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Monday 19th March 2018

Oneway Car-share growing in popularity - survey

Car sharing services such as GoGet Oneway and Car2Share are growing in popularity amongst travellers at the expense of taxi and ride sharing services such as Uber, according to the latest Transport Opinion Survey (TOPS) carried out by the University of Sydney Business School's highly respected Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies.

Car sharing allows users to rent a vehicle from a convenient street location on an hourly or daily basis. Support for one-way car share services was strongest amongst TOPS participants in South Australia (68 per cent), followed by Queensland (67 per cent) and Western Australia (64 per cent).

When asked about the possibility of using a car-share scheme instead of a taxi or Uber service for a one-way trip, well over half (59 per cent) of TOPS participants had a greater preference for car sharing.

When asked about their view of car-based taxi like services, 39 per cent said they preferred regular taxis over Uber type services (22 per cent) while the remaining 39 per cent of participants said that their preference depended on the circumstances.

When it comes to choosing between a taxi and an Uber type services, more than half of those surveyed (54 per cent) said that their decision would be based on price while 27 per cent indicated that service quality was the most important factor. Vehicle quality was the deciding factor for just 19 per cent of respondents.

Commenting on the TOPS findings, the Director of the ITLS, Professor David Hensher, said they "clearly suggest that there is growing interest in car-shared mobility schemes as alternatives to taxis and Uber-styled services".

The TOPS six monthly index of attitudes towards the state of local transport services in the short-term deteriorated to 68 from 80 last September while the long term outlook remained unchanged at 74.

TOPS is the only regular national survey of public opinion on transport related issues. The first 2018 report can be found at: <http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/tops>

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