

**STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR PROPOSING**  
**THE BOROUGH OF STEVENAGE (NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRES) (OFF**  
**STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2024**

Stevenage Borough Council is working to provide electric vehicle charge points at locations in local neighbourhood centres in car parks.

To ensure that electric vehicles can access these charge points and they are not obstructed by internal combustion engine vehicles, the council proposes to dedicate the adjacent parking spaces for electric and hybrid plug-in vehicles only.

The need to make parking places orders also presents the opportunity for the council to ensure that disabled persons parking bays are not obstructed by vehicles not carrying a blue badge holder, a known source of frustration for disabled car users who find themselves prevented from accessing local destinations and services or forced to wait causing congestion.

Parking out of bay can also make it hard for other drivers to park and obstruct access to and egress from car parks. The off-street parking places Order would allow that to be enforced against. This Order would further allow the Council to identify parts of the car park for certain other uses and uphold this through enforcement. This means that in the case of future need it would be possible to ensure a given area is reserved for deliveries to be loaded/unloaded, or to reserve space for motorcycle parking. It also means that if in future additional electric vehicle charging points are introduced spaces next to them can be protected to ensure that electric vehicles can access the charging points.

It therefore appears necessary to Stevenage Borough Council to make The Borough of Stevenage (Neighbourhood Centres, Stevenage) (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2024 for the purposes of allowing the effective management of parking at electric vehicle charge points on the highway or Council car parks; relieving and preventing congestion of traffic; and preserving and improving the amenity of the area.

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