



IDENTIFY:

ACTIONS TO PROMOTE CARPOOLING

Here are some ideas for promoting carpooling to club grounds, matches and club events. Consider including several of these, or other actions identified by your Green Team, in your Green Club Travel Action Plan.

Promote carpooling awareness and action in your club and community

- Use the poster and social media templates included in the Green Club Toolkit to promote carpooling
- If any of your players attend schools involved in the Green Schools programme, considering coordinating your carpooling campaigns and promotion.
- Consider contacting the local Tidy Towns and/or town/area council to find out if they would be interested on collaborating on a broader carpooling awareness campaign.

Carpooling for underage teams

- Encourage parents/guardians to consider carpooling for travel to training and matches
- Ask team mentors to promote carpooling with parents/guardians and consider holding a brief information session with interested parents before or after a training session, if needed
- Share the GAA Green Club Travel posters and social media assets with team mentors and parents/guardians and encourage them to use as needed
Enlist the support and advice of the club Children's Officer to ensure child safeguarding measures are fully adhered to at all time

Reserve parking spaces or an area of your car park for carpoolers

- Ensure these are well signposted or marked out, that they are in priority positions in the club grounds and that their use is respected.

Carpooling for adult teams

- Approach team mentors and team representatives to enlist their support.
- Hold a brief information session with the team before or after a training session.
- Establish what carpooling practices – formal or informal – are already in place.
- Nominate carpooling champions among the players and mentors to promote carpooling regularly through team groups and communications.
- Share the GAA Green Club Travel posters and social media assets with the team carpooling champions.
- Agree to revisit the team later in the season to check in on how the scheme is working, to gather feedback and the to identify and record benefits and challenges.
- See <https://www.nationaltransport.ie/tfi-smarter-travel/carpooling/> for more ideas and advice.



Supporters travelling to matches

- Ensure messaging on carpooling and lift-sharing is part of all club match communications and promotions. Use the GAA Green Club Travel posters and social media assets to promote carpooling to matches.
- Encourage club members to identify carpool companions through club social media channels.
- Consider running a pilot scheme using designated pick-up points and a bank of drivers to see whether a pick-up point lift scheme would work on a more regular basis for your club supporters.
- Encourage members and supporters who successfully carpool to share photos and experiences through club social media channels and messaging groups, where appropriate.

Safety Tips for supporters carpooling to match

When it comes to sharing journeys, everyone is responsible for their own personal safety. However, we do recommend that you read some simple safety measures outlined below.

- Arrange to meet for the first time in a public place.
- Don't exchange home addresses with your travelling companion before you meet them.
- Inform a friend or family member of who you will be travelling with, when and to where.
- Show each other ID e.g. passports, student cards or driving licences, so you know you're travelling with the right person.
- Trust your instincts; you are under no obligation to go ahead with any carpool arrangement. If you have any doubts about your travelling companion, for any reason, then you don't have to travel with them.
- Check that the person you are sharing with has all the legal driving documents, such as driving license, car insurance, NCT and car tax.

Committee Meetings

- Encourage the club executive and club committees to make carpooling and lift sharing a part of their normal planning and practice for meetings and events.
- Consider fixing carpooling arrangements for the next meeting at the end of every committee meeting or event.

Linking carpooling to inclusion and accessibility

- There may be members of your club and community who would love to attend club matches and events but who do not have access to transport or who feel unsafe travelling alone. Link in with club networks – formal and informal – and local community groups to identify anyone who your club could support by connecting them with appropriate lifts or carpools to club matches and events.

Linking carpooling to active travel:

- If your team or club operates carpooling from regular pick-up points, consider choosing pick-up points that can safely be accessed by foot and/or that are close to secure bike parking facilities.
- If your pick-up point is in an area well-frequented by the local community and there are no secure bike parking facilities nearby, approach your local authority Active Travel Team (26-counties) or relevant council officer about the possibility of secure bike parking facilities being installed.

Carpooling can reduce pollution, cut fuel costs for club members and reduce traffic and congestion in your club grounds.