



MINIBUS & COACH TRAVEL



INTRODUCTION

Organising shared transport through minibuses and coaches can significantly reduce the environmental impact of travel to matches, tournaments and Club events. It can also help reduce congestion, lower travel costs, strengthen team connections and improve accessibility for players, volunteers and supporters.

For many football clubs across Wales, shared transport can provide a practical and sustainable alternative to multiple individual car journeys, particularly for away fixtures and larger events.

This resource provides practical guidance to help Clubs explore, organise and promote minibus and coach travel as part of the FAW Together Greener Programme and wider sustainable travel planning.

This resource will support your Club to:

- Understand the benefits of shared team travel.
- Explore options for minibus and coach use.
- Reduce travel-related emissions and congestion.
- Improve accessibility and inclusion for Club members.
- Support safer and more efficient away travel.
- Strengthen team culture and community connections.
- Integrate shared travel into your Club's Travel Action Plan.





BENEFITS

Why Shared Transport Matters

Travel is often one of the largest contributors to a football Club's carbon footprint, particularly for away fixtures and regional competitions.

Using shared transport can help Clubs:

- Reduce the number of individual car journeys.
- Lower fuel use and carbon emissions.
- Reduce parking pressure at venues.
- Improve safety and coordination for away travel.
- Provide more accessible and inclusive transport options.
- Create positive social and team experiences.

For younger teams, shared transport can also provide greater convenience for parents and guardians while helping reduce traffic around venues.





CONSULT MEMBERS

Consult Club Members

Before introducing shared transport, Clubs should speak with players, parents, volunteers and supporters to understand demand and identify opportunities.

Clubs Could Ask:

- Would members and supporters use organised transport to away fixtures?
- Would parents support minibus travel for youth teams?
- Which fixtures or events would benefit most?
- What are the main barriers to using organised transport?

Gathering feedback through surveys or team meetings can help shape a successful approach.





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INTERNAL SUPPORT

Work With Club Members and Coaches

Club Members and coaches can play an important role in supporting shared travel initiatives.

Clubs should Consider:

- Identifying fixtures suitable for shared transport.
- Coordinating communication with families, supporters and players.
- Encouraging uptake through team channels.
- Helping establish collection points and travel plans.

Shared travel can also contribute positively to:

- Team bonding.
- Player wellbeing.
- Matchday preparation.
- Club culture and identity.



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PARTNERSHIPS

Community Partnerships and Shared Resources

Explore Community Vehicle Sharing

Many community organisations, schools or local groups may already have access to minibuses that are not used at evenings or weekends.

Clubs may wish to explore:

- Shared use agreements.
- Partnerships with schools or community groups.
- Joint funding opportunities.
- Community transport schemes.

Collaborative approaches can reduce costs and improve access to transport resources.





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LOCAL OPERATORS

Build Relationships With Local Operators

If your Club expects to organise regular travel throughout the season, consider speaking with local coaches and minibus providers about longer-term arrangements.

Potential Benefits Include:

- Reduced costs through repeat bookings.
- Priority availability during busy periods.
- Opportunities for sponsorship or partnerships.
- More consistent travel planning.

Where possible, seek operators with strong sustainability credentials or modern, lower-emission vehicles.



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ACTIVE TRAVEL

Combining Shared Travel With Active Travel

Clubs should encourage members to take sustainable Journeys to Pick Up Points. Shared transport can work effectively alongside walking and cycling initiatives.

Clubs Should Consider:

- Providing secure bike parking at departure points.
- Choosing accessible collection locations.
- Selecting pick up areas connected to walking and cycling routes.
- Promoting walking or cycling to coach departure points where appropriate.

This can help reduce the overall environmental impact of travel even further.





SAFEGUARDING

Prioritising Safe Travel

All shared transport arrangements should place safety and safeguarding at the centre of planning.

Clubs Should Ensure:

- Vehicles are roadworthy and legally compliant.
- Drivers are appropriately licensed and insured.
- Travel providers meet all legal safety requirements.
- Emergency contact procedures are in place.
- Safeguarding policies are followed at all times.

When transporting children, young people and venerable adults, Clubs should ensure appropriate supervision and safeguarding arrangements are in place throughout journeys.

Clubs should work closely with their:

- Safeguarding Officer.
- Team managers and volunteers.





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SAFETY CHECKS

Vehicle Safety Checks

Where possible, use reputable licensed transport operators with experience supporting sports organisations.

When hiring minibuses or coaches, Clubs should verify:

- Insurance documentation.
- Vehicle safety certification.
- Driver qualifications.
- Seatbelt availability.
- Breakdown and emergency procedures.





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PROMOTION

Communicating and Promoting Shared Travel

Creating Awareness

Communication is key to increasing participation in shared travel initiatives.

Clubs Can Promote Shared Transport Through:

- Team messaging groups.
- Club websites and newsletters.
- Social media platforms.
- Matchday communications.
- Travel notices and posters.

Communications should clearly explain:

- Travel arrangements
- Pick up locations and times
- Costs where applicable
- Benefits of shared transport
- Any safeguarding or behaviour expectations



CELEBRATE IMPACT

Celebrate Positive Impact

Sharing progress and success stories can help encourage wider participation.

Clubs Could Share:

- Number of car journeys reduced.
- Estimated emissions saved.
- Photos of team travel experiences.
- Feedback from players and parents.
- Success stories from pilot schemes.

This can help reinforce sustainability messaging within the Club and wider community.





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ACCESSIBILITY

Making Football More Accessible

Shared transport can help improve access to football for individuals who may otherwise face transport barriers.

This may include:

- Young players without regular transport access.
- Supporters without access to a car.
- People with disabilities or mobility challenges.
- Members from rural communities.

Clubs should consider how shared travel can support inclusion and wider participation within football.



SUPPORT & REVIEW

Seeking Support for Shared Travel Initiatives

Partnership working can often help Clubs develop more sustainable long term travel solutions.

Clubs may wish to explore support or funding opportunities through:

- Local authorities.
- Transport for Wales initiatives.
- Community transport schemes.
- Sport Wales funding opportunities.
- Local sponsorship partnerships.

Monitoring impact and Reviewing Progress

Clubs should regularly review shared transport initiatives to understand participation levels and identify areas for improvement.

Consider Monitoring:

- Number of participants.
- Fixtures using shared transport.
- Estimated car journeys avoided.
- Member feedback.
- Travel costs and savings.

Travel surveys can help assess the impact of initiatives over time and support future planning.





FURTHER SUPPORT

Providing minibus and coach travel can help your Club reduce emissions, improve accessibility and create a more connected football community.

You do not need to introduce large-scale transport schemes immediately. Start by identifying a small number of fixtures or events where shared transport could work well and build from there.

Use what you have learned in this resource to:

- Inform one of your two mandatory Green Goals.
- Support your Club's Travel Action Plan.
- Reduce travel-related emissions and congestion.
- Promote more sustainable travel.
- Improve accessibility and inclusion across your Club.

Even simple steps, such as organising shared transport for selected away fixtures or creating designated pick-up points, can help reduce your Club's environmental impact while strengthening the football community through the FAW Together Greener Programme.

Further information on Travel can be found at www.faw.cymru/TogetherGreener-travel.

If you require support with this resource, please contact sustainability@faw.cymru