



Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy

Adoption Date:	27 September 2022 by Approval of the Council
Review Date:	27 September 2023 (and every 2 years thereafter)
Version:	1
Division/Department:	Infrastructure and Sustainability – Environment and Sustainability
Responsible Officer:	Team Leader – Environment and Sustainability
HPE CM Record Number:	22/5197

1 Policy Statement

Woollahra Municipal Council is committed to supporting the uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) in the Woollahra Local Government Area. Transport accounts for approximately 20% of all community greenhouse gas emissions (Snapshot Climate, 2021). The transition from vehicles with internal combustion engines powered by fossil fuels to vehicles powered by electricity from renewable sources will enable reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions.

It is our policy that Council support the provision of publicly accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Where electric vehicle charging is provided by Woollahra Council, electricity should be from a renewable source to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and maximise the environmental benefits of the transition to electric vehicles.

2 Application

Aim

The aim of this Policy is to provide Woollahra Municipal Council with direction on the installation of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in order to support and enable the uptake of electric vehicles by the Woollahra community.

This Policy applies to installation of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure on Council owned / controlled properties, including but not limited to:

- Carparks
- Roadside verges

The Policy will be supported by the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy for the Woollahra, Waverley and Randwick Local Government Areas.

Rationale

The Woollahra LGA has one of the highest rates of EV ownership Australia-wide, as such, there is existing demand for public charging infrastructure. This has been confirmed by analysis of usage data for the public EV chargers on the 3 Council Regional Environment Program network, a program that involved the trial of six public electric vehicle chargers across the Woollahra, Waverley and Randwick local government areas. It is expected that demand for publicly accessible charging will continue to grow with further uptake of electric vehicles.

On 24 May 2021 Council resolved that staff develop a policy on the placement of public EV charging stations. Further, on 25 October 2021 Council resolved to take a leadership role at local government level in advocating for rapid electrification of Australia's private vehicle fleet; and to ensure installation of widespread EV charging infrastructure.

In 2021 a community survey was undertaken to ascertain EV charging needs across Woollahra, Waverley and Randwick local government areas. The survey results from 1186 respondents showed that:

- 79% are considering purchasing an EV when they buy their next car
- 86% wanted Council to facilitate more EV charging
- 79% said the increased availability in public EV charging stations in the eastern suburbs would influence their decision to purchase an EV
- 43% don't have access to a garage, carport or parking space where there is a power point or electrical connection nearby.

Site considerations

Key factors in considering locations for public EV charging infrastructure are:

- Areas close to community activity – enable access to charging near sport grounds and other community facilities.
- Areas with limited off-street parking - enable access to charging for residents who do not have off-street parking.
- Proximity to local small business – enable access to short-stay charging for local small businesses and their customers.
- Proximity to electrical supply – ability to connect to an existing electricity supply point.
- Demonstrated current or future demand - locations where EV uptake is high or future uptake and demand is expected to be high, sites will be prioritised that maximise use
- Conveniently located - locations where people visit for approximately 2 hours - to enable convenient charging.
- Impact on streetscape and amenity is minimised – chargers will be installed that are compact and have low visual impact, located in areas where there is ability to incorporate the infrastructure with minimal impact.

Council will support the installation of a range of slow, medium and fast EV chargers to cater for different charging needs. Medium and fast chargers will be prioritised in areas with high parking demand and where short-stay parking occurs.

Signage and promotion

Parking bays allocated to electric vehicles will be signposted using standardised Transport for NSW signage. They will also be clearly marked on the road surface.

EV charging locations will be listed on Council's website and actively promoted through Council communications channels. They will also be listed on mobile Apps such as 'PlugShare'.

Council will provide information about the public EV chargers to the community, and the environmental education program will include content to enhance community understanding about electric vehicles and how to charge them.

Fees and Charges

Fees for use of the Council-owned public electric vehicle chargers are outlined in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule.

Community engagement

The on-street electric vehicle (EV) chargers are installed under the Roads Act 1993. The installation of the associated parking signs for EV on-street parking is reported to the Council's Local Traffic Committee and Council's Finance, Community & Services Committee for consideration and approval. Community consultation is undertaken through letterbox drop outlining the proposal with a copy of a concept plan, and these letters are distributed to affected properties in the area. In addition, corflute signs are displayed on-site to capture other nearby local community members. Consultation is undertaken for a minimum period of 14 days and submissions received are collated in the report prepared to Local Traffic Committee. Members of the public who wish to address the Committee can register with Council staff and speak at the meeting.

Collaboration with other organisations

Council will continue to install EV chargers as part of the 3 Council Regional Environment Program Eastern Suburbs EV Charging Network. Council will also collaborate with other agencies and stakeholders, such as ARENA, to accelerate the installation of EV chargers.

Off-street and private EV charging

Council's Development Control Plan (DCP) includes controls to ensure that electric vehicle charging infrastructure is incorporated into new development, supporting the installation of off-street EV charging.

Council will provide advice and information to residents and businesses about installing private EV charging infrastructure where possible.

Reporting

As per the Council resolution on 11 November 2019, an annual update report will be brought to the Ecological Sustainability Taskforce (EST) on the progress of EV technology and relevant EV provisions. The minutes from the EST will be reported to the Environmental Planning Committee and then to Council.

3 Definitions

Term	Meaning
3 Council Regional Environment Program	Collaborative program between Woollahra Municipal Council, Waverley Council and Randwick City Council to undertake sustainability projects at a regional scale.
DCP	Woollahra Development Control Plan 2015
Electric vehicle (EV)	Vehicle that is powered by an electric motor.
Internal Combustion Engine	An engine which is powered by the burning of petrol, oil, or other fuel with air inside the engine.
Public Road	(a) any road that is opened or dedicated as a public road, whether under the Roads Act or any other Act or law, and (b) any road that is declared to be a public road for the purposes of the Roads Act.
Verge	An area of land between the road and the boundary of a property.

4 Alignment with Local Strategic Planning Statement, Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan, Council's Response to the Climate Emergency

This Policy is in alignment with the Woollahra Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), which includes the following actions:

12. Continue to support and promote use of shared vehicles and electric vehicles in development, on-street and in Council car parks.

49. Continue to support increased uptake of electric vehicles through planning controls and provision of publicly accessible chargers.

This Policy relates to Council's Vision, Mission, Goals and Strategies outlined in the Community Strategic Plan, *Woollahra 2032*.

Council's vision is *a thriving, inclusive, sustainable and resilient community that will benefit future generations*; and Council's mission includes: to lead climate action by *prioritising carbon neutrality, environmental sustainability and community resilience to meet the challenges of climate change*.

Goal: Sustainable use of resources

Strategies: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions; provide support to the community to reduce their environmental impact.

Further, this Policy supports Council's response to the Climate Emergency, which includes an action to install additional on-street public electric vehicle charging stations, and works towards achieving Council's adopted aspirational target of net zero community emissions by 2030.

5 Alignment with State and Federal Documents

This Policy aligns with the following NSW Government and Commonwealth documents:

- NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2021*

The NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy is the NSW Government's plan to accelerate the State's vehicle fleet of the future. It outlines the Government's commitments to increasing the uptake of electric vehicles.

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/climate-change/net-zero-plan/electric-vehicle-strategy>
- Future Fuels and Vehicles Strategy, Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, 2021*

The Future Fuels and Vehicles Strategy is the Australian Government's technology-led approach to reducing emissions in the transport sector.

<https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/future-fuels-and-vehicles-strategy>

6 Documentation / References

	HPE Reference
Woollahra Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 https://shared-drupal-s3fs.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/master-test/fapub_pdf/Local+Strategic+Planning+Statements/Woollahra+LSPS+2020+-+Web+version+-+March+2020_S-980+(4).pdf	

Woollahra 2032 - Community Strategic Plan https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/261514/Community-Strategic-Plan-2032.pdf	
Woollahra Municipal Council Environmental Sustainability Action Plan 2013-2025 https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/124864/Wooll_ES_AP_013proofweb.pdf	14/2435
Notice of Motion - Electric Vehicles https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/250341/Council-Minutes-25-Oct-2021.pdf	21/211185
Notice of Motion - Electric Vehicle Charging Station & Council Fleet https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/250341/Council-Minutes-25-Oct-2021.pdf	21/206430
Council Resolution to develop an Electric Vehicle Policy (included in item R6) https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/242391/Council-Minutes-24-May-2021.pdf	21/97162
Council Resolution regarding annual update to the Ecological Sustainability Taskforce – Item R3 – Public Exhibition of Draft Woollahra Development Control Plan 2015 (Amendment No. 9) – Electric Vehicles: Leading the Way. https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/210933/Council_Minutes_-_11_Nov_2019.pdf	19/182402
SnapShot Climate (2021), <i>Woollahra 2019/20 Municipal Emissions Snapshot</i> https://snapshotclimate.com.au/locality/municipality/australia/new-south-wales/woollahra/#	
Environmental Planning Committee 6 July 2020 and Council 27 July 2020: Report on Council's Response to the Climate Emergency Declaration - included as an action item 'Public electric vehicle charging – install additional on-street public electric vehicle charging stations.' https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/218446/EP_Agenda_-_6_Jul_2020.pdf (pages 369-378) https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/218974/Council_Agenda_-_27_Jul_2020.pdf (page 11)	

7 Related Policies and Procedures

	HPE Reference

As the installation of electric vehicle charging is rapidly evolving, there is a need for this Policy to be agile. As such, after the first 12 months of implementation the Policy will be reviewed. This Policy will be then reviewed every two years or as required in the event of legislative changes. This Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of Council and in the spirit of this Policy.

Any amendment to this Policy must be by way of the approval of the General Manager.

Policy Amendments

Date	Responsible Officer	Description