

PRESS RELEASE

Strictly Embargoed until 00:01 Wednesday 4 June 2008

Date: 4 June 2008

If Calling please ask for: Emma Perring

If You Car(e) Share.....

Today, 4th June 2008, ZetTrans is launching a website to encourage and enable more people across Shetland to car share.

Cllr Allan Wishart, Chair of ZetTrans says:

“Many people are already sharing journeys, particularly with the rising costs of fuel. We want to make it easier for more people to do this and see the website as one way to help.”

In addition to saving money, there are other benefits to car sharing, such as cutting down on emissions and reducing our carbon footprint and potentially reducing the need to own a private car.

An example is that if you drive just 10 miles to work daily, five days a week and 45 weeks per year, you could be spending over £800 in fuel for that journey alone. If you travelled with one other person, it is a saving of about £400 per year, just on fuel.

Emma Perring, of ZetTrans says:

“As well as reducing the impact of travel on the environment, we hope this site enables people to more readily access opportunities for work, learning, health and other services, as well as leisure activities, particularly at this time of rising costs of private travel. We would encourage everyone in Shetland to use the site, whether willing to share their car journeys or whether looking for lifts.”

The site – www.ifyoucareshare.com – is free and easy to use. People are asked to register

- regular or one off trips;
- postcode of departure and destination;
- name and contact details;
- preference for travelling companions;
- days of the week and times of the day of travel;
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The site then searches for any matches.

Not everyone has ready access to the internet, so a national (local rate) number is available for people to phone and the ZetTrans number of 01595 744868 can also be phoned to log journeys (all within normal office hours of 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-4pm on Fridays).

The site has been developed in partnership with HITRANS, making it possible for people in Shetland to search for sharing transport across the Highlands and Islands.

Jonathan Emptage, South Mainland, says “We already share journeys when we can, and have an informal network so that if people need a lift into work at the last minute, or get held up at the end of the day, rather than using the bus, we can phone each other.”

Maggie Dunne, also South Mainland says:

“I plan to log my regular journeys on the site, as I’m keen to help people who aren’t able to run a vehicle everyday.”



Maggie Dunne, Jonathan Emptage and Emma Perring, of the South Mainland, who regularly share car journeys into work.

The scheme’s success relies upon an easily accessible and flexible database of people who are willing to take part.

Press Notes

The car share website has been set up as a partnership between HITRANS and ZetTrans, in order to make best use of resources and provide opportunities for people across the Highlands and Islands.

Cllr Allan Wishart, Chair of ZetTrans, 07825 088930

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