

CAR-SHARING SCHEMES



COMMUNITY & GLOBAL

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Car-sharing schemes

Churches are in a unique position for car sharing as there are predetermined times for arrival and departure, and it is relatively easy to connect congregation members who live near each other to organise themselves. Most churches already have a heritage of helping those without cars get to church on a Sunday or to a midweek group, with the driver being focussed on pastoral concern rather than carbon reduction. If car sharing is not occurring naturally in your church already, a little promotion might generate behavioural change quite quickly.

There are also several commercial schemes which encourage people, particularly in urban areas, to save costs, and reduce carbon emissions by sharing, rather than owning, a car. The schemes fall roughly into three categories: car clubs, lift-sharing and peer-to-peer car hire. In all these schemes, be sure to confirm insurance and personal safety arrangements.

Commercial car clubs are usually membership based and give access to cars from specific pick-up locations, charging on a per hour or per day basis. These are most used by those without cars who would like one occasionally for specific errands or a weekend away.

Lift-sharing (also known as car-pooling) schemes link two or more people to share a car and travel together on a pre-agreed route. This might be on long-distance trips or to work (as in Peter Kay's 'Car Share' sitcom). You can find lift shares at <https://www.blablacar.co.uk/> and <https://liftshare.com/uk>

Peer-to-peer schemes allow you to 'hire' a car from another member of the public in your local area.

The charity 'CoMoUK' shows you where you can find shared cars, bikes, e-scooters and lifts near you: <https://como.org.uk/where/>