electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle

As someone that would like to own or drive an electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle

As a resident of Southampton

As a resident elsewhere

As someone that works, visits, or studies in Southampton

As a private business

As a public sector organisation

As a third sector organisation (e.g. voluntary or community groups and charities, etc)

As an employee of Southampton City Council

As a political member

Other

If other, please specify:

**What is your postcode?**

*This is used for geographical analysis only and will not be used to identify or contact you.*

**Do you have off-street parking at your home?**

- Yes  
 No  
 Prefer not to say

**What is your age?**

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 - 64           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 - 24  | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 - 74           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 - 34  | <input type="checkbox"/> 75+               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 - 44  | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45 - 54  |  |

**Do you have any physical or mental conditions or impairments, lasting 12 months or more, that have a substantial effect on your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?**

- Yes  Prefer not to say  
 No

**What is your approximate annual household income?**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than £15k | <input type="checkbox"/> £50k–£59,999      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> £15k–£19,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> £60k–£69,999      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> £20k–£29,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> £70k–£99,999      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> £30k–£39,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> Over £100k        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> £40k–£49,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

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***What happens next?***

The consultation closes on **Monday 18 March 2024**. After this date, all feedback will be analysed and considered before a final decision is made.

Thank you for your time, by providing us feedback you are helping us create a strategy that is tailored for the needs of our city.

Please return completed surveys to:

*Consultations,  
First Floor, West Wing,  
Civic Centre,  
Southampton,  
SO14 7LY.*

Alternatively, please hand completed surveys back to any Southampton City Council-run library.

The information collected about you during this survey will only be used for the purposes of research. We may use it to contact you about this. We will only share your information with other organisations or council departments if we need to. We may also share it to prevent, investigate or prosecute criminal offences, or as the law otherwise allows. Please be aware that any comments given on this form may be published in the report. However, the council will endeavour to remove any references that could identify individuals or organisations. Our Privacy Policy (<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/privacy>) explains how we handle your personal data, and we can provide a copy if you are unable to access the Internet.