

Brentham Society Advice Sheet:

EV CAR CHARGING UNITS



BACKGROUND:

Some residents may wish to install a car charging point. However, the ownership of an electric car or installing an electric car charging point is not sufficient justification for the removal of a hedge, wall or fence or the creation of new hardstanding that would not otherwise meet the Design Guidance, therefore a charging unit can only service an already existing parking space or roadside charging.

If a small unit is mounted far away from the house wall or garden boundary a planning application is not needed. However, if it is mounted against the wall or porch of a house or on the boundary an application is required as installing such a unit usually constitutes a change to the external appearance of a house or boundary. This may gain approval if the unit is sited carefully. A large charger in any position would need an application and may be refused as it may damage the character of a front garden.

The most important things to consider are the size of the unit and its location. Small units in discreet locations can be acceptable. The best location for the unit will vary from house to house but generally side elevations of houses or garages can be good locations in terms of both aesthetics and convenience.

If it is not possible to locate the unit on a side elevation, the unit may be positioned on a discreet part of the front elevation, away from the front door or porch, and screened by planting to make it less visible from the street.

Ealing Council do not permit Cross Pavement charging. A complaint about this can result in it being treated as an illegal obstruction and result in a formal warning, requirement to remove the cable or a fine. So, anyone who is using this method should make sure the cables do not cause a hazard for any pedestrians including the disabled and that there is no attempt to “reserve” the space for private parking. The only reserved parking spaces allowed on the estate are for official Disabled Parking and temporary contractor use agreed by the council.

Ealing Council current position “the council recognises the importance of EVs and remains focused on delivering the right mix of chargers for the borough. There are already more than 1,000 charge points installed in the borough, and we have secured government funding to install over 1,000 lamp column charging points in the coming years. These will make it easier for residents to charge EVs and are expected to offer the most affordable on-street charging option. We understand that some residents would like to charge using their home supply, and this remains on our radar. However, we do not feel the time is right to trial gully charging until we have engaged more widely with residents about kerbside use and fully considered the potential costs to both the council and end users.”

www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201173/transport_and_parking/1316/electric_vehicles_and_charging_points

For further advice contact advice@brentham.com