

EPPV's - E-Bikes, E-Scooters

Policy 051

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Policy is to provide information to all tenants and leaseholders on storing and/or charging Electric Powered Personal Vehicles (EPPV's) within GHA properties or buildings.

Electric Powered Vehicles includes, but is not limited to e-bikes, e-scooters, and mobility scooters. The use of EPPV's is increasing and so too are the number of fires they are involved in.

The **lithium-ion batteries** in EPPVs can hold a significant amount of energy and can expel this in the form of a very hot localised fire, or in some rare cases an explosion. These fires or explosions can occur when the battery is damaged or charged incorrectly.

This Policy is intended to keep tenants and GHA buildings safe.

2. Where You Can Store and Charge









EPPVs may be stored and charged:

- ✓ In a designated storage or charging area (if provided)
- ✓ Extra Care please store at the "buggy Stores"
- ✓ Outside the building
- ✓ Inside your home – if it does not block any exits

3. Where You Must NOT Store or Charge

EPPVs must not be stored or charged:

DO NOT charge EPPVs in locations that may block or impede escape routes.

-  In corridors or communal areas
-  On stairs or escape routes
-  Near doors or exits
-  In cupboards or enclosed spaces
-  In electric meter room
-  In any plant rooms or service areas
-  In underground or enclosed car parks
-  That could block or restrict escape in an emergency.

 **These areas must always be kept clear in case of fire.**

Important Safety Rule

Never store or charge your device where it could block your escape in an emergency.

4. Safe Charging Rules

When charging your EPPV, you must:

- ✓ Follow the manufacturer's instructions at all times
- ✓ Use the correct charger
- ✓ Only use chargers and batteries from reputable suppliers
- ✓ Follow the manufacturer's instructions
- ✓ Charge on a hard, flat surface (not on beds, sofas, or carpets)
- ✓ Stay in the same room while charging and check regularly
- ✓ Unplug when fully charged
- ✓ Keep batteries away from direct heat (Radiators, heaters, sunlight, flames)

Never Do This

- ✗ Do not charge overnight or while you are asleep
- ✗ Do not leave charging unattended or cover the charger (unless in a designated charging area)
- ✗ Do not use overload sockets or use extension leads or adaptors
- ✗ Do not charge a damaged battery. Signs include swelling or bulging, strange noises, or a strong smell
- ✗ Do not tamper with or modify batteries or chargers
- ✗ Avoid using second hand or unbranded chargers
- ✗ Do not charge near your front door
- ✗ Never charge near anything flammable

5. Maintenance


- EPPVs must be maintained in line with the manufacturer's instructions including servicing regularly
- Any EPPV that has been damaged or tampered with must not be stored or used on GHA property
- Damaged batteries must not be used or charged and must be disposed of safely in line with the Guernsey Waste & Recycling Centre, Longue Hougue. If unsure always call GSY waste 01481 235300.

 If disposed wrongly there is a **£500 fine** per battery by Guernsey Waste.

6. If Something Goes Wrong

If your device:

- Gets very hot
- Is damaged
- Starts smoking or sets fire

 **Get out, Stay out & Call 999** – do not attempt to tackle the fire.

7 Your Responsibility

You are responsible for:

- Storing and charging your device safely
- Making sure it does not put others at risk

You may be charged for any damage caused.

- Charging must only take place in a location where a fire would not put you or others at risk
- You are responsible for storing and charging your device safely
- You may be charged for any damage caused by unsafe use or charging


8. Compliance and Enforcement

 Failure to follow this policy may:

- Put lives at risk
- Increase fire hazards

GHA may take action where this policy is not followed, in line with tenancy/leasehold agreements.

9. Need Advice?

 If you are unsure where you can safely store or charge your device, please contact GHA 01481 245530.

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