

[Green Guide]

Being environmentally conscious is more than just providing a feel-good factor, it can save you and your business money and avoid downtime. We consider some possible action points that could help improve your green credentials.

- Use fuel efficient cars to reduce fuel bills.
- Use low polluting vehicles, resulting in lower Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) costs.
- Consider the use of alternatively fuelled vehicles, resulting in lower VED costs, exemption from congestion charge and lower fuel costs.
- Record, analyse and review business mileage patterns and fuel consumption to optimise fleet management.
- Ensure regular fleet maintenance so vehicles run at an optimum efficiency.
- Grade your vehicles according to their performance on fuel consumption and exhaust emissions and make the information available to staff.
- Assist drivers in route planning. Introduce drivers to internet real time traffic information sites which highlight any traffic jams or accidents along a proposed route.
- Ensure travel payment policies discourage drivers from clocking up unnecessary mileage.
- Implement a safe and economical training programme.
- Continually assess the efficiency of your operations. Changing policies and technology may mean that it is more cost effective to reduce business mileage through increased telesales and less frequent client meetings.

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