



**Information Governance Team**

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08 March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI485044536**

Thank you for your request for information relating to On Street Electric Vehicle Chargers and Their Usage.

You have requested the following information:

**Over the past few years, there has been a push for the installation of EV chargers (originally designed to be in a lamp post to avoid further street furniture, but later turned in to smaller roadside posts) that have been installed over Coventry housing estates such as in Chylesmore and Coundon. As these have been present for some time, I would like to know more information on the usage of these posts, ideally individually if that is possible.**

**I am looking to gain an insight in to how much usage these are actually receiving, and the locations in which they are and aren't being used. Ideally this information would be in a spreadsheet if you have information on all of the posts.**

**1. For all of the posts that have been installed as part of the government funding to increase EV charging, could you please let me know:**

**a) The date at which each post became operational**

In response to Question 1a), we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing

the National Chargepoint Registry (NCR) database on the Government website, please use the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-and-use-data-on-public-electric-vehicle-chargepoints#accessing-data-on-ncr>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

**b) The number of hours each of the posts have been used for**

In response to Question 1b), we refer you to the attached document.

**c) The amount of kW each of the posts have provided**

With regards to the amount of Kw each of the posts have provided, it is confirmed that the Council does hold information pursuant to your request. However, it is our view that the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 43(2) – Commercially Sensitive Information and also requires approval from the Charge Point Operator (CPO) responsible for managing the charging posts. Section 43(2) exempts information from disclosure where disclosure of that information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).

It is the Council's position that the third-party providers and its own commercial interests would be prejudiced and/or would be likely to be prejudiced by the disclosure of the requested information.

Once the information is disclosed this means that it will be in the public domain and it could not only be used by the requester but also any other providers in a similar market.

**Arguments in favour of disclosure.**

- Promote accountability and transparency for the Council's decisions and in its spending of public money.
- Assist the public to understand and challenge our decisions.
- Inform the public of the activities carried out on their behalf, allowing for more user involvement and collaborative decision making.
- Enable the public to better scrutinise the public monies spent

**Arguments against disclosure.**

- There is a public interest in allowing public authorities to withhold information which if disclosed, would reduce providers' ability to compete in a commercial environment.
- The successful providers operate in a competitive market. If prejudicing the commercial interests of the successful providers in the market would distort competition in that market, this would not be in the public interest.
- Disclosure of information may cause unwarranted reputational damage or loss of confidence in the Council.

Having considered the arguments for and against disclosure, the Council has decided that the public interest in this case is best served by maintaining the exemption under section 43(2) FOIA and by not disclosing the information requested.

The decision to withhold the information requested is therefore upheld on the basis that Section 43(2) in relation to commercially sensitive information has been applied correctly.

To advise and assist, we can arrange to get in contact with the CPO to obtain their contact details for you to contact them to request this information directly from them. Please note that the CPO's approval is required to ensure that any sensitive information is appropriately handled and disclosed in accordance with relevant regulations and guidelines.

**2. Alongside this, if you aren't able to provide the data for all of the posts, could you please provide:**

**a) The number of post chargers that haven't been used since installation**

**b) The usage and location of the charger that has the least amount of usage (in kW or time)**

**c) The usage and location of the charger that has the highest amount of usage (in kW or time)**

In response to Questions 2a to 2c we refer you to our response to Question 1b).

However, if you wish to request any additional information beyond what is already available, we recommend that you directly contact the Charge Point Operator (CPO) responsible for managing the charging posts to request the necessary information. We can provide you with their contact details upon request, and it will be necessary to obtain their approval to release any sensitive information in accordance with relevant regulations and guidelines.

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

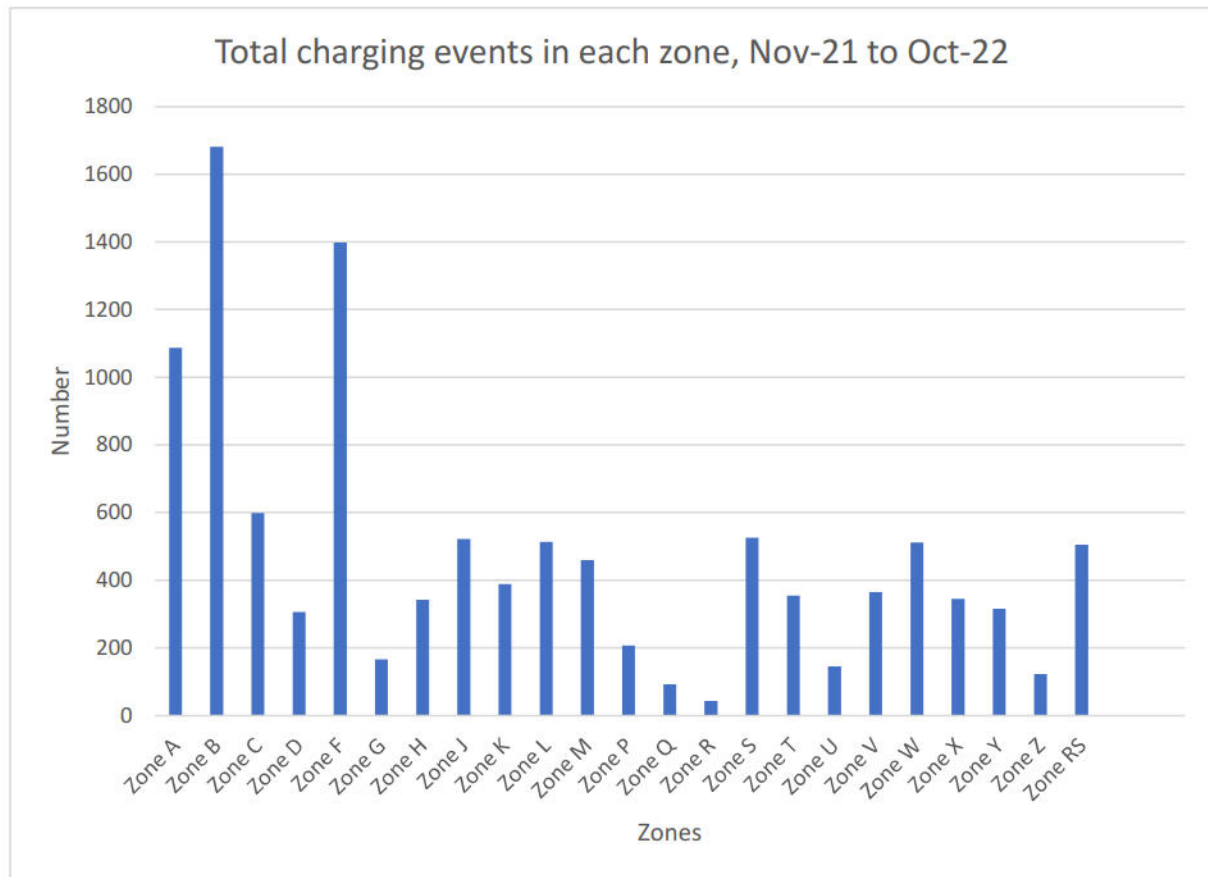
If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**

## Utilisation of Charging Bollards per Zone



Key:

Phase 1		No.	Phase 2		No.	Phase 3		No.	Phase 4		No.
Zone A	Coundon	17	Zone J	Wyken	18	Zone P	Bablake and Radford	32	Zone U	Longford	10
Zone B	Earlsdon	21	Zone K	Lower Stoke	13	Zone Q	Bablake and Holbrook	14	Zone V	Longford	19
Zone C	Cheylesmore	14	Zone L1 & L2	Lower Stoke	19	Zone R	Holbrook	15	Zone W	Henley	36
Zone D	Lower Stoke	5	Zone M	Upper Stoke	20	Zone S	Whoberley	21	Zone X	Wyken	12
Zone F	Chapelfield	15				Zone T	Lower Stoke	9	Zone Y	Radford	4
Zone G	Earlsdon North	4				RS3		11	Zone Z	Rdford	10
Zone H	Walsgrave	18							RS4		18

