

Plugging into the Future

Helping Wales access the EV revolution Safely

March 2022

This **Electrical Safety Week Wales**, 14 – 20 March 2022, the charity Electrical Safety First is highlighting Electric Vehicles (EVs) and the importance of charging safely. Our research revealed that **almost 75% of EV drivers**¹ have charged their car in a risky manner, some using extension leads in the rain which **poses a risk of fire and electric shock**.

Charging an EV at home is the most convenient way to charge, but many without off-road parking are unable to do so safely as they are faced with barriers to installing a dedicated charging point. This is particularly the case for those living on terraced streets or in flats.

Electrical Safety First is concerned that without **enough reliable, convenient public charging points** across Wales, many EV drivers will resort to charging their car from a domestic socket, despite the safety risks- even if it means running an extension lead across a footpath in the rain.

To prevent this, Local Authorities must work closely with the Welsh Government to ensure that every Welsh EV driver is able to charge safely by providing solutions and infrastructure based on local need, such as on-street chargepoints or charging hubs.

We call on MSs to work with Electrical Safety First to ensure their constituents are aware of the risks associated with unsafe charging and discuss what more can be done at both a national and local level to ensure that everyone that needs it has access to safe EV charging.

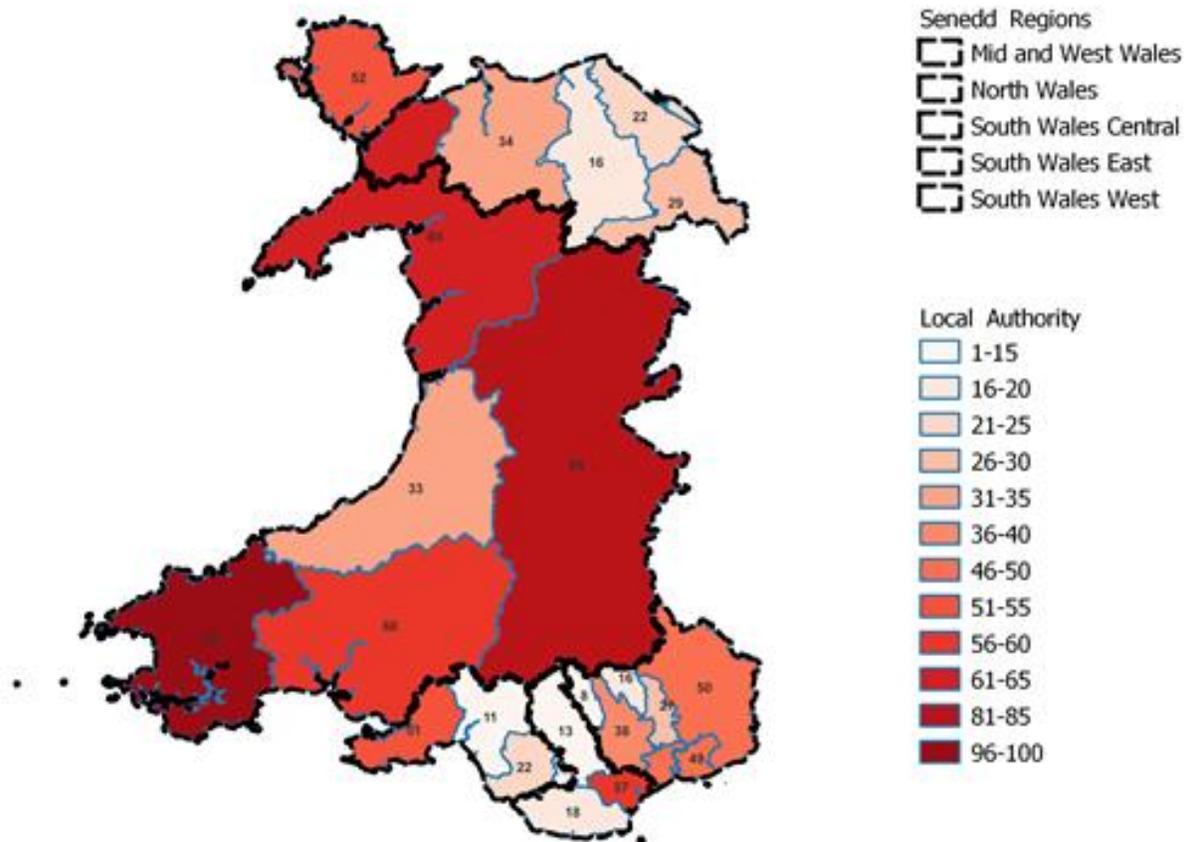
Key Messages

- Without access to reliable, convenient public charging, many EV users will be forced to resort to risky methods of charging their cars – **74% of EV users** have admitted to using **unsafe methods**.
- Many homes cannot install their own dedicated EV charger, such as those living in terraced housing or in flats and are more reliant on public chargers.
- Electrical Safety First calls upon Senedd Members to call on the Welsh and Local Government to expand national and local public charging networks to reduce risky charging practises.
- Support should be focused on areas where existing charge point deployment is particularly low. Consideration should be given to undertaking a mapping exercise to ensure that the deployment of future projects is co-ordinated, and that a further disparity by geography is not created.

¹ Consumer research conducted by Electrical Safety First in 2021



Public Chargers in Wales



About Electrical Safety First

Electrical Safety First is the UK charity committed to reducing the number of deaths, injuries and accidents caused by electricity in the home. To support our mission, we run Electrical Safety Week Wales which aims to help protect people from electrical risks in Wales.

Contact Details:

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