

Climate Change Comments

Application No	APP/24/00678
Address	2 Towers Gardens, Havant, PO9 1RZ
Development	Proposed porous hard and soft landscaping improvements to enable EV charging to the existing grass driveway within the Langstone Conservation Area
Case Officer	Kayleigh Taylor
Comments By	Emma Chisnall
Date of Comments	10 th December 2024

Assessment:

This application proposes to install hardstanding on the land to the front of the property in order to facilitate the charging of an electric vehicle (EV) using an EV charging point. The installation of an EV charging point is permitted development.

The council is working proactively to become more conscious of its natural environment, to reduce its carbon emissions and to ensure that new development within the Borough is responding to climate change.

The Councils Corporate Strategy outlines its intention to have a stronger climate agenda which is supported by the Climate motion passed in 2019, the Councils adopted Climate and Environment Strategy and the latest declaration of a Climate Emergency in Havant Borough.

In addition to this, Havant Borough Council also work closely with Hampshire County Council in supporting the delivery of their climate agenda which contains ambitions to increase the amount of EV's within the Borough to support the Government's agenda of moving to electric instead of diesel and petrol cars. Hampshire County Council state on their website and within their strategy that 'Our Climate Change Strategy has targets to reduce carbon emissions. In 2030 there will be a national ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles. So, we are keen to help residents who choose to use Electric Vehicles (EVs) as a more environmentally friendly alternative to traditional petrol and diesel cars'.

In 2019 Havant Borough Council passed a Climate Statement which read 'There are many steps that property owners can take, for example, solar PV/solar tiles, solar assisted water heating, individual room thermostatic heating controls, exterior wall insulation, double/triple glazing, electric car charging points and other low carbon and energy saving measures'.

It is well acknowledged that homes are not currently built to withstand an ever-changing climate. Retrofitting and adapting homes to be more resilient to our changing future needs to be given due consideration and providing EV chargers onsite supports this direction.

Technologies in EVs have grown over the last few years. Benefits include cheaper running costs, improved air quality (by reducing emissions of nitrogen dioxide and particulates) and reduced carbon emissions. Therefore, any proposal to increase the amount of EV chargers in this Borough is supported by both Havant Borough Council and Hampshire

County Councils climate strategies and should be given due weight in any planning decision.

Conclusion:

Adapting properties to be responding to the changing environment and the changes Government will introduce in 2030 should be considered. As such, although the contribution is limited to only one home, the proposal is strongly supported from a climate change perspective. The application to facilitate the installation of an EV charger onsite would support the climate change agenda of Havant Borough Council and would be in accordance with the adopted Climate and Environment Strategy.