

#### **Dear EV Drivers**

Welcome to Ireland's growing community of electric vehicle (EV) drivers. We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful. Below you will find details of the most recent updates from ESB ecars.

This information can also be found on our <u>website</u> where you will find a number of helpful resources, such as a link to the <u>charge point map</u> and <u>user video guides</u> on how to re-charge your electric vehicle.

Stay up to date by liking us on <u>Facebook.</u> You can also find the latest news on our **'ecar connect' app** or website.

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# **Network Upgrade**

Our engineers have replaced 17 older charge points with new multi-standard fast chargers, a number of which are located at Circle K service stations around the country. This work provides more fast charging options for EV drivers of Volkswagen, BMW, Audi, Kia and Hyundai vehicles, which use the "CCS" charging standard.

The locations of the upgraded chargers at Circle K owned service stations are:

- Sexton Street North, Thomondgate, Limerick City, County Limerick
- Airport Road, Tullyvaragh, Shannon, County Clare
- Castlemaine Street (Dublin Road), Athlone, County Westmeath
- Newlands Cross, Fonthill Road (R113), Clondalkin, Dublin 22
- Promenade Road, Dublin Port, Dublin 1
- Finglas Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 11
- Templeville Road, Dublin 6
- Frankfield Service Station, Frankfield Road, Douglas, County Cork

A further nine fast chargers were also upgraded at the following locations:

- Barack Obama Plaza, Moneygall, County Offaly
- Randles Nissan, Muckross Road, Killarney, County Kerry
- Four Lakes Retail Park, Dublin Road, Carlow Town, County Carlow

- Emo Service Station, M9 Junction 10, Main Street, Knocktopher, County Kilkenny
- Londis, Sligo Road, Grange, County Sligo
- Amber Centra Service Station, Rosslare Road, Killinick, County Wexford
- Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh, County Tipperary
- Drinagh Motors, Rosslare Road, Drinagh, County Wexford
- Tobin's, Port Road, Letterkenny, County Donegal

In addition we recently installed a fast charger at the Circle K motorway services area on the M11, just outside Gorey.

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## **High Powered Charging Investment**

On April 5<sup>th</sup> Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Richard Bruton T.D. announced that €20m is being invested in the electric vehicle charge point network. As part of this investment, ESB ecars will build more than 50 high powered charging hubs on motorways and national roads across Ireland. These hubs will be able to charge between two and eight vehicles simultaneously and are capable of providing up to 100km of electric driving range in as little as six minutes.



In addition to the high powered charging hubs, up to

50 locations will see standard (AC) 22kW chargers upgraded to 50kW DC fast chargers, providing additional fast charging capacity around the country. This network will be able to facilitate the public charging requirements of hundreds of thousands of vehicles.

The investment also seeks to replace non performing standard AC chargers. The refurbishment of these older standard chargers is expected to start at the end of the year.

This is a four year investment programme with the first of these high power chargers expected to be installed by the end of 2019. The initiative is 50% financed by the Government's Climate Action Fund with the remainder funded by ESB.

Our engineers are currently conducting an assessment of sites, based on current charge point usage, traffic volume, accessibility, amenities and grid capacity at the sites. The results will help identify and locate the most suitable sites, which will be confirmed to drivers over the course of the four year project.

Click here to find out more.

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## **Customer Survey**

In advance of introducing pricing for the use of the fast charge point network, we would like to gather feedback from our existing EV users on the network and pricing options. We plan to send

this survey to all EV drivers on our mailing list after Easter. We would be very grateful if you could take some time to take part in this online survey and share your views.

We have also been engaging with EV drivers ahead of this introduction, which is planned for later this year. To date, we have been in touch with a representative group of drivers who kindly took part in customer research interviews. We have also met with the Irish EV Owners Association and plan to meet with them again in the near future.



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#### **EV Driving Etiquette**

The increase of EVs on Irish roads is a very welcome development and it has led to a greater demand on our charging network. We would ask drivers to be mindful of other users when charging their car at a public charge point.

Things to Remember:

- Remember to always bring your ESB ecars charge point access card with you on your journey.
- When your charging session is completed, please vacate the charging bay, making way for a fellow EV driver.
- After charging, remember to place the cable securely back onto the fast charger unit.
- Safety first! Never leave a charging cable trailing dangerously on the pavement or roadway.
- Your safety is paramount, if you have a safety concern, contact our 24/7 help line on 01 258 3799 to report it.

You can find more helpful tips at: <u>www.esb.ie/ecars</u>

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