



FAQ: Wendover EV Charging



What are in-pavement cable channels?

Just under 25% of households in Britain do not have access to off-street parking, meaning that their options for electric vehicle (EV) charging are limited to place-based solutions such as charging at work or business carparks. Whilst these options do work for some EV owners, charging at home is the most popular solution (75% of EV drivers). For those without off-street parking, in-pavement cable channels provide a means of safely connecting your home charger to your car parked in the road, without presenting a tripping hazard to other pavement users. Homeowners with in-pavement cable channels are required to consult the user manual to ensure the cables are laid correctly in the channels, and have an adequate insurance policy in place to cover you in the event that you mislay your cables that could cause injury to the general public.

Can I trail my EV charging cable across the pavement without a cable channel?

No. Buckinghamshire Council does not allow cables to trail across the pavement, as this would constitute a safety hazard.

How do cable channels work?

If you have a home EV charger installed, or are allowed to have one installed, pavement cable channels provide a safe means for the homeowner to run their charger from their home to electric vehicles. Cables can be laid into the channel from above, avoiding a need to feed cables through from either end of the channel. They also have a detachable cover which seals in the cable and contents of the channel.

Does having a cable channel mean that the parking space is now designated for my household?

No. Installing a cable channel outside your home does not designate the adjacent parking space solely for your use. Additionally, any type of vehicle that was able to park on that section of street previously will still be able to do so.

What if someone is blocking my charging space?

If you cannot park in front of your house and your charger no longer safely reaches your vehicle, please use Zap Map to identify nearby publicly-accessible chargers:

<https://www.zap-map.com/>

Can my charging cable be stolen?

Some home chargers have the ability to lock the charging cable to the device. When not in use, residents are expected to remove their charging cables from the channels for safety and security. Cutting charging cables is risky for potential theft as they are electrically live.

Can someone else use my EV charger if I am not in my parking space?

By removing your charger from the cable channel, you can prevent other EV users from attempting to charge using your cable. Some home chargers also have the ability to only charge certain devices or plug socket types, or lock charging behind a password at the wall-mounted end.

Can the cable channels be damaged by weather?

Unlike some drainage channels, the cable channel installed in the pavement is not always open at the surface. They will have covers ensuring that debris and dirt does not enter. Rainwater may enter but the channel from either end, but these will be sloped to prevent still water from gathering and freezing.

How can I make sure that I can regularly park outside my home to charge?

Some previous cable channel schemes have self-organised community group chat forums, e.g. on Facebook or Whatsapp. This offers a potential solution for helping neighbours or other users know when you'll need to use your parking space. We suggest making contact with other people who may be using the space to set one of these up.