

Transport Tips and Offers for Care Organisations



Wheels 2 Work asked care organisations what transport help they gave to staff, and what help they would like. These tips and offers are the result.

Payroll Saving

Credit Unions offer a service whereby staff can save through their pay. Credit Unions are not-for-profit community banks. CareWatch Shropshire provides a savings scheme through Fair Share Credit Union. Staff are encouraged to join the scheme and nominate an amount they wish to save each month. This amount is deducted from their salary and put into a savings account. Fair Share use their savings record as a credit reference and will then loan money at affordable rates. CareWatch find the scheme helps staff to pay for transport costs such as such as breakdown repairs or driving lessons. Visit www.fairshare.uk.com/payroll-savings/payroll-savings-employers. For more information contact 01952 200200 (Telford branch) or 01743 240403 (Shrewsbury branch). Just Credit Union also offer a similar service <http://www.justcreditunion.org/content.asp?section=32>

Credit Unions also offer a savings and loans schemes for individuals. Information about these could be provided as part of the organisation's induction programme.

Saving on Vehicle Running Costs

Pass on money saving tips to staff running their own vehicle. Money Saving Expert have lots of helpful tips www.moneysavingexpert.com/travel/car-check

Car Club – Co-Wheels Shrewsbury and Ludlow

Co-wheels have cars available for individuals and businesses to hire flexibly – booking at short notice or in advance and for short and longer time slots. They have three cars in Shrewsbury and two in Ludlow. They could prove a very cost effective solution for care organisations that need cars occasionally (for example in the event of a breakdown) or for regular bookings of a few hours or days per week. They may be able to provide discounts for regular usage. For more information visit www.co-wheels.org.uk/shropshire or speak to Emma Bullard on 01743 253008 / 255435.

Car Sharing

If staff are struggling with their journeys to and from work, Car Share Shropshire and Telford can help them find a suitable person to share a lift with. The scheme is free to join.

<http://carshareshropshireandtelford.co.uk>

Companies, particularly those with larger numbers of staff, could encourage car sharing by:

- Recommending a rate of payment for people willing to share their car - as an incentive for people to give a lift. This could be half the mileage expense rate used by the company e.g. if

the company pays 30p/mile, a person getting a lift could pay the driver 15p/mile. A daily commute of 5 miles there and back would be £1.50.

- Putting a 'sign up' sheet for lift sharing on a staff room noticeboard – with an area for people to give lifts and those looking for lifts.
- Ensure that the person drawing up the rota has information about who shares a lift or a taxi so that they can share the same shift pattern where practicable.

Good Value Bicycles

Companies can register with a Cycle to Work scheme allow their employees to buy a bicycle or electric bike tax free and pay for it through their payroll. Many independent bike shops like Dave Mellor Cycles in Shrewsbury www.davemellorcycles.com run Cycle 2 Work schemes as well as large chain stores such as Halfords. For details of bike retailers in Shropshire visit www.travelshropshire.co.uk

You can often pick up good quality second hand bikes for under £100. Reviive often have reconditioned bikes for sale and may also recondition a bike to your specification. Tel: 01952 217300 and ask for Simon or visit www.reviive.co.uk .

Wheels 2 Work

Wheels 2 Work www.shropshire-rcc.org.uk/transport offers subsidised training, equipment and scooter, electric bike and bicycle hire for up to six months. Scooters offer a quick, motorised solution as candidates can ride a moped after passing a day's CBT (Compulsory Basic Training). Many clients use the period on the Wheels 2 Work scheme to save for their own transport.

For more information or enquiries call Wheels 2 Work on 01743 237885 / 237883 or email wheels2work@shropshire-rcc.org.uk .