

Electric Vehicle Charging

Can you leverage the emerging opportunity?

Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points can help you attract and retain staff and achieve your organisational objectives, while offering a potential revenue stream.

This paper has been produced jointly with ASCL Preferred Supplier [Zenergi](#). It is suitable for school business leaders, and senior leaders in schools, colleges and trusts with responsibility for strategic business operations and planning.

The EV market has exploded in recent years. But now, the UK government's commitment to net zero along with the planned ban on the sale of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030, has brought the need for organisations to future-proof infrastructure sharply into focus.

What can you gain through early adoption of EV charging points?

Installing EV charging points can support your school, college or trust's corporate social responsibility agenda by demonstrating that you are a forward thinking and progressive organisation with environmental responsibility in focus. This is particularly relevant for sites located within a Low Emission Zone as you can demonstrate to the local authority and community that you are proactively 'doing your bit'.

From a practical point of view, being able to charge your own electric minibuses is an obvious advantage to on-site charging points. While allowing staff to charge their own vehicles during the working day, this could help attract and retain staff and boost engagement and job satisfaction. This is particularly relevant where staff find it challenging to charge at home, or concerned about range, although you may need to consider a small charge to avoid being subject to any Benefit in Kind tax.

A growing benefit, as the uptake of EVs continues to rise, is the opportunity for your EV charging points to offer a revenue stream for your school, college or trust by allowing the public to utilise your charging facilities for a fee. This arrangement can allow you to either cover the cost of the charge points or to provide a profit. As EVs continue to increase in demand there will be an inevitable need for more charge points nationally. Schools, colleges and trusts can take advantage of the opportunity by holding some of the market in their local area, both now and in the future. Public users of your charging points can include site visitors, parents, sports clubs and other hiring groups of your facilities, as well as local residents, particularly where a local area lacks off-street parking or is heavily populated with terraced properties or flats.

What is the opportunity?

Based on a simple assessment carried out for a site with two charging points, charged for four hours per day, an estimated net income of £7.84 per day could be possible, assuming a recharge cost of £0.22 p/kWh. This offers an estimated annual income of £2,862.00.

When you factor in sports clubs and other hiring groups, as well as local residents, the opportunity is significant.

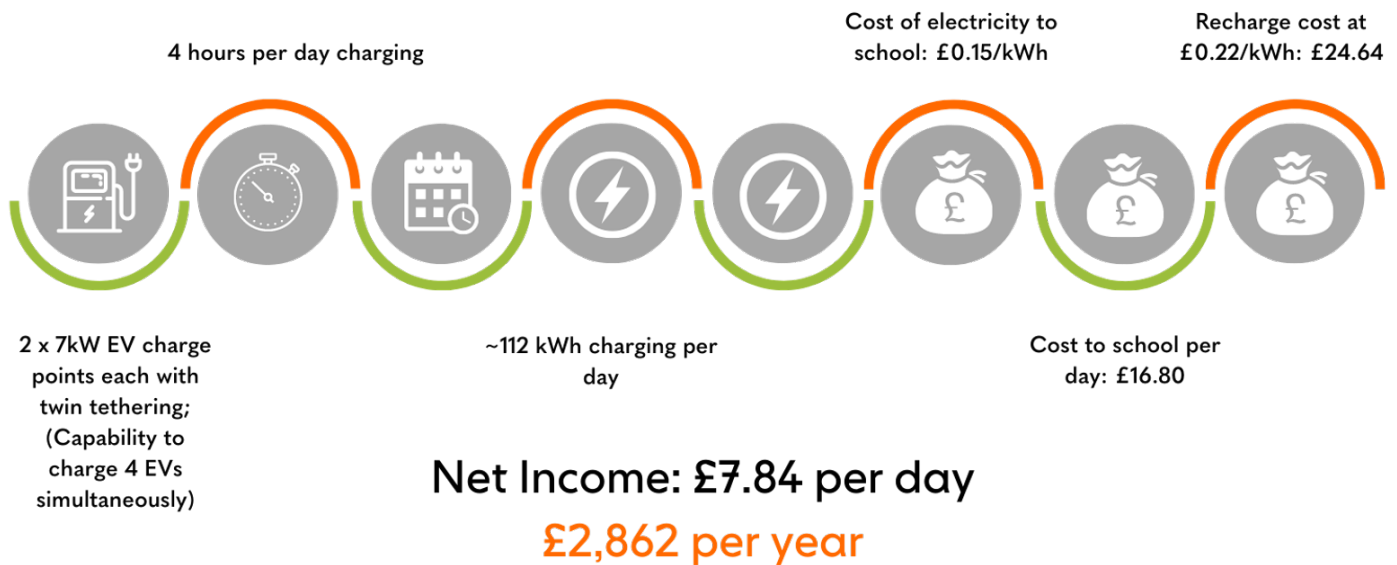


Image by Zenergi

Making the business case: questions to consider

- How many staff have electric vehicles that may have a requirement to charge at the workplace?
- Does your site have a car park?
- What is the proximity of the car park to the nearest building/supply point?
- How many minibuses could be electric within the near future, and what is their average weekly mileage?
- What is the feasibility of offering charging facilities to the general public?
- Does your site have neighbouring streets that are terraced, or flats/apartments where charging of EVs could pose a challenge?
- Is your site in an area that attracts visitors outside of opening times? Consider proximity to popular attractions, such as beaches, landmarks, tourist attractions, and shopping centres.

Accessing government grants for EV

Government grants are available that provide support on the upfront costs of buying and installing car chargers for businesses, charities and public sector organisations. The [Workplace Charging Scheme](#) is designed to encourage the uptake of EVs in the workplace and covers up to 75% of the costs per charge point (capped at £350 per socket) up to 40 sockets and can be applied for in stages.

While it is not a requirement to run EVs to access the funding, it is necessary to demonstrate intentions to encourage EV use by staff. It is important to note that any charge points installed under the scheme are for employee use only, so consider whether you would want your charge points to provide a revenue stream, either now or in the future. More information about the scheme is [available here](#).

How can Zenergi help?

[Zenergi](#) offers a full service solution that is managed entirely in-house. The service provides schools, colleges and trusts with a solution that is fully integrated with the site's facilities, while being simple to manage, reliable, and offers the necessary compliance and warranties for full peace of mind.

Zenergi can provide a complimentary desktop feasibility survey based on some simple information provided to the 'Questions to consider for making the business case'. The proposal will detail the expected implementation costs, along with the potential return on investment. Email your responses to bepositive@zenergi.co.uk and one of the team will be in touch to discuss the opportunity for your school, college or trust.

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