

## BP charges ahead with £1bn expansion of EV network

By [Lem Bingley](#) | Wed 22 February 2023

Energy giant BP has appointed property agency James Andrew International to secure sites for a planned £1bn expansion of its electric vehicle (EV) charging network, *bp pulse*, *Property Week* can reveal.



### Electric car charging points

Source: Shutterstock/welcomia

Stefan von Dobschütz, BP's general manager Europe for future mobility and solutions, told *Property Week* that the company is looking for both leased and freehold sites close to motorways and trunk roads, in major urban centres and residential suburbs, and in major retail and logistics locations, as well as existing car parks.

"We have [petrol station] sites already where we can build charging stations but that's not going to be enough going forward, because 60% to 70% of our charging stations will be off the forecourts by 2030," he said. The expansion reflects rapidly growing sales of EVs,

which accounted for one in every six new vehicle registrations in 2022, according to automotive trade body SMMT.

Von Dobschütz said the firm was interested in both single and multi-site opportunities and would look to purchase land or secure 20-year leases, with BP tackling planning applications, power provision and development.

"We [aim to] not only provide the basic need charging, but all the amenities," he added. "Whether it's a convenience offer, like a restaurant, or another dwell-time [activity] like a kids play zone. So we are looking for greenfield sites and also to piggyback on existing infrastructure like a shopping mall where there is already an offer for the customer, whether it's a B2B or B2C customer."

The smallest sites it aims to develop would be 2,700 sq ft, suitable for 12 EV charging bays, with a sweet spot of 10,800 sq ft sufficient for 12 bays plus a convenience outlet, while larger sites of 43,000 sq ft or more are also being sought to provide trunk-road services and truck charging.