

Mr Huw Merriman MP
By email only

14 September 2021

Dear Huw

Your recent enquiry 9453797

Thank for your email of 23 August concerning the installation of EV charge points in East Sussex.

The County Council recognises that there is a growing level of demand for charging points and that their greater availability is key to increasing the uptake of EVs. We are currently developing a strategic approach to support the increased take up of electric vehicles in East Sussex, including looking at how we might procure the installation of public charging points in a way that addresses the complex range of technical, legal, procurement and practical issues in the most effective manner. It is only once we have addressed these matters that we consider that we will be in a position to apply for any grant funding that we may require to assist with the roll-out of EV charging infrastructure.

We have been in discussions with highway authorities in Kent, Brighton and Hove, West Sussex and Surrey to share lessons learned and we have been working with the Energy Savings Trust and have engaged specialist consultants to help address the lack of internal capacity and expertise on EV charge points. We are now in the process of recruiting to a dedicated role to lead on this work. Whilst I cannot provide a timeframe at present, for when the County Council will commence the implementation of EV charge points on our own estate (including the highway), we should be in a position to inform you of this towards the end of the year.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely



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