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**EV FORUM  
MEMBER COMPANIES**

# **ELECTRIC VEHICLE FORUM**

## **Annual Summary | Sept 2020-Aug 2021**

We exist for the benefit of our members - you.

We aim to help in many ways. This year has been far from business as usual but we've been busy on your behalf and hopefully the information here gives a flavour of some of the work we've undertaken over the last year. We would be delighted to hear from you and discuss any issues you may have or talk about how we can help you.

### **EV CHARGING INDUSTRY - YEAR IN REVIEW**

The electric vehicle charging industry has continued to grow at pace, mirrored by the near-constant stream of policy documents, strategies and consultations being published by Government. Global events have played their part in broadening the appeal of electric vehicles, with factors such as the skyrocketing cost and panic buying of petrol and diesel contributing to increased interest, enquiries and, no doubt, sales of electric vehicles. As interest increases beyond "early adopter" consumer groups, the attention of Government and industry is increasingly turning towards delivering a high-quality EV charging network; one that provides a positive consumer experience that is accessible to all areas of society. This is the theme of many recent, current and upcoming policy and consultations.

Industry has expressed strong support for the aims and ambitions of Government - not least its intention to phase out petrol and diesel vehicles by 2035. The voices of our members are being heard loud and clear as we work with Government to achieve these ambitions.

4

**Consultations responded to on your behalf**

20

**Stakeholders regularly engaged with**

10

**Events, meetings and training sessions run and presentations given**

**REA** ELECTRIC VEHICLES

**REA**

# Consultation Response

## CONSULTATIONS

On the face of it, 2020-21 was a quiet year for Government consultations on EV charging. However, this masks the scope of the consultations which has been considerable. In particular, the Future of Transport Regulatory Review consultation, which was effectively four separate consultations bundled into one.

Consultations responded to included:

1. The consumer experience at public electric vehicle chargepoints (closed 10th April 2021)
2. Heavy goods vehicles: ending the sale of new non-zero emission models (closed 3rd September 2021)
3. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions regulatory framework for all newly sold road vehicles in the UK (closed 22nd September 2021)
4. The Future of Transport Regulatory Review: Zero Emission Vehicles (opened 28th September 2021, closes 22nd November 2021)

## COVID-19 - BUSINESS CONTINUITY, RECOVERY AND THE NEW NORMAL

The pandemic has had little appreciable impact on the wider EV charging industry. This may be because the EV charging industry is currently quite future-looking, and therefore the modest reduction in demand during the pandemic was of little consequence to wider industry investment and activity. In the medium term, the pandemic may prove to have an indirectly positive impact on the sector, both because of increased cost of petrol and diesel (which some consider to be a consequence of demand outpacing supply as the global economic recovery picks up pace following the pandemic), as well as an increase in savings and reduction of consumer debt during lockdown. These factors serve to make EVs both a more viable and more attractive option for more households, which in turn improves prospects for the EV charging industry.

From an operational sense, the pandemic has caused the REA EV Forum to meet virtually but, from around July 2021 onwards, meetings with individual members have begun taking place in person and the calendar of in-person events has begun to recover to pre-pandemic levels.

As pandemic restrictions have relaxed over the summer, the REA team has begun to return to the office in a flexible working format.



## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The REA regularly engages with Government and other stakeholders within and related to the EV charging industry. These include:

We are also involved in other groups tackling industry issues including:

- OZEV Local EV Infrastructure Working Group
- BSI PAS1899 (accessibility standards) steering group
- EV Energy Taskforce steering group
- EV Energy Taskforce synthesis group
- EV Energy Taskforce working group 3 (smart charging) and 4 (consumer experience)
- Secretariat for All Party Parliamentary Group for Electric Vehicles
- IET Code of Practice advisory board
- Transport+Energy editorial advisory board
- ITT Hub advisory board
- Future of Transport Regulatory Review workshops



## REA EV STEERING GROUP

The Steering Group drives the agenda of our work and supports us to be able to understand the needs of our members. Tanya Sinclair was re-elected as Chair of the EV Forum Steering Group. The steering group meets usually around four times a year and provide lots of other input via email and phone calls. We really appreciate their knowledge and support.

The Steering Group consists of:

- o Tanya Sinclair - Director of Policy, UK, Ireland & Nordics, ChargePoint
- o Ian Johnston - CEO, Osprey
- o Clive Southwell - Director, UK & Ireland, Greenflux
- o Jerry Stokes - Executive Chairman, Gridserve
- o Tom Lusher - Electric Vehicle Specialist, Drax
- o Christian Hahn - CEO, Hubject
- o Joel Teague - CEO, Co-Charger
- o Andreas Atkins - UK Rollout Manager, Ionity
- o Robert Evans – CEO, Cenex

## REA STRATEGY

Over the past year, the REA has developed and published a comprehensive Strategy document, detailing how to deliver the UK's Net Zero goal and interim targets to get us there. In the Strategy, we have crystallised our view of how the UK can reach the Net Zero target, and how the REA can play a leading role in helping UK industry take the steps to reach this target. Our Strategy is divided into four pillars: circular bioresources, heat, power & flexibility, and transport.

Each pillar has its own impact target based on the REA's analysis of what is necessary and what is possible to reach Net Zero by 2050, and how each pillar's technologies play a role in decarbonising their respective industries. Each pillar also features interim targets, ensuring that momentum is kept up and we can track progress.

The EV Forum falls under the Transport pillar. Over the coming months, REA's Strategy will play a greater role in our organisational structure as we implement it with support from the REA Board and Policy Board who, along with REA staff, were instrumental in developing our Strategy document.



## EVENTS, MEETINGS & TRAINING

We aim to hold a range of events every year to benefit our members. Whilst this year has been affected by COVID-19 so we were not been able to host most of our face-to-face member meetings as we would have liked, the REA Policy team have still managed to hold online webinars, meetings and workshops for our members involved in electric vehicle charging infrastructure. However, as pandemic restrictions relaxed we were 'out-and-about' at events and have met with many of you there.

We have listed the key ones below.

- o EV members forum meetings
- o EV roaming working group meeting
- o Domestic charging installations workshop
- o Smart charging legislation workshop
- o ITT Hub, 30<sup>th</sup> June - 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021
- o Cenex LCV & CAM Show
- o EV World Congress, 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021
- o COP26 UN Global Climate Conference, 1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021
- o Highways UK, 3<sup>rd</sup> November





## OTHER REA ACTIVITY

The REA EV Forum works closely with other REA forums; in particular the Renewable Transport Fuels Forum, the Energy Storage Forum and the Solar Forum. We worked alongside the Renewable Transport Fuels Forum to produce responses to consultations on phasing out diesel heavy goods vehicles and on new CO<sub>2</sub> regulations for new passenger cars and light vans. In doing so, the REA was able to produce balanced responses that asserted how different technologies could be deployed to achieve the greatest short-term reduction in carbon emissions. We continue to engage with the Energy Storage and Solar forums on the topic of integrating EV charging with battery storage and renewable energy generation to unlock greater value and offer increased flexibility to the grid.

REA has member forums covering all things renewable energy and clean technology from Biomass, Green Gas, Energy from Waste, Finance, and Landfill Gas to Electric Vehicles, so if there is something else you are interested in, make sure you are signed up to the correct member forums. Our membership team can help with this, [membership@r-e-a.net](mailto:membership@r-e-a.net).

### Working Groups

The EV Forum currently has no active working groups, but plans are currently being discussed to form working groups that reflect the divergent policy themes that are arising in different areas of the EV charging sector. For example, for AC charging equipment, current policy themes are focussed on smart charging, updates to the current grant schemes for domestic and workplace charging and mandating that EV charging is installed in new and potentially existing buildings. For DC charging, policy themes are increasingly focussing on the consumer experience, market competition and ensuring an adequate provision of infrastructure at strategically important locations such as motorway services and large fuel retailers. By introducing working groups involving members specialised in particular elements of the EV charging eco-system, we aim to make it easier to engage with members in a more targeted way, on topics of greatest relevance and interest to them.



## TALKING TO YOU

We communicate with members mostly through our website and direct email newsletters. We send regular EV Forum e-news and other direct mailings as required. The REA also has a weekly members' newsletter. If you don't receive our communications and would like to, please let us know and we will arrange it for you.

We also communicate directly to members on certain topics, either by phone or by email, where quick input is required or where information comes to light that is of urgent relevance to particular members. We are always happy to hear from our members, please email [jroberts@r-e-a.net](mailto:jroberts@r-e-a.net).

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all members of REA EV Forum, we are here to support you and without you we wouldn't exist. We are grateful for your support and look forward to hearing from you and hopefully seeing you at some of our events next year.

## REA TEAM

