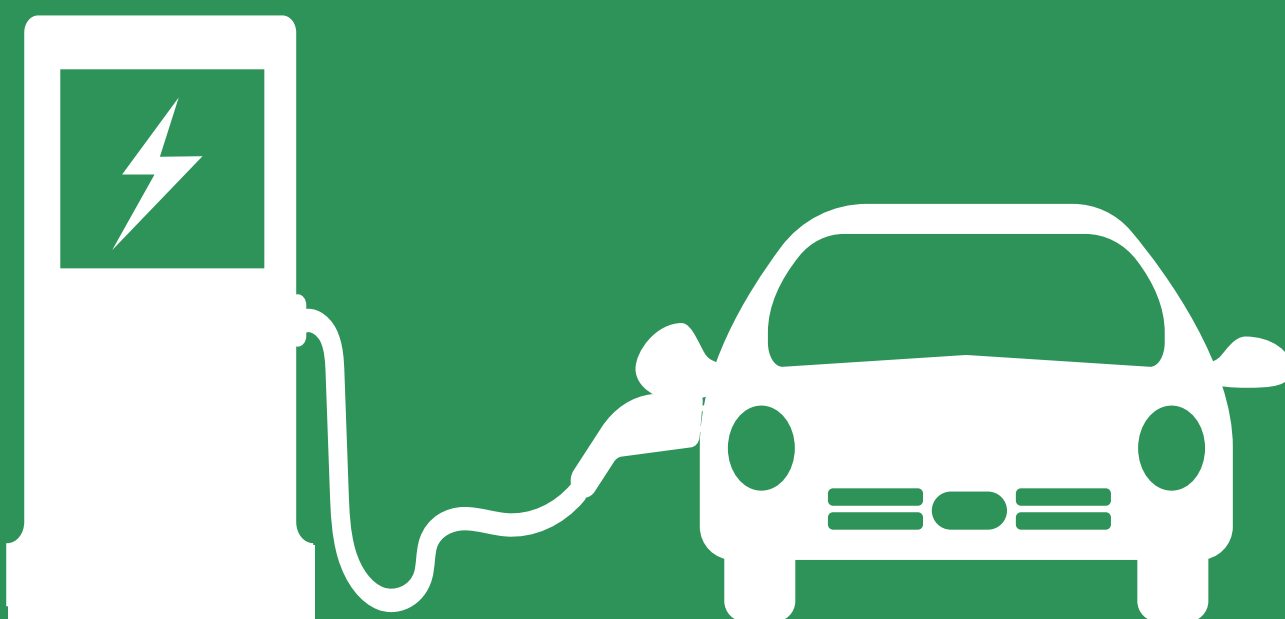


# **Guidance on the use of Cable Protectors for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging**



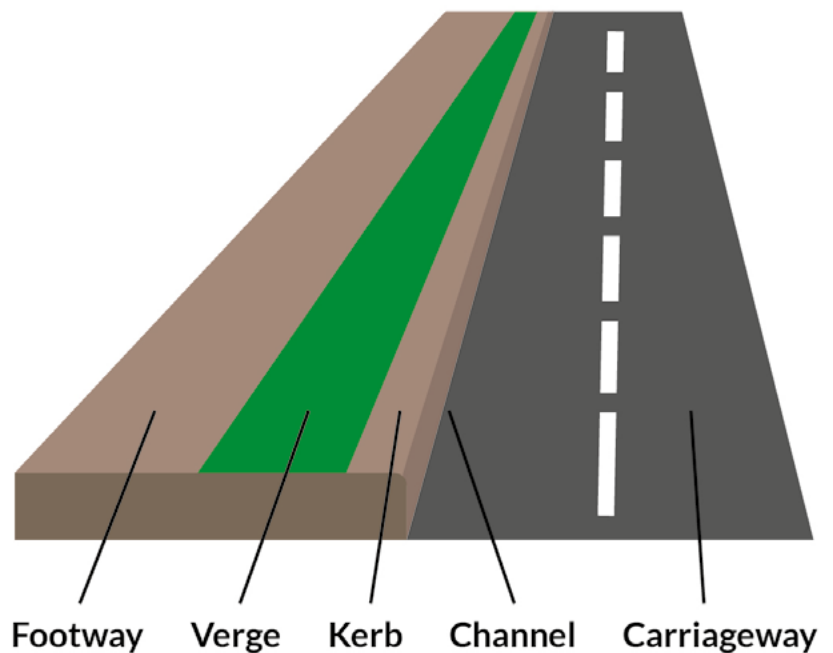
## Introduction

This guidance is primarily for, but not limited to, aid residents without access to off-street parking to charge an EV using their own home electric supply. It is intended to assist residents/users to make informed decisions about how they can charge a vehicle whilst reducing the risk of obstruction or injury to users of the highway.

Charging cables may be placed across footways only if they are housed in appropriate cable protectors. It is important to consider public safety and existing legislation when placing the cable from the power supply in a home to a vehicle. Any legal liability arising from the placement of the cable or protector is the users' responsibility. Users should speak to their home insurer to confirm their home insurance policy cover complies with provision of cable protectors.

### Important information to note:

- It is the users' responsibility to adhere to any local parking restrictions that may be in place and to avoid obstructing the footway or any accesses formal and informal crossings (such as tactile pavements or dropped kerbs).
- It is the users' responsibility to avoid putting themselves and others at risk when placing an electric cable across a public footway or any area where the public may cross.
- Anyone wishing to install a private residential charging point should satisfy themselves, that they have complied with all relevant planning conditions before doing so. Please check with your local planning authority at the district or borough council.



## Parking your vehicle for charging

Vehicles should be parked as close to the property as possible. Where a vehicle cannot be parked immediately outside the property, the cable (housed in the appropriate cable protector), should be run along the carriageway channel against the kerb. The recommended maximum distance from a point outside the property is 10 meters (approximately 2 car lengths).

*The cable must not cross the carriageway. The vehicle should always be parked on the same side of the road as the property it is being charged from.*



## Charging your vehicle

Before charging, users should refer to the vehicle's handbook and instructions for the use of cables, including extension cables. If necessary, seek advice from a qualified electrician before charging.

### Important information to note:

- Only EV charging cables placed within a suitable protector can cross the footway and verge, no other form of electrical cabling or extension leads can be placed on the public highway.
- Cables should be laid flat and never be extended from an upper storey to a vehicle, nor should they be hung from any street furniture including lamp columns or trees.
- The cable protector and cable should only be placed over the footway when the vehicle is charging and should always be removed when not in use.
- It is the users' responsibility to ensure that the cable does not cause a danger or nuisance to the public and that the public highway infrastructure is not damaged.



## Using a cable protector

The most appropriate solution for getting the cable from a property boundary to a vehicle safely is to use a suitable cable protector. Cable protectors are regularly used in public spaces and areas of high footfall to cover cables or wires on a temporary basis. Cable protectors should be visible, durable and laid across the footway as shown in pictures below.





### Important information to note:

- It is the users' responsibility to ensure that the cable protector is used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and is suitable for outdoor use on a public footway.
- Any cable protector used should cover the full width of the footway and verge between the property and the vehicle.
- The cable protector should not create a trip hazard or obstacle for any user including those with mobility difficulties e.g. sight loss, users of wheelchairs and other walking aids and should:
  - a. be non-slip
  - b. have high visibility contrasting colour markings e.g. yellow and black
  - c. have anti-trip sloped sides and;
  - d. be of a tough construction suitable for outdoor use
- Users should remove any cable and cable protector as soon as charging has finished.

## Cable licensing

Currently an EV charging cable does not require a license. However, as policies are reviewed and updated this may change in the future.

A license is required for all other temporary placement of cabling on or over the Highway.

Although no license is currently required, where a location is not suitable then the County Council has existing powers under Section 162 of the Highways Act to seek to have the cable removed. The Council reserve the right to request inappropriately used cables or those which cause obstruction to be removed.

**We will constantly be monitoring the application of this guidance and will review and update as necessary, please ensure you follow the latest version of the guidance.**