MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

# Planning

## Growth & Development

## Delegated officer report for planning application

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| **Application no.** | 143309/FH/2025 |
| **Date registered valid:** | 8 August 2025 |
| **Proposal:** | Installation of an electric car charging point |
| **Address:** | 7 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN |
| **Ward(s):** | Chorlton Ward |
| **Applicant:** | Mr Christopher Bowers |
| **Agent (if any):** | |
| **Case officer:** | Jake Walther<br>Tel: 0161 234 1632<br>Email: jake.walther@manchester.gov.uk |
| **Recommendation:** | Approve |
| **Date of recommendation:** | **29/09/2025** |

**Application details**

**Type of application:** Full Householder Application

**Development type:** Householder

**Standard consultations:**
Printed: 12 September 2025 Expired: 3 October 2025

**Neighbour notifications**
Printed: 12 September 2025 Expired: 3 October 2025

**Site notice**
No site notice has been produced

**Press advert**
No press advert had been published

**Departure from Development Plan:** No

**Environmental Statement:** Not required

**Description of site/building**
The application relates to a two-storey mid terrace property on Thornbridge Avenue in Chorlton. The property is finished in red brick with matching brick mid-level boundary treatment to the front.

**Listed building:** Not applicable

**Conservation area:** Not applicable

**Tree Preservation Order:** Not applicable

**Description of area**
Thornbridge Avenue is a residential cul-de-sac adjacent to Beech Road Park. The street comprises of terraced and semidetached 2/3 storey family dwellings.

**Description of development**
The applicant is seeking permission for the installation of a EV charger to the front of the property.

**Consultations & Notification Responses**
Highways – No objection to the proposal. Advise the informative below.

Neighbours, as per appendix 1 – No comments or objections received.

**Policy**
The following policies are considered relevant in the considerations of this application.

The Manchester Core Strategy Development Plan Document 2012-2027 - The City Council adopted the core strategy on July 11, 2012. It is the key document in the Manchester Local Plan. The plan determines how Manchester will grow and forms the framework that planning applications are assessed against. We consider the following Core Strategy Policies relevant to this proposal.

- Policy DM1 – Development Management
- Policy SP1 – Spatial Principles
- Policy EN1 – Design Principles and Strategic Character Areas
- Policy T1 – Sustainable Transport

Places for Everyone

Places for Everyone (2022-2039) – Places for Everyone is a long-term plan of nine Greater Manchester districts for jobs, new homes, and sustainable growth. It has been published by the GMCA on behalf of the nine districts and took effect and became part of the statutory development plan on March 21, 2024.
The following policies are relevant:

- JP-S1- Sustainable development
- JP-S2 – Carbon and energy

The National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024)

The document sets out the Government's Planning Policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. At the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development in terms, "For plan-making" and "For decision-taking", (paragraph 11).

Paragraph 8 - Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives):

- an economic objective
- a social objective and
- an environmental objective.

The following specific policies are considered to be particularly relevant to the proposed development:

- Chapter 8. Promoting healthy and safe communities.
- Chapter 12. Achieving well-designed and beautiful places.

**Principal**

The installation of an electric vehicle charger on the front elevation of the property is acceptable in principle and aligns with the objectives of Policy T1 of the Core Strategy, which supports low-carbon modes of transport. However, careful consideration must be given to the potential impact of the charger on visual amenity and public safety.

**Visual Amenity**

Given the modest size of the charger unit measuring 230mm in height, 140mm in width, and 100mm in depth and its placement approximately 1 metre above ground level on the front wall beneath the bay window of the property, it is not considered that the installation adversely affects the visual amenity of the area. As such, the charger is deemed to have a minimal impact on the street scene and visual character and is therefore considered to be in accordance with Policies DM1 and EN1 of the Core Strategy.

**Highways Safety**

The proposed charging unit is to be wall mounted, within the curtilage of the property and would not pose any risk to public safety as it does not project directly onto the public highway. However, the trailing of the cable over the public highway does pose risks to public safety, subsequently Manchester City Council Highways Services have published guidance in relation to the safe use of cables across the public highway which should be adhered to as stated in the informative attached with this decision notice.

**Conclusion**
Given the above issues, it is considered that the proposed EV charger is acceptable in terms of its impact upon visual amenity and public safety in accordance with policies SP1, DM1 and T1 of the Core Strategy, and chapters 8 and 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

**Other Legislative Requirements**
**Equality Act 2010**
Section 149 (Public Sector Equality Duty) of the Equality Act 2010 requires due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act and; Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The Equality Duty does not impose a legal requirement to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment. Compliance with the Equality Duty involves consciously thinking about the aims of the Equality Duty as part of the process of decision-making.

**Human Rights Act 1998 considerations**
This application needs to be considered against the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998. Under Article 6, the applicants (and those third parties, including local residents, who have made representations) have a right to a fair hearing and to this end the local planning authority must give full consideration to their comments.

Protocol 1 Article 1, and Article 8 where appropriate, confer(s) a right of respect for a person's home, other land and business assets. In taking account of all material considerations, including Council policy as set out in the Core Strategy and saved polices of the Unitary Development Plan, the Director of Planning, Building Control & Licensing has concluded that some rights conferred by these articles on the applicant(s)/objector(s)/resident(s) and other occupiers and owners of nearby land that might be affected may be interfered with but that that interference is in accordance with the law and justified by being in the public interest and on the basis of the planning merits of the development proposal. She believes that any restriction on these rights posed by the recommendation given is proportionate to the wider benefits of and that such a decision falls within the margin of discretion afforded to the Council under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

**Recommendation:** Approve

**Article 35 Declaration**
Officers have worked with the applicant in a positive and proactive manner based on seeking solutions to problems arising in relation to dealing with the planning application. No significant problems have arisen during the consideration of this application and the application has been determined in a timely manner, in accordance with the policies with the Development Plan.

**Condition(s) to be attached to decision for approval OR Reasons for recommendation to refuse**
**1. 3-year time limit:**
The development must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason - Required to be imposed pursuant to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

**2. Specified plans:**
The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the following drawings and documents:

a. Drawing - Location Plan – 26 June 2025

b. Supporting information, Photos – 28 August 2025
c. Supporting information – Technical specs – 28 August 2025

Reason - To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans, pursuant to policies DM1, SP1 and EN1 of the Core Strategy.

**3. Specified materials:**
The materials to be used on the external surfaces of the development hereby permitted shall match those as specified on the application form and supporting information in type, size, colour, and texture.

Reason - To ensure the appearance of the building to be extended is not adversely affected by the materials to be used in the construction of the structure. Pursuant to policies DM1, SP1 and EN1 of the Core Strategy.

**Informative:**
Residents are recommended to park adjacent to the location of the charging point and required to use matting on the adopted highway to maintain safe pedestrian movement. Once the vehicle has been charged, residents will be required to remove the matting.

Further information on EV charging can be found on the council's website using the below link:

https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500370/zero_carbon_and_climate_change/8437/electric_vehicle_charging/2

**Appendix 1 – List of consultees & neighbours notified**

Highway Services
23 High Lane, Manchester, M21 9DJ
The Manchester Centre For Buddhist Meditation, 21 High Lane, Manchester, M21 9DJ
8 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN
5 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN
9 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN
6 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN
10 Thornbridge Avenue, Manchester, M21 9DN

**Appendix 2 – Planning constraints**

Article 4 Direction - Removal Of PD Rights Change Of Use From Class C3 To Class C4
Susceptible to Surf Water Flood (Less) -
Susceptible to Surf Water Flood (Middle) -
Area Team Boundary - Name: SOUTH AREA