



## Is an electric vehicle right for your fleet? A guide from Alphabet.

As electric cars and vans become cleaner, quieter and much cheaper to run than petrol or diesel vehicles, many businesses are starting to think about making the switch.

There's every chance that an electric vehicle (EV) would cover most, if not all of your drivers' motoring needs. But there's more to making the switch than simply swapping from a pump to a plug – so we're here to help you. This brief guide will answer any questions you might have on EVs, so you can choose the option that works best for your company.

And, as one of the UK's largest fleet companies, we have our Alphabet EV advisory team – dedicated experts leading the way on electric cars who know what it takes to keep things running smoothly.

# Is an electric vehicle right for your fleet?

Take our test to find out.

## Going the distance

Do your drivers travel more than 75 miles a day?

- a) Often
- b) Sometimes
- c) Hardly ever

## Power seeking

Are most of your drivers close to EV public charge points?

- a) I don't know
- b) No, over 10 miles away
- c) Yes, less than 10 miles away

## Paying the price

What do you think of today's pump prices?

- a) Bearable
- b) Worrying
- c) Extortionate

## Please, please Mr Taxman

What proportion of your lease costs would you like to be able to deduct against taxable profits from 2021?

- a) I don't know
- b) 85%
- c) 100%

## A place to park

Where do your drivers usually leave their vehicles at night?

- a) Anywhere
- b) On the street
- c) In their driveway or garage

## Clearing the air

Which environmental issue would you most like to help tackle?

- a) Greenhouse gas
- b) Air quality
- c) Both

## How did you score?



### Mostly As.

Don't give up your combustion cars just yet.

### Mostly Bs.

Hybrid or range-extended plug-ins could work better for your fleet.

### Mostly Cs

Your fleet's ready to try electric vehicles

If you've scored mostly Bs or Cs, keep reading and have a look on our website to find out more about electric vehicles: [www.alphabet.co.uk/alphaelectric](http://www.alphabet.co.uk/alphaelectric)

# Why go electric?

If you're reading this, you've probably already thought about incorporating electric vehicles into your fleet – so let's look at their benefits:

## Running cost

Mile for mile, electricity is about five times cheaper than petrol or diesel. Electric vehicles are also mechanically simpler than combustion ones, so servicing them costs less. There is no Vehicle Excise Duty on electric cars, and they are exempt from the London Congestion Charge.

## Sustainability

Electric cars are only as green as their power source. However, renewables like wind and solar provide more and more of Britain's electricity each year. Plug-ins also improve local air quality.

## Emissions

Particles and oxidising gases from petrol and diesel vehicles create health problems in cities. But pure electric cars really are zero-emission at point of use.

## Enjoyment

Electric cars are smooth, responsive, and super-quiet to drive.

## Support

There are grants for buying vehicles and installing charge points. And dozens of websites and apps cater to current and would-be electric drivers.

## Choice

There are over 125 plug-in models available in the UK, including the Nissan Leaf, the BMW i3, the Renault Zoe, the Mitsubishi Outlander, the Kia e-Niro, and the Jaguar I-Pace.



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## Owning an electric car

The differences between ordinary cars and electric vehicles are not just under the bonnet. Owning an EV calls for a fresh outlook for your drivers.

### Purchase price

At first sight, EVs can seem comparatively expensive to buy. But when you look at the total cost of owning one over several years, your drivers are very likely to end up saving money. As well as being much cheaper on fuel, they need less servicing and cost little to tax. And don't forget that most pure electric cars and vans qualify for a government subsidy.

### Range

If people raise the question of electric cars' range, ask yourself how many long road trips your drivers make. The average commute by car in Britain is between 21 and 60 miles per day and the majority of business trips are on average between 40 and 60 miles per day. 80% of drivers in the annual National Travel Survey average less than 35 miles a day. Today's EVs can easily cover 75 miles per charge, so typical day-to-day distances are no problem.

### Charging and parking

Assuming your drivers could park on their property, or by the pavement outside; they'd rarely need to charge their vehicle anywhere else. It is estimated that around 85% of EVs will recharge at their owner's home. Homeowners and businesses can get a grant for most of the cost of installing a high-speed outlet for faster charging. There are three main EV charger types: 'slow' charging units (up to 3kW) which are best suited for 6-8 hours' charging overnight; 'fast' chargers (7-22kW) which can fully recharge some models in 3-4 hours; and 'rapid' charging units (43- 50kW) which are able to provide an 80% charge in around 30 minutes. Rapid chargers also come in two charge point types – AC and DC – depending on whether they use alternating current or direct current.

## Key facts

Public charge points registered (2020):

over 19,500

Government investment

£532 million

Plug-in vehicle grant (towards the cost of pure electric cars):

£3,000

Home charging grant:

£350

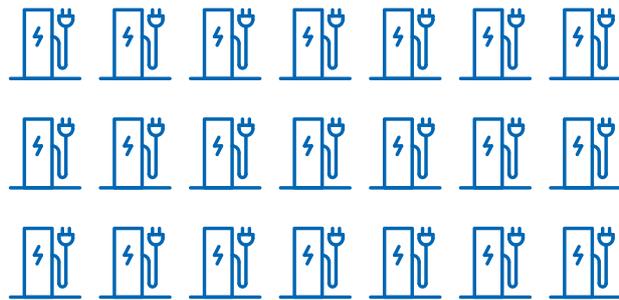


# There are now 19,500 public EV charging points in the UK – over seven times more than in 2011

2011



2020



## The three Ps of plug-in practicality

The UK government is investing millions in infrastructure for plug-in vehicles. In the not-too-distant future, no one will think twice about driving an electric car. But we are not quite there yet. First you need to weigh up the three Ps for your drivers:

### Purpose.

What will your drivers use the car for? How far do they drive on most days? How often do they need to go further than most current EVs can travel between charges? In other words, will an electric car suit their purposes?

### Power.

Where and how will they charge their car? There are more than 34,000 charge connectors at charging points across the UK and the number is rising. It is increasingly common for companies to install charge points for employees

and visitors. Despite the constant focus on public charging points, most electric vehicles recharge in the same place every day. For cars, that is usually the driver's home or their office. Electricity is everywhere – what matters is getting it the last few feet to the car.

### Parking.

Electric car owners need reliable access to a place where they can charge every day. That won't be a problem for people who have private off-street parking. However, four out of 10 car owners in Britain don't. If your drivers are among that number, it might be possible to install a charge point for them at the kerbside. Or perhaps at their usual parking space (grants are available for both). If home charging is impractical, a hybrid or plug-in hybrid might be a better fit for now.



By now you may be seriously considering incorporating electric vehicles. If so, we're here to help.



Find out more about electric vehicles, charging and other mobility services we offer as part of AlphaElectric

Visit [www.alphabet.co.uk/alphaelectric](http://www.alphabet.co.uk/alphaelectric) or call us on **0370 50 50 100**

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