## The LEVI Fund - A UK Case Study

## Summary

The Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund (**LEVI Fund**)<sup>1</sup> is a UK government initiative aimed at accelerating the deployment of electric vehicle (**EV**) charging infrastructure. The program subsidises the roll out of on street charging (typically AC <22kW) for drivers without access to off street parking.

- Funding: £380.8M over 2 years currently scheduled to sunset in 2025.
- High level structure of scheme:
  - Two funding streams to subsidise infrastructure and sponsor capability growth in local councils - <u>capital</u> to subsidise council's buying and installing charge points (~90%), and <u>resource/capability</u> funding to support local authorities to hire and develop their capability to plan, procure and manage EV charging infrastructure projects (~10%).
  - Support body for technical expertise, data and capability training The LEVI Support Body, made up of the Energy Saving Trust, Cenex, and PA Consulting, offers comprehensive support to local authorities in funding, procurement, project monitoring, and knowledge sharing. This includes formal training programs<sup>2</sup> for council staff and an open data platform with essential EV charging planning data.<sup>3</sup>
  - Capital allocation prioritises equity and need method takes into account charge point density, socio-economic index, rurality and EV uptake.<sup>4</sup>
  - Scheme structured to promote private investment through competitive tenders concession contracts allows private operators to fund, install, and manage the charge points, with authorities awarding contracts based on value and alignment with public needs (typically 15 year term). This structure mitigates risk for local councils while promoting sustainable, long-term investment in EV infrastructure by creating revenue-sharing opportunities for private operators.
- Maturity: The scheme is mature.
  - 100% of the funds have been indicatively allocated and ~50% approved for payment.
  - As at July 2024, the ORCS scheme<sup>5</sup> which preceded LEVI has delivered **9,972** charge points since 2017, with a further **11,533** charge points in pipeline.
  - A recent House of Lords public inquiry into the UK's EV Charging strategy found the LEVI program to be effective.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> LEVI information pack available <u>here</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For example this <u>10 week EV Infrastructure delivery course</u> for local council staff.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For example the <u>NEVIS platform</u> which provides charge point location density, energy demand and grid capacity amongst other critical planning data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Department for Transport. <u>Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Funding Allocation Methodology</u>. GOV.UK, 7 September 2023, Accessed 24 October 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See here for description of program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> House of Lords Environment and Climate Change Committee. <u>EV Strategy: Rapid Recharge Needed.</u> 1st Report of Session 2023–24, HL Paper 51, ordered to be printed 24 January 2024 and published 6 February 2024.