

Wellington Region Electric Vehicle Working Group

Building awareness, accelerating adoption and coordinating development of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure throughout the Wellington Region

Coordination Update #9: April 2021



REVWG Coordination Update #8: April 2021

The Wellington Region Electric Vehicle Working Group (REVWG) is comprised of officers from councils across the region, along with representatives of other interested organisations, and is convened by the Greater Wellington Regional Council.¹ It was formed in 2015.

The group operates as a coordinating mechanism for the promotion of electric vehicles (EV) generally, and in relation to the development of charging infrastructure.

REVWG produces a coordination update every six months which summarises the current state of play and short-term outlook for EVs in the region enabling further planning. It also monitors progress against the recommended strategy for 'Supporting EVs in Wellington Region', created by the group in 2018-19.

The updates cover:

Elements within the scope of REVWGs influence (e.g. charging infrastructure at council operated locations, transition of Council fleets, and public promotion)

and activity relevant to electric vehicle adoption overall (e.g. the development of charging infrastructure by the private sector for private or public use, central government led promotion)

while acknowledging there are barriers and opportunities outside REVWGs scope (e.g. purchase cost and range of EVs available, development of a national charging network).

REVWG meets quarterly and meetings include a public forum which is open to sector stakeholders and interested parties from throughout NZ.

To join the group please email climatechange@gw.govt.nz



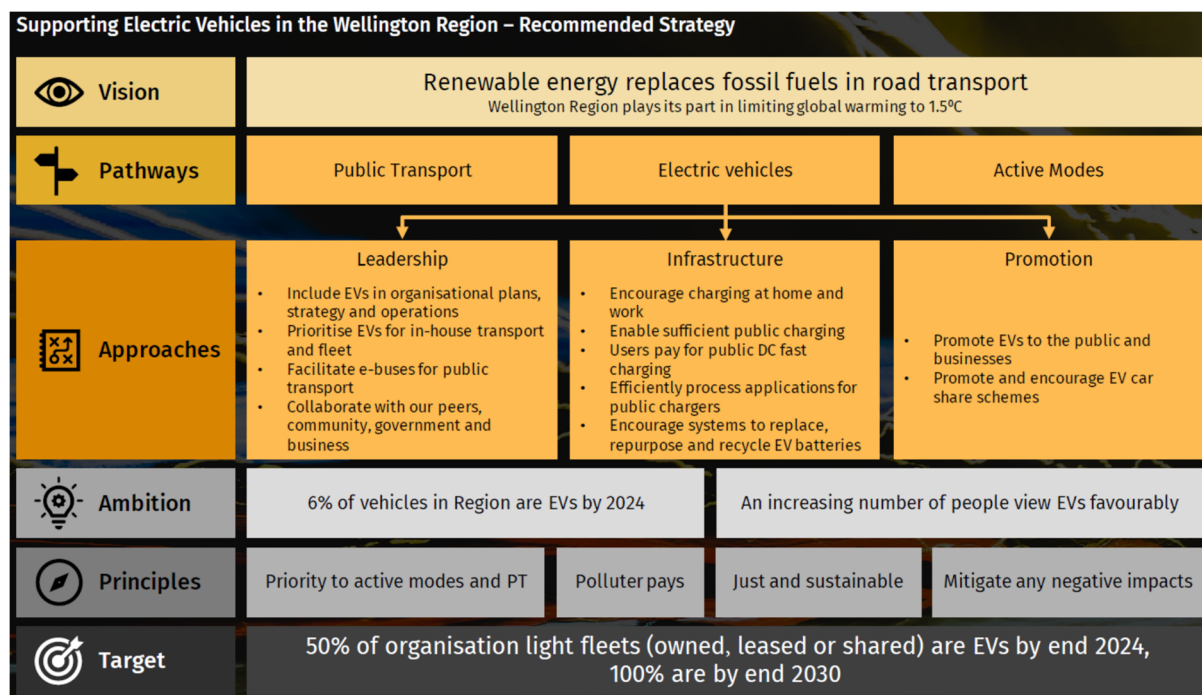
Image: Council boundaries within the Wellington region²

¹ The group is convened by the Greater Wellington Regional Council and includes officers from Wellington, Hutt, Upper Hutt and Porirua City Councils; Kāpiti Coast, South Wairarapa, Carterton and Masterton District Councils. Councils north of the region also collaborate as appropriate. REVWG coordination updates do not constitute council policy or reflect the statutory plans of any council represented.

² Wellington Electricity serves Wellington City, north to Pukerua Bay and Upper Hutt; PowerCo serves the Wairarapa; and Electra serves Paekākāriki and north along Kāpiti coast. These electricity lines companies participate in REVWG.

1. Current objectives & actions

The working group commissioned an advisory report on a strategy on how local authorities and electricity network companies could best support EV uptake for the period to 2024: ‘Supporting EVs in the Wellington Region’ – an advisory report with recommended strategy. The project commenced in late September 2018, and was jointly funded by Wellington Electricity, Electra and all the local authorities in the Wellington Region. The report was endorsed by the Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group on 15 March 2019 for adoption by the council partners. It describes general approaches as well as listing possible actions councils and electricity network companies could take the help support EV uptake. This update document monitors progress towards the levels of ambition and against the targets described in the recommended strategy.



The report can be downloaded here: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Advisory-Report-Supporting-Electric-Vehicles-in-the-Wellington-Region-finalemailres-update29Jan.pdf>

As REV-WG cannot set the policies on behalf of its member organisations, each organisation decides independently which of these actions it will take, and builds these actions into its workplans as appropriate.

2. Current state of play

Table 1: Charging Infrastructure and electric vehicles in the Wellington region

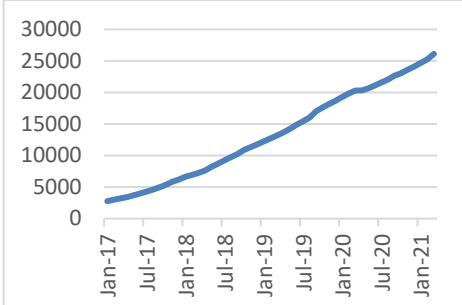
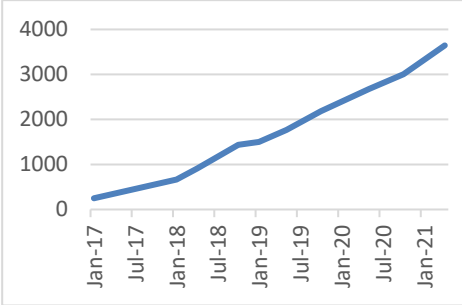
	New Zealand	Wellington Region
Fast chargers³		
Start of 2016	4	0
Start of 2017	33	4
October 2018	132	12
October 2019	165	23
October 2020	230	25
April 2021	264	27
Electric Vehicles (cumulative registrations)	 <p>Start of April 2021: 26,123 EVs</p>	 <p>Start of April 2021: 3,005 EVs</p>

Table 2: EV adoption in council fleets (April 2021)

	Fleet size	Number of EVs in fleet	Change in last six months
Wellington City Council	199	8	0
Wellington Regional Council	150	10	0
Hutt City Council	74	14	1
Kapiti Coast District Council	100	3	0
Porirua City Council	65	0	0
Upper Hutt City Council	32	1	1
Masterton District Council	19	3	0
South Wairarapa District Council	12	0	0
Carterton District Council	15	0	0

Favourability

From EECA Consumer monitor April 2021: 58% of people surveyed view EVs favourably in Jan-Mar 2021 (up from 42% in a survey conducted in Jul-Sep 2016, when people were first asked, and an increase of 3% in the last six months).

³ Number is for individual fast charging locations, some of which have more than one charger at them (e.g. Paraparaumu, The Dowse, and Vivian St locations all have facilities for two vehicles to fast charge simultaneously)

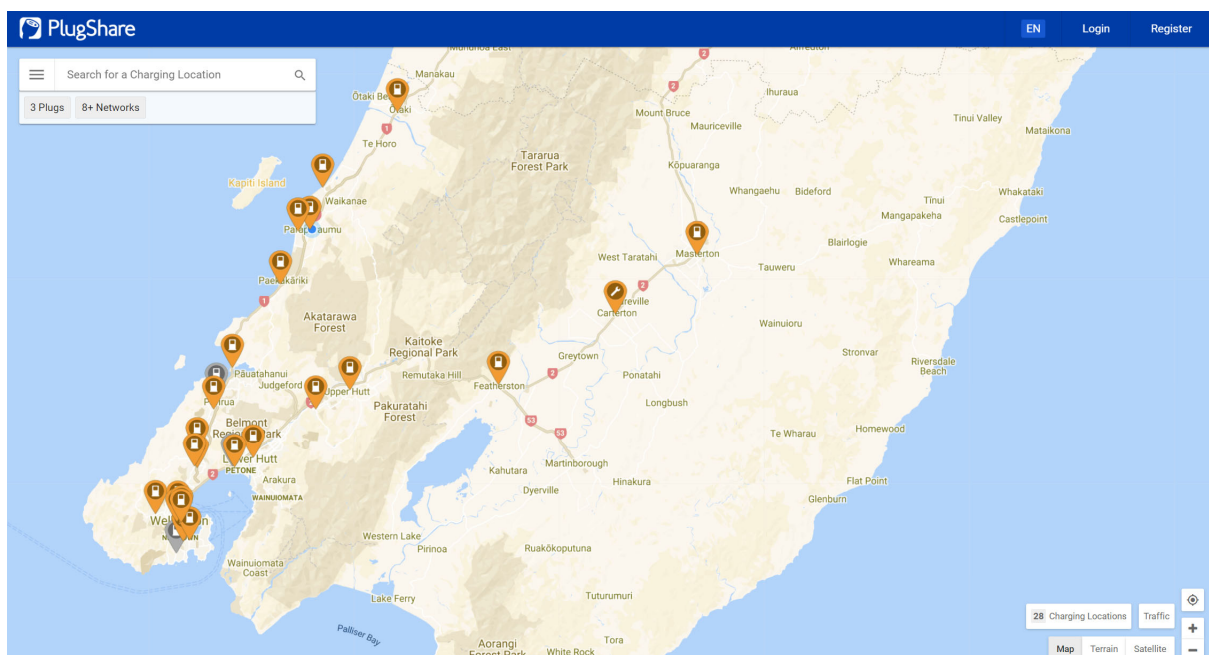
2.1 Key observations and developments (April 2021):

- March 2020 had 918 EV registrations – the second highest month ever for NZ. Some of this can be attributed to the arrival of a new batch of Tesla Model 3s (270 out of 431 new BEVs registered). Also the MG ZS EV added to the spike (59 registered).
- The now dropped target of 64,000 EVs registered in NZ by end 2021 will be missed by roughly 50% (i.e. there will be in the region of 32,000 registrations by year end).

Figure 1: Fast charging infrastructure

Current level of coverage across the Wellington Region (27 locations)

- **Fast Chargers** typically take 25 minutes add 100km of driving. At present, most fast-charging sessions are of this duration or less. All fast chargers in the region are a user-pays service and are activated via the Charge.Net app.
- Carterton and the Wairarapa Coast are the main areas within the region that lack fast-charger coverage at present, but Carterton will soon be getting its first DC fast charger, filling in an obvious gap in the network.
- For people travelling out of the region in EVs, the addition of fast chargers in Shannon (new, operational) and Eketahuna (under construction) will be useful. SH1 is already well served by fast chargers.
- Four 25kW fast chargers have been added at the new library in Johnsonville, and one at Moore Wilson supermarket in Keneperu.

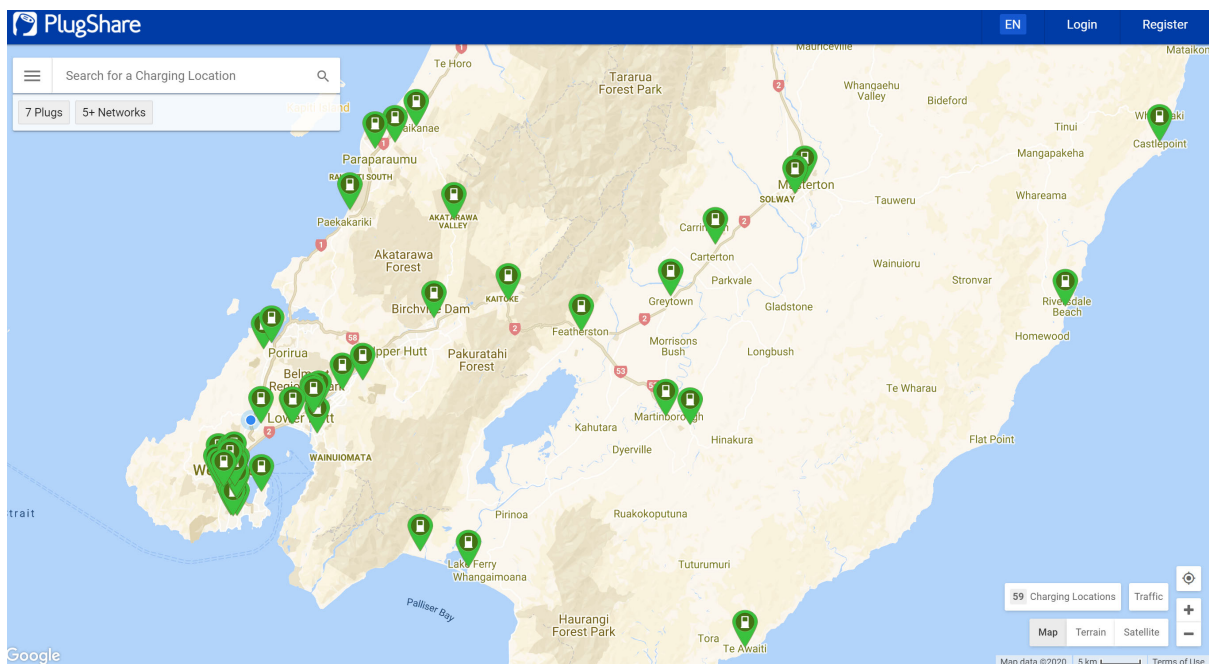


(source www.plugshare.com, accessed on 29-04-2021.)

Figure 2: Slow charging infrastructure

Current level of coverage across the Wellington region (59 locations)

- **Slow Chargers** (also known as AC or standard chargers) typically 4-12 hours to charge cars. This is a mixture of purpose-built charging equipment, 16A caravan sockets, and 8A wall sockets.
- These suit destinations where people are parked for several hours during the day (shopping centres or tourist destinations) or overnight (homes, hotels and campgrounds).
- Usage of such 'public' chargers are often restricted to only the patrons of the business where they are located.
- Because of their long charge times, public slow chargers are less useful than fast chargers. This also means they are mainly provided as a service for visitors (not unlike free wi-fi, free drinking water, or rest rooms) rather than a standalone profit-making activity in the way that fast chargers are.
- At present slow chargers help to fill some geographical gaps in the network, particularly the Wairarapa.
- Well-positioned publicly-accessible slow chargers, where people are already parking for some length of time, help to reduce the stress placed on the fast charging network.
- The map below shows all public 'slow' chargers and camp-ground locations. 8A wall sockets have been excluded. Chargers reserved for the exclusive use of their owners or staff are also not included.



(source www.plugshare.com accessed on 30-04-2021.)