

Media Information
14 February 2024

Yorkshire's National Parks Launch New Electric Vehicle Chargers to Cut Visitor Driving Emissions

- 18 new electric vehicle charger-points have been installed across Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Parks to support zero emission car journeys whilst driving
- New EV chargers are funded by BMW UK as part of its Recharge in Nature partnership with National Parks UK
- Through this partnership, BMW UK is also supporting North York Moors National Park to develop outdoor volunteering programmes for families and young adults

Yorkshire's National Parks (Yorkshire Dales National Park and North York Moors National Park) have announced that 18 new electric vehicle (EV) charging points are now live, funded by BMW UK through its [Recharge in Nature](#) partnership with National Parks UK.

This enhancement of the EV network in Yorkshire is the next important milestone in the Recharge in Nature partnership, which will install EV chargers across all 15 of the UK's National Parks by the end of 2025. The three-year initiative will support the use of electric cars both for visitors and also for those who live and work in the National Parks – and so help to reduce both emissions and noise pollution in these precious landscapes.

Twelve of the new EV charge-points have been installed in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, at the Malham National Park Visitor Centre; the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes; and Grassington National Park Visitor Centre. Meanwhile in the North York Moors, six chargers can be found at Sutton Bank National Park Centre, with an additional six chargers set to be installed at Danby Lodge National Park Centre.

Neil Heseltine, Chair of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and National Parks Partnerships' Board Member, said: "The Yorkshire Dales National Park alone welcomed 5.1 million visitors in 2022. We're so pleased that our partnership with BMW UK will support those who are travelling to Yorkshire's National Parks in EVs, to do so with more confidence. Part of our responsibility as National Parks is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of our Parks¹ and this includes facilitating more sustainable journeys to Yorkshire's National Parks."

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¹ <https://www.cnp.org.uk/national-park-faqs#:~:text=What%20are%20the%20purposes%20of.special%20qualities%20of%20the%20Parks>

The UK has nearly 54,000 public charging points but one third of these are currently in London¹. With 93 million visits² to the UK's National Parks made by car each year, this enhancement of the network throughout National Parks, supported by BMW, means more travel options for those choosing to drive.

Graham Biggs, Corporate Communications Director, BMW UK, commented: "The UK's EV infrastructure rollout is continuing at pace and we need to see this accelerate to reach at least 300,000 charge-points by 2030. It's important that the distribution of these chargers is spread right across the UK and we need to ensure that our countryside is brought up to speed with the bigger cities. Access to nature for everybody is so important and we're pleased to be supporting the Recharge in Nature partnership to enable and encourage this through EV infrastructure, bus services and community engagement programmes."

Alongside the installation of EV chargers throughout all National Parks, the Recharge in Nature partnership is also supporting community impact and nature restoration projects unique to the individual National Parks. The North York Moors National Park is using BMW funding to support outdoor volunteering programmes for families and young adults. The goal is to boost the physical and mental wellbeing of those volunteering and establish a community of committed conservationists. An important aspect of this is also ensuring young people have a say in the National Park's decision-making processes.

Heather McNiff, Head of Outdoor Learning and Engagement at the North York Moors National Park, said: "Historically we have lots of very young volunteers, as well as people aged over 40, but we've struggled to engage individuals that fall between those age brackets. Thanks to BMW UK's funding we're able to support 'Youth Plus', which provides more opportunities for those aged 16 and over to engage with volunteering in the National Park. We're passionate that everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and so BMW's funding also supports young people from disadvantaged backgrounds or those with additional accessibility requirements to access the National Park and its volunteering programmes."

¹ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-67873890>

² STEAM tourism data, 2019 & Aggregated National Parks data, 2018

The BMW Group has set clear CO2 reduction targets across the lifecycle of every vehicle and is constantly seeking new ways to cut emissions. By 2030, the average CO2 emissions per vehicle will be at least halved from 2019 levels. BMW Group was one of the first automotive brands to join the Business Ambition for 1.5°C as part of the Paris Climate Agreement - the most robust commitment to the goal of full climate neutrality, over the entire value chain, by 2050 at the latest. By doing so, the company is also part of the Race to Zero.

For more information about BMW Group UK and the Recharge in Nature partnership visit bmw.co.uk/nationalparks.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2022, the BMW Group sold nearly 2.4 million passenger vehicles and more than 202,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2022 was € 23.5 billion on revenues amounting to € 142.6 billion. As of 31 December 2022, the BMW Group had a workforce of 149,475 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.

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About National Parks UK

- There are 15 National Parks in the UK – 10 in England, three in Wales and two in Scotland.
- National Parks cover almost 10 percent of England, 20 percent of Wales and 8 percent of Scotland.
- Each National Park is administered by its own authority, but that authority does not own all of the land within the Park. They are independent bodies funded by central government to:
 - Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.
 - Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks by the public.
- In carrying out these aims, National Park Authorities are also required to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park.
- National Parks are free to enter and explore and have 104 million visits each year.
- For more information visit www.nationalparks.uk

National Parks Partnerships (NPP)

Working across all 15 National Parks in the UK (Peak District, Lake District, Eryri, Dartmoor, Pembrokeshire Coast, North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales, Exmoor, Northumberland, Bannau Brycheiniog, The Broads, Loch Lomond & The Trossachs, Cairngorms, New Forest, South Downs), National Parks Partnerships (NPP) creates purpose-driven partnerships with the private sector and funders to help protect and improve National Parks for people, nature and climate. Since its inception in 2016, NPP has developed partnerships with some of the world's biggest brands to support the UK's National Parks including BMW UK, Santander UK and Estée Lauder Companies UK & Ireland. Working with global impact firm Palladium, NPP launched Revere: Investing in Nature to deploy green finance at an unprecedented scale in National Parks and has an in-house Nature-Based Solutions team that supports National Parks to do more for nature. Find out more at: nationalparks.uk/national-parks-partnerships or follow "National Parks Partnerships" on LinkedIn.

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