

Mevo is now Australasia's first free-floating car share

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, MAY 8 - <u>Mevo</u>, the <u>climate-positive</u> car share, has launched Australasia's very first trial of free-floating car sharing, taking place in the city of Wellington.

The introduction of free-floating means that Wellingtonians can now drive a Mevo Audi e-tron on one way trips around the city and are not required to return the vehicle back to its original parking spot. In addition to Mevo's 10 designated parking/charging areas throughout Wellington city, Mevo vehicles can now be dropped at any approved Wellington City Council parking space in Mevo's 'Home Zone'.

"This trial is a first for car sharing in Australasia and it's a testament to Wellington's progressive thinking that we have been able to make free-floating happen here first. The ease of use that free-floating provides is a game changer if you're looking at serious alternatives to private car ownership, giving Wellington residents freedom and mobility through an app on their smartphones, without the hassle of owning and paying for a car," said Mevo co-founder and CEO, Erik Zydervelt.

The launch is made possible through thoughtful collaboration between Mevo and the Wellington City Council, with the view that this successful test will inform free-floating car sharing policy in years to come. Mevo worked with its international technology affiliate and the Wellington City Council to develop a cost neutral solution for using Council park spaces.

Mayor Justin Lester says car-sharing services are a natural progression for Wellington city.

"With more and more people living in the CBD, and the trend away from car ownership, car sharing initiatives are increasingly important. I congratulate Mevo on their latest addition to Wellington's growing car-sharing industry," said Lester.

Mevo's fleet of plug-in Audi e-trons can be picked up and dropped off at any Wellington City Council park within the 'Home Zone'. Members can also choose to drop them at the Mevo charging stations across the city - found in the Mevo app - where they will be guaranteed a park.

Mevo was awarded co-funding from round one of the Government's Low Emission Vehicles Contestable Fund, administered by EECA.

"Mevo's initiative demonstrates the kind of business innovation we need to move towards to a low carbon environment. This scheme also provides Wellingtonians with an easy and convenient way to experience EVs for themselves," says EECA Chief Executive Andrew Caseley.

Car sharing has been proven as a powerful antidote for congestion in cities internationally. For every car sharing vehicle on the road, <u>5 to 15 private vehicles are taken off of it</u>.

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About Mevo:

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Founded in 2016 by Erik Zydervelt and Finn Lawrence, Mevo is New Zealand's first on-demand car rental company, delivering mobility on demand by curating a network of plug-in hybrid Audi e-trons which members can pick up and drive as needed. Globally unique and based in Wellington, the Mevo fleet of Audi A3 Sportback e-tron use responsible carbon credits to sustain and restore the environment.

The membership-based network, which is made possible by a partnership between Wellington City Council, energy partner <u>Meridian</u>, insurance partner <u>Trade Me</u> and vehicle partner <u>Audi</u>, is the first of its kind in on-demand car rentals.

The Mevo member experience has been designed from the ground up to be "digital first" with no need to collect a key, swipe card or access code before driving away.

- New Zealand Innovation Awards 2017 Start-up Innovation of the Year Finalist
- New Zealand Innovation Awards 2017 Young New Zealand Innovator Finalist
- Sustainable Business Network Smarter Transport Finalist

