

Company fleet vehicles



Get your  
fleet **in**  
**order**

# Get your fleet in order



Fleet vehicles are a vital part of many organisations operations and company cars are a popular employee benefit.

## What are the benefits of making my fleet greener?

After the purchase / lease of vehicles, fuel is the most significant cost associated with running a company fleet. Managing fuel consumption more efficiently can therefore help reduce both your costs and carbon emissions. In addition, a range of cleaner vehicles and alternative fuels are now available.

This sheet provides guidance on a range of practical ways to 'green' your company fleet.

## What is a 'green' fleet?

A 'green fleet' minimises fuel consumption, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and other exhaust pollutants through:

- Maximising the efficiency of its existing vehicle fleet;
- Reducing vehicle use where possible; and
- Reviewing the choice of alternative fuels and vehicle technologies.

### 'Greening' your fleet allows you to:

- **Save money** - The Energy Savings Trust suggest that efficient fleet purchase and management, smarter driving and reduced fuel use can save up to £1,000 per car per year in running costs.
- **Reduce your carbon emissions** - Business cars account for 25% of UK passenger car CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- **Reduce your environmental impact** and demonstrate your corporate social responsibility.

## How can I 'green' my fleet?

The easiest way for you to reduce the environmental impact of your company fleet is to select fuel efficient vehicles with the low emissions. There are several ways you can do this:

- Ensure you are running the most fuel-efficient vehicles by:
  - > Selecting the most appropriate class of vehicle that is suitable for your operational requirements;
  - > Choosing the 'best in class' vehicles in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions or miles per gallon (mpg); and
  - > Selecting for other criteria such as safety, cost, and load capacity

If your company car drivers can select a vehicle from a company car list, then consider restricting the list so that only more efficient vehicles are available.

### Alternatively you could:

- Offer staff an incentive to select a company car with a smaller engine size;
- Set minimum vehicle standards for staff using their own car for business and for hire car providers;
- Ensure travel remuneration policies are environmentally sensitive by not offering business mileage reimbursement rates that encourage staff to drive excessive miles in their company or private car;
- Encourage staff to adopt 'eco-driving techniques' by sending them on a training course;
- Ensure vehicles are properly maintained; and
- Consider vehicles powered by alternative fuels such as electric or hybrid vehicles. You may be eligible for a government subsidy towards the purchase of an electric vehicle.

