



## DRAFT PRESS RELEASE — NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

# The AA and Zapmap join forces to boost EV charging experience on the road

## Electric Vehicle charge points now visible on the AA App

The UK's largest motoring organisation, The AA, has formed a strategic partnership with Zapmap, the UK's leading public charging app for electric vehicle (EV) drivers, to help AA members stay charged up.

The exclusive motoring organisation partnership means AA members using their AA App will be able to access Zapmap's market leading charge point data, enabling drivers to discover the best place to charge, and check real-time availability.

With over 85,000 charge points mapped, Zapmap provides the most comprehensive data on charging locations, type, cost and availability. The recent award of the Department for Transport contract to deliver Electric Vehicle ChargePoint Open Data serves as a validation of its expertise.

This vital addition to The AA App now means the App is a comprehensive one-stop shop for drivers to go to one place to:

- find a charger
- plan a route
- find parking
- compare petrol prices
- report a breakdown
- catch up with motoring news

The AA App already maps pump prices around the UK, a service used by thousands of drivers daily as they seek the cheapest petrol and diesel. This is the first step in the strategic partnership, with the AA and Zapmap also exploring new ways they can combine to help accelerate the shift to electric.

While AA call-out statistics show that only 1.85% of all EV breakdowns are due to running out of charge, understanding the public charging infrastructure and having ready access to plan and pay tools is a key factor in ensuring that EV drivers avoid otherwise unnecessarily call-outs.

**Nick Edwards, AA Chief Digital Officer**, said: "Many drivers already use The AA App to find petrol and compare prices, so we are delighted to link up with Zapmap so that EV drivers can now track and locate the widest range of charge points in the UK.

"Our role is to create confidence for drivers and we know from our <u>research</u> that prospective and current EV drivers want more certainty about where they can charge. The Zapmap partnership delivers this.

"The AA is helping drivers adapt to the EV transition with more patrols trained to work on EVs; an incredibly high EV roadside fix rate (88%); and an innovative free-wheeling hub to help tow those few EVs that can't be fixed.

"We are pleased to be working with Zapmap so that AA members can have the definitive guide to EV chargers at their finger tips via The AA App."

**Richard Bourne, CEO of Zapmap** added: "We're delighted to be working with the AA to bring additional services to their substantial base of EV driver members. This agreement leverages Zapmap and The AA's mutual goal to make the EV driving experience simple, accessible, and stress-free for all.

The AA will now be able to show its customers all types of chargers from high-powered en-route chargers, to destination chargers where you can charge while you stop, to near home charging for those who do not have access to off-street charging. Having clear visibility of all these options helps make the next wave of EV drivers confident to make the switch."

The AA recently published the UK's first **EV Readiness Index**\*\* which shows that many drivers still need considerable support before making the transition and this major enhancement to The AA App is another step along that road.

The AA app can be downloaded from the App Store and Google Play.

- ENDS -

#### **Media contacts**

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#### **Notes to Editors**

- \* <u>DfT awards Zapmap contract to deliver Electric Vehicle Chargepoint Open Data -</u> Zapmap
- \*\* AA UK EV Readiness Index | AA

Comprehensive AA member and driver insights on EVs can be found here: <a href="https://www.theaa.com/about-us/newsroom/aa-ev-viewpoint">https://www.theaa.com/about-us/newsroom/aa-ev-viewpoint</a>

Zapmap's statistics and insights on the public charging infrastructure can be found here: <a href="https://www.zap-map.com/ev-stats">https://www.zap-map.com/ev-stats</a>

## About the AA

The AA is the UK's leading provider of roadside assistance serving 14 million members with approximately 2,700 patrols attending an average of 9,000 breakdowns daily. We are rated by drivers as the first choice for electric vehicle breakdown, with the best trained breakdown assistance workforce providing national coverage for EV assistance. We have the largest EV trained workforce in Europe and are dedicated to ensuring our patrols are EV ready. All of our patrol force is EV Level 1 trained, and we refresh knowledge every 5 years. Some 99% of our patrol force are Level 2 EV trained. We dealt with 150,000 EV breakdowns last year which represents just over 4% of our workload and we fix more than 88% of EVs at the roadside. Despite driver concern about "running out of charge", we actually see fewer than 2% of EV breakdowns due to the vehicle being 'out of charge', which is trending down to the figure we see for internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles running out of fuel. We also provide customer support to the majority of the leading charge post operators, giving us further insight into the challenges and opportunities of our charging infrastructure.

For our own fleet, we have an ambitious programme to 'test and scale' an array of alternative fuel vehicles from full electric recovery vehicles, plug-in hybrid vans and expanding our use of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) instead of diesel.

The AA's mission is to create confidence for drivers now and for the future — anticipating drivers' needs since 1905 and striving to be always ahead. The AA provides services across its roadside businesses from AA Driving School and BSM, to DriveTech, the leader in driver education. In addition, AA Smart Care provides bookings for MOTs, maintenance, service and repair in AA certified garages. AA Cars is a trusted vendor of used cars with free history checks and breakdown cover. The AA's insurance broker offers motor and home policies, operating a diverse panel of underwriters including the AA's in-house underwriter, plus AA Financial Services and Accident Assist. The AA continues to invest in connected car innovation and digital services

## **About Zapmap**

Zapmap was founded in 2014 with a mission to to accelerate the transition to low emission mobility by helping people switch to electric vehicles. The Zapmap app helps EV drivers find and pay for public charging with confidence and has over one million registered users. This is powered by Zapmap's charge point data with unrivalled coverage, detailed information and 24/7 live availability data.

For more information, please visit www.zap-map.com