

The Essex County Council (Colchester Borough) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.20) Order 20**

Statement of Reasons

Summary of the Location Essex County Council have considered that the positioning of Electric vehicle (EV) bays and charge points should be designed to be as flexible as possible, to not only ensure good access to the charge points and user experience for drivers, but to minimise the impact on pedestrians and the street character. The bays are all to be located in an urban area, where residents and road users may not have access to off street parking, and where the pavements are wider. The Charge points will be situated 0.45m from the kerb line so as not to impede pedestrians.

Reasons for the Proposed Changes Essex County Council has secured funding from The Office For Low Emission Vehicles and the contractor to deliver these improvements, and in line with the aims of Essex County Council to cut emissions and promote sustainable transport, it is proposed that the parking bays listed above are restricted as electric vehicles only. This will ensure that the electric vehicle charge points are accessible to electric vehicle drivers. The proposed time restrictions will also ensure that electric vehicles will be able to get a sufficient charge, while not occupying the parking bay for more than required.

Benefits of the Proposed Changes Electric vehicles are becoming an increasingly affordable and popular choice for drivers. They do not use conventional fuel but instead utilise an electric motor powered by rechargeable battery packs. Electric vehicles contribute significantly less carbon emissions into the atmosphere than conventionally fuelled vehicles over their life cycle even when the electricity comes from fossil fuels. Furthermore, electric vehicles have zero tailpipe emissions and therefore they will play an important part in improving our local air quality. Having bays located around town centres where only electric vehicles are permitted to park and can be charged should encourage their wider use.