



Alterations to the Transport Office with immediate effect as a result of Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, The SU has had to respond quickly to the ever-changing new world we find ourselves in. As part of this, the Transport Office within The SU has had to make some dramatic changes which unfortunately might be disappointing for some of you. The notes below highlight some of the key changes that will come into effect immediately. For some of you, you may be really concerned about what these changes mean for your group, don't panic alone. We're happy to go through this with you and offer any support to come up with solutions. We will do everything we can to help you get where you need to be!

- **No fleet Shuttles.** All three fleet shuttles have been returned to the lease company. This was a tough decision, but due to financial pressures we just couldn't keep hold of these.
- **Hiring in is still possible.** However, at the time of writing, non-essential journeys in private vehicles ([fleet or private cars) with persons not in your household bubble are not permitted. Additionally, at the time of writing, the socially distanced capacity of a 9-seater is three people including driver, so not really any point! Costs will have to reflect the full prices, so approx. £93 per day plus diesel, with no reductions on low-mileage days. Vans can also be hired in, capacity one, or two if the van is wide enough for social distancing.
- **All trailers still available.** However, it's not often possible to hire in vehicles which can tow, and the current capacity of those vehicles (5-seaters) is two people including driver. Drivers using their own cars to tow (max. 750kg) will need to have completed the trailer towing module (MiDAS not necessary for a private car) and have had the legality checked by the Transport Office, specifically:
 - Compliant 3rd number plate
 - Compatible, working electrics (13-pin, or 7-pin plus adapter)
 - Evidence that their insurance company has approved use of the car for towing (as soon as the trailer is attached to the car, the responsibility for insurance passes to the driver and does not come back to The SU until the trailer is unhitched)
- **Amarok is still on the fleet.** This is a [flat-bed pickup truck](#) with 5 seats, paid for separately by the Rowing club. Whilst it is available to other student groups to use, it can only be driven by persons 25 years old and over, due to insurance restrictions.

MiDAS. At some stage it will be worth hiring in again, and when this happens the MiDAS system will still be operating. However, student groups will have to be very organised in applying for MiDAS observed drives – we will have to hire in a vehicle, and to make it financially worthwhile, we'll want to run three drives on the same day. As this isn't going to happen until we can get more than three people in an MPV, we don't as yet know the cost implications.