

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Salford City Council

### Green Wheels travel scheme

Transport sustainability and air quality are high priorities for Salford, so Salford City Council has launched the Green Wheels Travel Scheme, with the aim of encouraging staff to play their part in tackling climate change and promoting sustainability, by making environmentally friendly travel choices when travelling to, from and during work.

Partnering with two Social Enterprises; Co-Wheels and the First Step Trust, as well as working with Transport for Greater Manchester, a key element of the scheme has been the introduction of a new car club as a safe and cost-effective alternative to employees using their own vehicles for business travel. The car club provides a pool of low or no emissions, regularly maintained and valeted cars for staff, residents and businesses to use as required. It operates on a profit share basis with any income from non-business travel shared between Co-Wheels and the City Council to re-invest into other green travel schemes.

The scheme is also helping to deliver real social value benefits by contracting out some of the maintenance and valeting work to a local social enterprise company run by the First Step Trust – a charity that provides real work, training and employment opportunities for people excluded from ordinary working life because of mental health conditions or other disadvantages.

A good example of the scheme being used for additional community benefit is through our work with the Salford Armed Forces Veterans Network, who regularly use the vehicles to take veterans to local breakfast clubs.

It is estimated that vehicles account for over 30% of greenhouse gas emissions in Salford. This is a particular issue for the city as large parts of the motorway and strategic road network are within designated Air Quality Management Areas. Our Green Wheels Travel Scheme, expanded in 2016, has already saved around £150,000 per year, led to a 27% reduction in council business miles driven, and an estimated reduction of 128 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

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**For further information contact:**



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