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Zemo Partnership's Jonathan Murray

ZEV Mandate review announced but electrification trajectory is unstoppable

Many of you will be aware that Norway has been the international 'poster child' for the electric revolution in road transport, so it was a surprise to learn that its near neighbour Denmark has joined the leaders' party, with 97 per cent of all new cars sold in the country being fully electric (BEVs) in July this year.

Denmark may be the rising star, but EV sales are on the rise almost everywhere.

The SMMT reported that BEV registrations in the UK soared by 44.5 per cent year-on-year in July to take a 27.5 per cent share of the total new car market. This follows the historic milestone earlier this year when EV sales in the UK officially overtook petrol car sales over a rolling 12-month period for the first time.

The UK is in a different situation and a much larger car market than Denmark or Norway, of course, but it's clear that we're on a similar path.

Following encouraging UK EV sales figures in July – and coming so soon after the summer's latest, alarming heatwave (providing further evidence, if any is needed, that climate change is happening) – the announcement that there will be an early review of the ZEV Mandate targets may have felt a bit dissonant...



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