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UK Invests £63m to Expand Electric Car Charging.

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The UK government has announced a £65 million package to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure, aiming to improve access for drivers and businesses and support economic growth.

The investment is intended to break down barriers to electric vehicle adoption and expand charging access across the UK. A significant portion of the funding will support the installation of on-street chargers in residential areas, particularly for households without driveways. This approach will enable more residents to access lower-cost charging,

potentially saving drivers up to £600 to £800 per year compared to fuelling petrol or diesel vehicles.

For the National Health Service (NHS), which oversees public healthcare in England, £8 million has been allocated to help electrify fleets across more than 200 facilities. Officials claim this transition could yield millions in long-term savings that might be redirected toward patient care. While these measures promise economic benefits, critics have noted that similar past initiatives have struggled with delays and uneven delivery, raising questions about whether this new funding will be efficiently managed.

In addition to residential charging, the government plans to launch new grants to help businesses install charging infrastructure at depots nationwide, a move positioned as support for the freight and logistics industry. The United Kingdom's freight sector alone employs over 1.2 million workers and is considered critical to maintaining economic resilience amid global uncertainty.

The announcement builds on previous commitments, including a £400 million investment in charging infrastructure and updates to the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandate, which sets targets for automakers to sell more electric vehicles over time. As part of the strategy, officials have also pledged to modernise signage on major roads to make public charging stations more visible, acknowledging that a lack of clear information has discouraged some consumers from switching to electric vehicles.

Edmund King, president of the Automobile Association (AA), welcomed improvements to road signs, stating, "There are more public chargers than people realise, but they are often hidden in plain sight. Increasing signs for the public network are vital to help the electric vehicle transition." Delvin Lane, chief executive officer of InstaVolt, which operates one of Britain's largest public charging networks, praised the move as a way to improve consumer confidence in the market.

The Transport Secretary, Heidi Alexander, asserted that the funding demonstrates the government's intention to make electric vehicles more accessible and affordable. However, some industry voices continue to caution that without streamlining planning and delivery, new funding risks replicating old inefficiencies.

As of June 2025, there were over 82,000 public charge points across the UK, and in 2024, more than 315,000 battery electric vehicles were sold, positioning the UK as a major market

for clean transport. Still, the success of this program will depend on execution rather than announcements alone.

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