

Barrow electric vehicle charging points 'a success'

[Barrow electric vehicle charging points 'a success' | The Mail \(nwemail.co.uk\)](#)

28th July 2023

[ENVIRONMENT](#)
[LOCAL GOVERNMENT](#)



By [Daniel Pye@danjpyeReporter](mailto:Daniel.Pye@danjpyeReporter)

[Share](#)

[24 Comments](#)

Some of the charging points in Barrow that have been installed in the last year (*Image: Submitted*)

A Cumbrian seaside town has been transformed into a paradise for people driving electric vehicle cars.

AmpEV has installed thirty six 22KW superfast electric vehicle charging points in a variety of public spaces in Barrow.

It is part of Westmorland and Furness Council's continuing drive to improve the air quality for families living in the seaside town.

It is also leading to a boost in visitors, with the council's tourism team busy shouting out to electric vehicle drivers across the UK that Barrow is a forward-thinking and welcoming destination.

The council claims that in the past 12 months, AmpEV's new charging points saved 22,196kg of carbon dioxide and 44kg of nitrogen dioxide from polluting the local environment.

It states that there have been 343 unique drivers using the charging points, and 1,982 sessions during this time. It argues that this is the equivalent of planting 843 new trees through the creation of 118,099 electric vehicle miles.

It also revealed that it has received £16,670.61 in revenue from the new charging points. The council said that the prices from drivers were capped due to European funding supporting the scheme.

AmpEV Managing Director Alasdair Croft said: “The primary objective of our partnership with Westmorland and Furness Council was to reduce their carbon footprint.

“Secondly, they were very keen to make Barrow more attractive for tourism and to give a boost to their local economy.

“This is a really beautiful part of the world. Because of their geographical location, with people having to travel through Cumbria to get to Barrow, they want the way that people get there to be as clean as possible.

“Creating good air quality is a major concern for them.

“Long term, they’d love to see the use of combustion engines travelling through their area reducing substantially, and they can help to do that through making it as easy as possible to support people who want to drive there using electric vehicles.

“It is the way the world is going - Westmorland and Furness is a very forward-thinking council.”

Alasdair has been very pleased with the figures from the last year of operation, and from the response from local residents and visitors.

He said: “The figures for people using the electric charging points have been increasing every month.

“There has been a lovely linear line going up as more and more people get to know about the chargers’ availability.

“The charging points are all over Barrow, mainly in public car parks, and they even have two in one of their cemeteries.

“Our software allows us to watch and analyse the data in real detail. We can even see how many charging points are being used and when, along with the progressive figures towards becoming carbon neutral.

“The numbers we have seen speak for themselves as to how successful this initiative has been.

“Westmorland and Furness Council’s tourism officers are speaking to as many people as possible to let them know that the EV charging points are available to encourage more electric vehicle drivers to travel to Barrow.

“They are really thinking outside the box with what they want to achieve.

Mr Croft revealed that AmpEV even installed charging points on Piel Island to offset the diesel generator previously used by The Ship Inn.

He said: "The motivation to do this is that if the UK is to become a carbon-neutral island, then we have to first work out how to make our smaller islands carbon neutral."