

ANGUS COUNCIL

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE
POLICY AND RESOURCES26 AUGUST 1999
7 SEPTEMBER 1999

SUBJECT: CAR SHARE SCHEME

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

Abstract: This report brings to the attention of the Committee the implementation of a new Car Share Scheme for Council staff.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee note the implementation of a new Car Share Scheme for Council employees as being developed by the Environmental Strategy Group.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Environmental Strategy Group was set up to develop a strategy for addressing environmental and sustainability issues in Angus. A range of issues were identified and incorporated into the Council's Environmental Strategy. One of these issues was the impact of travel and transport in Angus.
- 2.2 Nationally, road traffic is forecast to increase by up to 50% by 2050 from the current levels of 21 million cars on the road. Currently, 71% of road trips by motor vehicles are less than five miles and 46% are less than two miles. Road transport was responsible for 25% of the UK's CO₂ emissions in 1995 and is responsible for significant percentages of other pollutants.
- 2.3 In recognition of the significant environmental impacts of road traffic, central government has requested local authorities to produce a Local Transport Strategy to address this issue. Angus Council has submitted an Interim Strategy that refers to a Green Transport Plan. The Interim Local Transport Strategy has included Angus Council's plans for promoting more walking and cycling; improving accessibility and promoting greater integration within and between transport modes, as well as measures to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.
- 2.4 The Local Transport Strategy has been prepared within the context of the Government's White Paper "Travel Choices for Scotland" and the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997. In addition, as part of our duty in Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, the Council is currently undertaking an assessment of Local Air Quality looking at a range of seven different pollutants. The Car Share Scheme is one of a range of measures, which will build into an overall Green Transport Plan. These measures are aimed at reducing the environmental impacts of road traffic.

3 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT IN ANGUS

3.1 A survey was carried out by the Environmental Strategy Group to establish some baseline information regarding Angus Council's contribution to the national figures on transport. This involved investigating three areas of travel and transport associated with the Council's operations and staff travel:

- Council Vehicles
- Staff Home to Work Travel
- Staff Business Mileage

Council Vehicles

3.2 The Committee will be aware that action has already been taken regarding the Council's own fleet of vehicles and that all diesel fuelled vehicles now operate on ultra low sulphur fuel – GreenEnergy CityDiesel.

Staff Home to Work Travel

3.3 The survey produced some interesting results that highlighted the extent of staff travel-to-work patterns. This proved to be extensive due to the dispersed nature of the Council. Nearly, 40% of staff returned the questionnaire (1808) which gives a good representation of overall staff travel-to-work patterns. The survey identified all modes of travel – walking, cycling, public transport and by car.

3.4 Journeys were assessed on distance travelled to and from work on a round trip of five miles or less, 6-15 miles, 16-40 miles and 40+ miles. The largest group (48%) was the five miles or less range – that is those living in the same town as they worked. Whilst more than half in this group walked, cycled or used public transport to work, there was a high percentage using a car for such a short journey.

3.5 The other travel groups together presented a picture of more than half the Council's staff living in a different town or location to that of their work base. In addition, there was less use of public transport in these groups, and predictably, more use of car transport – mainly on a single occupancy basis.

The Car Share Scheme

3.6 The Car Share Scheme is just one a range of measures brought forward by the Environmental Strategy Group to help reduce the number of car journeys made by staff in their travel to work. The scheme involves the setting up of a database to help employees to car share and thereby reduce the amount of single occupancy car journeys. Car sharing does not exclude people who would otherwise have travelled to work by public transport or cycle, but is really aimed at getting vehicles off the road by increasing vehicle occupancy. This could be on a daily or on an occasional basis. All Council staff will be made aware of the scheme by various means and explanatory leaflets/application forms will be issued to all staff (copy enclosed as Appendix I).

- 3.7 A database has been set up in the Planning and Transport Department on which participant's details will be entered and this will then identify potential car sharers. The Council's role is as a broker as it will be up to individuals to decide whom they are happy to car share with.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, Director of Personnel and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 CONCLUSION

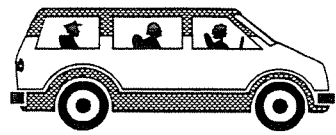
In conclusion, the Car Share Scheme will provide an important first step towards the development of an overall Green Transport Plan for Angus. The scheme will also help towards achieving some of the aims and objectives outlined in the Interim Local Transport Strategy.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/RM/KW
16 August 1999

Alex Anderson
Director of Planning and Transport



CAR SHARING SCHEME - Your questions answered

As part of working towards Angus Council's "Green Transport Plan", a database is being set up to help employees to car share and thereby reduce the number of car journeys made by staff. The following lists the main points that people may like to know about the car-sharing scheme:

What is car sharing?

It is when two or more people decide to travel to work together instead of in separate cars. Car sharing does not exclude people who would otherwise have travelled to work by public transport or cycle, but is really aimed at getting vehicles off the road by increasing vehicle occupancy. This could be on a daily or on an occasional basis.

How does the car sharing scheme work?

Once we receive your completed questionnaire, we will enter your details on our database. The computer will then identify potential sharers – people who travel to work on a similar route to yourself and who fit the criteria you requested. We will send you a list of contacts (name and extension no. only) as soon as possible. Our role is as a broker. It is up to you to decide whom you are happy to car share with and agree an arrangement that is convenient for all concerned.

Why should I car share?

- You can cut the cost of your journey to work by sharing petrol costs.
- You can help to reduce traffic congestion and pollution on your route to work.
- Cutting down on the number of days you drive to work will reduce your stress levels.
- Car sharing is a sociable activity that enables you to meet people you don't usually come into contact with.

What about insurance?

You must be fully insured and should inform your insurance company that you are registered with the scheme. This should not incur additional costs. Most insurance policies will cover you to carry passengers on your journeys to work, as long as you don't charge your passengers more than the running cost of the vehicle. P.T.O

Please _____



CAR SHARING SCHEME REGISTRATION FORM

(For Office Use)
Registration No.

All information given to the database is strictly confidential and will only be used to provide a list of suitable sharers. Please fill in all the details in order to obtain the best match possible and return this slip to Pam Coutts in the Planning & Transport Department (ext. 3547) or by e-mail to CouttsP.

Personal Details Male Female (please ✓)

Name.....

Home Address

Town/Village/Area.....

Postcode..... Home Tel (optional).....

Work Address

Department..... Location.....

Telephone No..... Ext. No.....

Journey Details - Please indicate towns or areas that you come through when coming to work.

.....

.....

What is your current mode of transport..... Estimated Daily Mileage (Round Trip).....

Do you currently car share? Yes No (please ✓) If Yes, how many spaces do you have left?

CAR SHARE SCHEME

What about sharing the costs?

It is up to you to decide how to split costs, but arrangements for payment should be made before a journey has begun. You can share by taking it in turns to drive week by week without charging each other. Alternatively, car sharers can agree to split petrol costs. If desired, the driver is entitled to charge on the basis of a mileage rate to cover running costs (including fuel, depreciation, servicing, etc.) but must not make a profit. The mileage rate should be divided by the number of people in the car.

What happens if I am the driver and I am ill?

You must contact your car share partner(s) as soon as possible so that they can make alternative arrangements.

What if, after a few weeks I find car sharing doesn't suit me?

By taking part in the scheme, you will not be committing yourself to car sharing permanently.

I work shifts/flexi-time, can I still car share?

Yes. The car-sharing scheme is flexible. If you work irregular hours, we will put you in touch with other people who work similar hours.

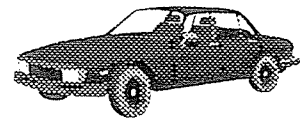
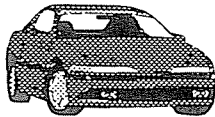
I only have the use of the car occasionally – can I still car share?

Yes. We can put you in touch with other drivers who are in the same situation as you.

How can I join the car-sharing scheme?

Simply fill out the application form on the tear-off slip and return it to:

Pam Coutts (ext. 3547)
 Planning & Transport Dept.
 St. James House
 St. James Road
 FORFAR



Alternatively, e-mail CouttsP for an application form.

Please -----

CAR SHARING SCHEME - REGISTRATION FORM

Work Patterns - Do you work?

Shifts Days permanent out of hours part time full time

Please indicate your hours of work below (if on flexitime, please indicate usual hours of work)

Start time..... Finish time

Please indicate which days you might wish to share:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Sharing Options - Are you prepared to:

Share with smokers? Yes No You would definitely want to smoke in car? Yes No

Be a driver? Yes No Be a passenger? Yes No

Share occasionally Yes No Share with the opposite sex? Yes No

Registration under the Data Protection Act

I consent to this data being used to find a match with other participants in the scheme. As a driver, I also confirm that I have informed my insurance company that I am participating in a car-sharing scheme and will not be making a profit out of carrying passengers to work.

Signed Date

N.B. For monitoring purposes, participants in this scheme will be requested twice yearly to confirm whether they are still active in the scheme.