

Managing grey fleet risks

Most organisations find it quite challenging to manage effectively the vehicles owned and leased by them. With a significant proportion of work-related journeys now undertaken in privately-owned or leased vehicles, how do organisations effectively cope with this aspect of work-related road risk management?

What is the grey fleet?

The grey fleet can be simply defined as any vehicle that is used by an employee for making a work-related journey. This could be a cash-for-car, a car obtained via an Employee Car Ownership (ECO) scheme, a privately-owned vehicle used for occasional journeys or a vehicle that the employee has hired outside of any company-provided scheme. When most organisations analyse the road journeys that their employees make on their behalf, they find a significant number of employees who they never considered as 'drivers' and who have never seen any of the policies and procedures relating to driving.

The results from management audits that Zurich undertakes for our motor fleet customers confirms that, in general, organisations manage their grey fleet (both the drivers and the vehicles that they are using) less effectively than they do with their owned or leased fleet.