

Motorists traveling in Gloucestershire are being urged to think again about car sharing or switch to public transport.

The advice comes ahead of the start of a new school year (Sept 3rd) amid fears the extra traffic generated by the school run will add to the congestion.

Cllr Julie Girling, Gloucestershire County Council's lead cabinet member for environment said: "Sometimes just a slight change in our routine can make a big difference and car sharing is just one way of reducing the volume of traffic.

"Instead of people travelling alone in their car to work, it would be much better if they used public transport or if not arranged to travel in with a colleague or someone who lives and works in the same place or area.

"But it's not only workers who can make a difference. Anyone coming into Gloucester for shopping, an appointment or just for leisure, should also consider public transport or car sharing if they can - and, of course, allow extra time for their journey".

In an attempt to encourage other commuters to car share, signs have been put up on the roadside advertising a car sharing website.

Gloucestershire County Council Transport Planner Richard Gillingham said, "People can find potential car share partners by using the county wide car share scheme [carsharegloucestershire.com](http://carsharegloucestershire.com)

"This is a countywide web and call centre based car share scheme, which is operated by [Liftshare.com](http://Liftshare.com) on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council, which so far has over 1000 members.

"If we could just double that think what a difference it would make to the hold-ups caused by the A40 road works and other congestion spots around the county.

## Gloucestershire car sharing website

Written by Graham Gardner

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“To make it easier to find a car share partner, many local councils across the country offer web based car share schemes, and many companies do their bit by having notice boards where people can offer lifts to colleagues.

“To find out more about Carsharegloucestershire, which is a free service for individuals and businesses to use, go to [www.carsharegloucestershire.com](http://www.carsharegloucestershire.com) or phone the call centre on 08700 111199 (national call rate)”.

For information on rail services, call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950 <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>

For bus service information contact Traveline on 0871 2002233 or [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)