

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Smartmover Travel Guide



Think ahead...
be a *smartmover*.

www.bham.ac.uk/travel

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network
west midlands

Sustainable travel

Around 26% of CO₂ emissions generated in the UK are caused by personal car travel. It is therefore important to consider the impact of your car journeys.

The University is committed to reducing its impact on the environment by reducing carbon emissions caused by commuting and business travel.

As part of this commitment the University has produced a Sustainable Travel Plan which contains a series of initiatives to encourage all members of the University community to walk, cycle, car share or use public transport to travel to and from the University, between campuses and to external meetings.

The Travel Plan encourages the use of sustainable modes of travel as an alternative to the private car. As well as being good for the environment this sort of travel behaviour can give a more healthier lifestyle.

The aim of this Guide is to make staff, students and visitors more aware of the travel options that are available and to help you to plan your own personal sustainable journey to the University.

Learn more

Further details can be found at www.bham.ac.uk/travel or contact the University's Sustainable Travel Coordinator at sustainabletravel@contacts.bham.ac.uk

What can you do?



The Travel Plan will

- Help to reduce congestion, demand for car parking spaces and environmental pollution
- Increase travel choice for staff, students and visitors
- Deliver health benefits as part of the University's commitment to workplace wellbeing
- Improve the University's environmental performance

Travelling sustainably is about being aware of the environment around you and the personal benefits that you can achieve by becoming an informed traveller.

What can you do to help?

Small change, big difference.

- Sustainable travellers – please keep it up
- Car drivers – travel flexibly and try alternatives
- Take part in travel surveys

- Join groups – eg, Birmingham University Bicycle Users Group
- Spread the word

Fancy a better lifestyle?

- Walking briskly on a regular basis is good for your heart and lungs, helps burn calories and is a good way to a healthier active life
- Cycling will improve your health and could save you money each year in fuel costs
- As an alternative to this car sharing allows you to split travel costs with your fellow passengers and save on fuel costs and parking fees
- If you have more than one car in your household, and more family members walked, cycled or used public transport you might be able to give up that extra car, saving thousands of pounds each year on running costs

Reducing the need to travel

Video conferencing and tele-conferencing can substantially reduce travel, accommodation and subsistence costs as well as savings on staff time.

In some circumstances it may not be necessary to travel at all and tele or video conferencing could be used as an alternative to travelling to a meeting. Whether it be an internal or external meeting you may be able to attend from the comfort of your own desk.

Anywhere on campus

LRAT provide high quality video-conferencing facilities to any campus location equipped with a campus network point.

LRAT can offer multi-site conferencing, with up to three other remote locations.

To book the video conferencing equipment contact the LRAT Team on 0121 415 8041.

CLIC

In addition to this the University's Centre for Learning Innovation Collaboration (CLIC) has an advanced video conference studio with the flexibility to meet the majority of the University's needs.

The Studio offers a fully managed, air-conditioned and quiet environment for your meeting, lecture, interview, viva or webcast.

Learn more

For more information visit
www.clic.bham.ac.uk
www.lrat.bham.ac.uk

Walking

Walking is a great way to travel and is an excellent way to keep fit and it's free.

Walking to work is recommended for those living within two miles of the University. Cars pollute more at the start of their journey when the engine is cold, therefore, walking for short journeys will reduce the amount of CO₂ emissions by a disproportionate amount.

The University benefits from good pedestrian links with the surrounding area and clear internal routes and footpaths to allow people to find their way around campus easily and safely. The canal towpath provides good links to Birmingham City Centre and Selly Oak as well as further afield. Why not try walking to work or combine walking with another mode such as walking to the train station

rather than driving. You could also add walking to your day by walking to meetings on campus or even at our Selly Oak campus which is only a 20–30 minute walk away.

Walking for just 30 minutes a day means reaching the Government's recommended level of daily activity needed to transform your health.

If you would like to find a 'Walking Buddy' to share your journey please contact sustainabletravel@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Learn more

Birmingham Walkit –
www.walkit.com/cities/birmingham
 Living Streets –
www.livingstreets.org.uk



Cycling

Cycling is one of the most environmentally friendly and sustainable modes of travel as well as being fun and good for you.

Cyclists are usually the quickest commuters in an urban environment and can achieve a higher level of fitness and save money at the same time. Cycling is a great way to exercise, it has a low impact on your joints and each two-mile trip can burn over 100 calories.

Employees who cycle on University business are able to claim an allowance of 20p/per mile. This does not include commuting.



Haven't got a bicycle?

The University can help as it operates a salary sacrifice cycle purchase scheme 'Cyclescheme' which allows staff to save up to **36%** on the cost of a new bike.

Cyclist facilities

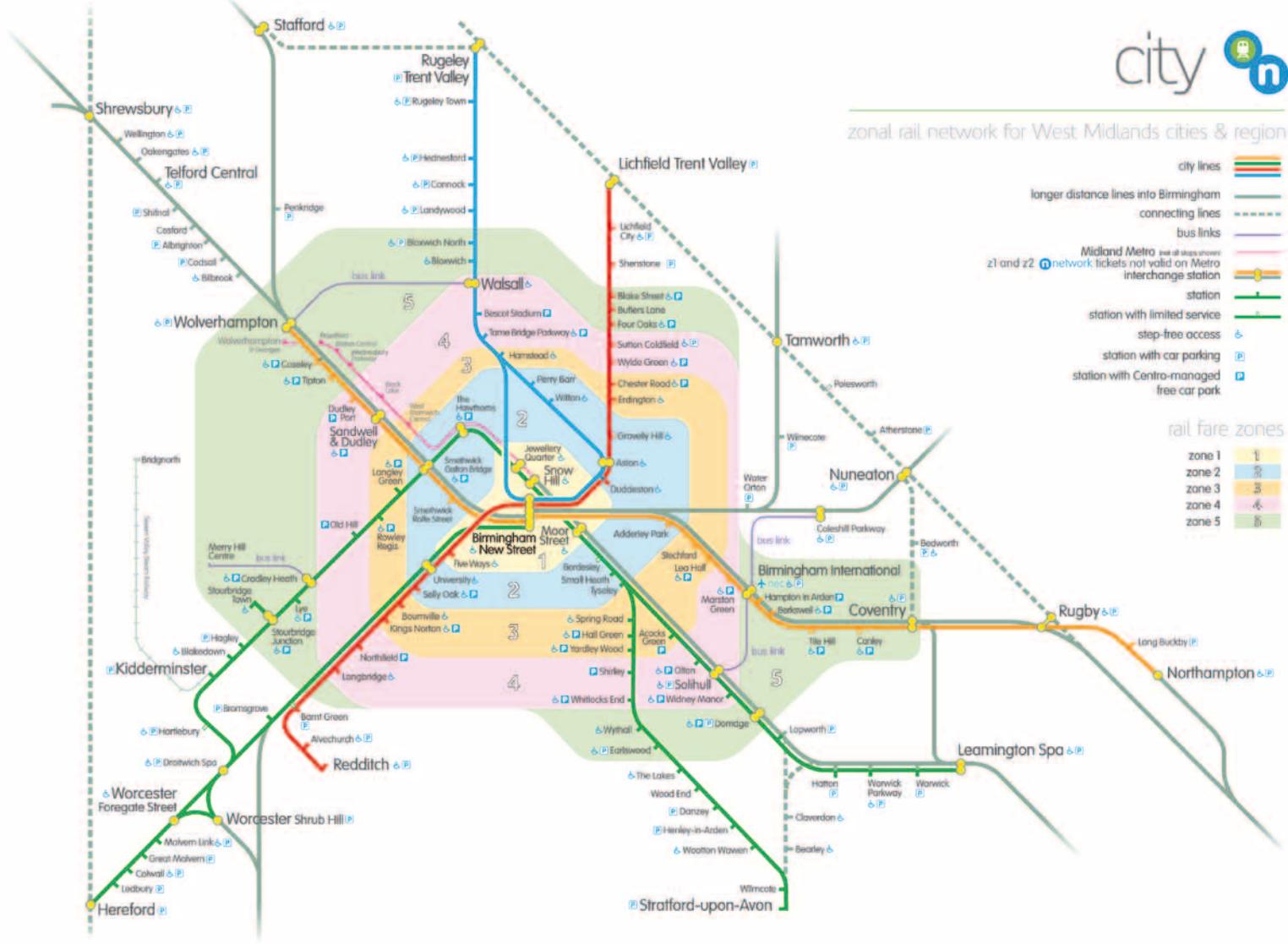
Cycle parking facilities are provided in numerous locations across campus. For more details of the location of these facilities visit www.cycling.bham.ac.uk

- The University has a very active Bicycle Users Group called BUBUG (Birmingham University Bicycle Users Group)
- The University holds Cycle Roadshows to promote cycling to its staff and students. These events include activities such as Dr Bike undertaking free maintenance, cycle training, security tagging and advice from the Birmingham City Council Sustainable Travel Team
- There is a police liaison room in University Centre which is open every Wednesday lunchtime between 12.00pm and 2.00pm to provide advice and sell equipment to cyclists. The office is routinely staffed by West Midlands Police and members of BUBUG
- Munrow Sports Centre also provides free use of its shower and changing facilities to all staff



Learn more

BUBUG –
www.cycling.bham.ac.uk
 Cycle maintenance and training –
www.dft.gov.uk/cyclingengland
www.sustrans.org.uk
sustainabletravel@contacts.bham.ac.uk



Public transport

The University benefits from excellent public transport links providing access to numerous destinations up and down the UK for staff, students and visitors.

Save money on travel by public transport. The University offers discounted interest free season ticket loans for staff. Staff who give up a designated car parking space may also be eligible for a 50% discount on their annual season ticket (terms and conditions apply). For more information visit www.hr.bham.ac.uk/benefits/travel.shtml

Bus

There are approximately ten local bus services directly serving the University per hour. For more information on these

services please visit www.networkwestmidlands.com or call 0871 200 22 33 for all timetable information.

Live bus departure times are displayed on the screen in the foyer of University Centre.

Free bus travel

The new Selly Shuttle bus service provides a link between the Edgbaston campus and the Selly Oak Campus. This is a free service on production of your ID card. For the timetable see

www.bham.ac.uk/travel

In addition to this service the University provides students with subsidised travel on shuttle buses which route between the Edgbaston campus and the student residences.



Rail

The University is the only UK university to have its own railway station on campus, known as 'University Station'. The Station is a real asset to the University, making travel by train a convenient option for many.

For local ticket and timetable information please visit www.networkwestmidlands.com or call 0871 200 22 33.



For live information on local train services please use the Interactive Rail Map on this website.

Learn more

Local public transport journey planner – www.networkwestmidlands.com
National Rail – www.nationalrail.co.uk



Car sharing

Travelling by car with other people is an easy way to cut your CO₂ emissions and save money at the same time.

Setting up informal arrangements with family, friends and colleagues, or joining up to the University's Car Share Scheme are both good ways to start car sharing.

Why not save money and share your journey?

The University is a member of Birmingham City Council's scheme *carshareBirmingham*.



Share a journey just one day a week

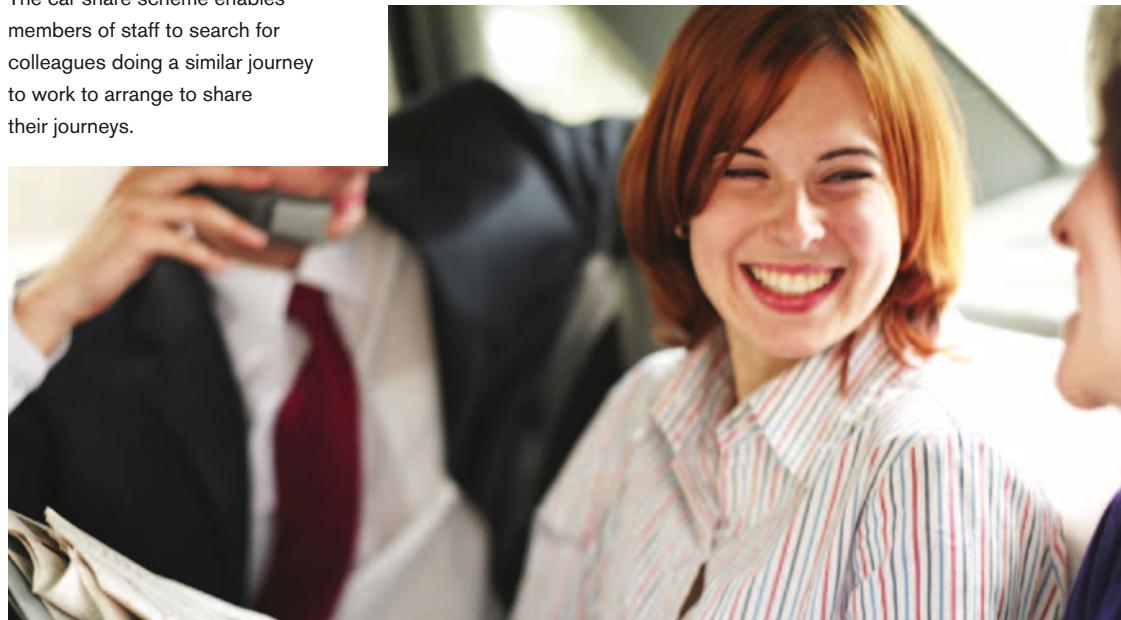
- Save an average £785 per year
- Share fuel and parking costs
- Travel in car share lanes

The car share scheme enables members of staff to search for colleagues doing a similar journey to work to arrange to share their journeys.

You can also register with *carshareBirmingham* to find travel companions for journeys by bike, bus, taxi or walking. You do not need to own a car to be part of this scheme.

Learn more

Register with the scheme at www.carsharebirmingham.org.uk



Car parking

Staff

Car parking for staff is a flat rate pay-as-you-go system costing £1.00 per day in all locations between 9.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Fridays.

Members of staff pay through salary deduction by swiping their University ID cards on entry to the car parks. Parking is based mainly on a first come, first served basis, although all staff parking on campus should be in possession of a valid parking permit.

Dedicated parking provision is made for disabled users. Disabled staff and students are entitled to free access to the campus.

Students

Students are only permitted to park in the South Car Park (access via Edgbaston Park Road) and in the

Pritchatts Road Car Park (corner of Pritchatts Road and Vincent Drive).

Car parking costs £1.00 per day pay and display Monday to Friday until 4.30pm.

After 4.30pm Monday to Friday and at weekends, Students who have registered their details with Car Parking Records will automatically be able to access the main campus car parks using their swipe card. There is no charge made for parking at these times.

Learn more

Please address car parking related enquiries to:

Car Parking Records,

First Floor Staff House

Tel: 42623 Fax: 58803

(Monday to Thursday
9.30am–4.00pm) or email
carparking@bham.ac.uk



Useful contacts

The management of the Travel Plan is the responsibility of the University's Sustainable Travel Coordinator who is the first point of contact for students, staff and visitors to the University.



**UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM**
Edgbaston, Birmingham,
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Learn more

Contact the Sustainable Travel Coordinator on sustainabletravel@contacts.bham.ac.uk for any advice or further information relating to the Sustainable Travel Plan or visit www.bham.ac.uk/travel

For more advice on wider environmental issues contact the University's Sustainability and Environmental Advisor at www.environment.bham.ac.uk

For all bus, train and metro information visit www.networkwestmidlands.com or call 0871 200 22 33.

The Department for Transport website provides information and guidance for travel plans including the benefits they provide at www.dft.gov.uk