

The University of Edinburgh is encouraging their staff and students to get sharing and get saving!

The University of Edinburgh has just launched a new RideShare service for staff and students. The new service aims to reduce the number of car trips to the University's sites and is part of a package of initiatives that the University is implementing to encourage staff and students to travel more sustainably.



The new map based system produced by NetFm allows users to identify potential sharers that live in the same area and then contact them via e-mail or phone to start sharing their journeys. The system not only matches car users but will also match cyclists, walkers and public transport users too.

The first 100 staff and students to register on the site will be entered into a prize draw and everyone will receive a copy of Anna Semlyen's book 'Cutting Your Car Use' which has been branded specifically for the scheme (www.cuttingyourcaruse.co.uk).

The University is hoping that it will be the first of many organisations in the City to promote Edinburgh RideShare, other public bodies and educational establishments have expressed an interest in joining the scheme.

Fiona Simon, the University's New Travel Plan Coordinator says 'We hope that it will help encourage staff and students to reduce their car use whilst saving them money on fuel, maintaining their vehicles and perhaps even on the proposed congestion charge for the City'.

The University is committed to encouraging sustainable travel to all its sites. Two of the University's sites already have a Travel Plan and a Travel Plan for another site is currently being finalised. Other initiatives being developed are a monthly Bike Doctor session and work bikes for manual staff.

For more information on the scheme visit www.transport.ed.ac.uk alternatively contact Fiona Simon on 0131 651 4288 or e-mail fiona.simon@ed.ac.uk