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CONSUMER GUIDE FOR FLEET INSURANCE IN IRELAND

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FOREWORD

Welcome to the fleet insurance consumer guide tailored specifically for businesses operating fleets in Ireland. Managing a fleet of vehicles comes with unique challenges and risks, and having the right insurance coverage is crucial to protect your assets and ensure the smooth operation of your business.

This comprehensive guide aims to provide you with valuable insights and practical information to navigate the world of fleet insurance. Whether you are a small business owner with a handful of vehicles or a large enterprise with an extensive fleet, understanding the intricacies of fleet insurance in Ireland is essential for making informed decisions.

We have designed this guide to address the key aspects of fleet insurance, from understanding different policy types to exploring factors that affect premiums. We will delve into policy considerations, provide tips on obtaining quotes, and guide you through managing your policy effectively. Additionally, we will discuss the claims process and offer insights into regularly reviewing and updating your coverage to ensure it remains aligned with your evolving business needs.

While this guide provides a comprehensive overview, it is important to remember that fleet insurance is a complex subject, and every business has unique requirements. We encourage you to consult with insurance professionals or Insurance Brokers who specialise in fleet insurance to assess your specific needs and find the best coverage options for your fleet.

We hope that this fleet insurance guide equips you with the knowledge and understanding necessary to navigate the intricacies of fleet insurance in Ireland. By making informed decisions and implementing sound risk management practices, you can protect your fleet, minimise potential liabilities, and focus on the growth and success of your business.

Part 1: INTRODUCTION TO FLEET INSURANCE

Fleet insurance plays a vital role in safeguarding businesses in Ireland that operate multiple vehicles. Whether you own a small delivery fleet, a taxi service, or a construction company with a fleet of trucks, having the right insurance coverage is crucial. This section will introduce you to the concept of fleet insurance and explain why it is essential for businesses in Ireland.

1. What is fleet insurance?

Fleet insurance is a specialised type of insurance designed to provide coverage for businesses that own or operate a fleet of vehicles. Rather than insuring each vehicle individually, fleet insurance allows you to consolidate coverage under a single policy, simplifying the insurance process and potentially reducing costs.

2. Why is fleet insurance important?

Operating a fleet of vehicles comes with inherent risks. Accidents, damage to vehicles, theft, and liability issues can arise unexpectedly, leading to financial loss for your business. Fleet insurance helps mitigate these risks by providing financial protection against various perils.



3. Advantages of fleet insurance

There are several advantages to opting for fleet insurance in Ireland:

- **Cost savings:** Insuring multiple vehicles under a single policy can often result in cost savings compared to individual vehicle insurance policies.
- **Convenience:** Managing one policy for your entire fleet is more convenient than juggling multiple policies.
- **Streamlined administration:** Fleet insurance simplifies administrative tasks such as policy renewal, documentation, and claims management.
- **Flexibility:** Fleet insurance policies can be tailored to suit your specific business needs, including the number and types of vehicles in your fleet.
- **Risk Management:** Fleet insurance allows you to transfer the risks associated with your vehicles to the insurance provider, giving you peace of mind and protecting your business from potential financial losses.

4. Types of vehicles covered

Fleet insurance in Ireland can cover various types of vehicles, including but not limited to:

- Cars and vans
- Trucks and lorries
- Taxis and private hire vehicles
- Delivery vehicles
- Construction and agricultural vehicles

5. Legal requirements

It's important to understand the legal requirements for fleet insurance in Ireland. All motor vehicles must have at least third-party insurance to comply with the Road Traffic Acts. However, depending on the nature of your business, comprehensive insurance or additional coverage may be necessary to adequately protect your fleet and meet legal obligations.

Understanding the basics of fleet insurance sets the foundation for making informed decisions when it comes to insuring your business vehicles in Ireland. In the following sections, we will explore different types of fleet insurance, factors that affect premiums, policy considerations, and other essential aspects to help you navigate the process of obtaining the right fleet insurance coverage.

Understanding the basics of fleet insurance sets the foundation for making informed decisions when it comes to insuring your business vehicles in Ireland .

Part 2: TYPES OF FLEET INSURANCE POLICIES

When considering fleet insurance for your business in Ireland, it's important to understand the different types of policies available. Each type offers varying levels of coverage and protection. This section will explore the three main types of fleet insurance policies: comprehensive insurance, third-party, fire, and theft insurance, and third-party only insurance.

1. Comprehensive insurance

Comprehensive insurance is the most extensive coverage option for your fleet. It provides protection for your vehicles against various risks, including damage caused by accidents, vandalism, natural disasters, and theft. This type of policy covers both your vehicles and any third-party vehicles or property that may be involved in an accident. Comprehensive insurance offers the highest level of coverage but may come with a higher premium.

2. Third-party, fire, and theft Insurance

Third-party, fire, and theft insurance is a mid-range coverage option for fleet owners. It offers protection for your vehicles in the event of fire damage or theft, in addition to covering damages caused to third-party vehicles or property. This policy does not provide coverage for damage to your own vehicles resulting from accidents. Third-party, fire, and theft insurance strikes a balance between comprehensive coverage and cost, making it a popular choice for many fleet owners.

3. Third-Party Only Insurance

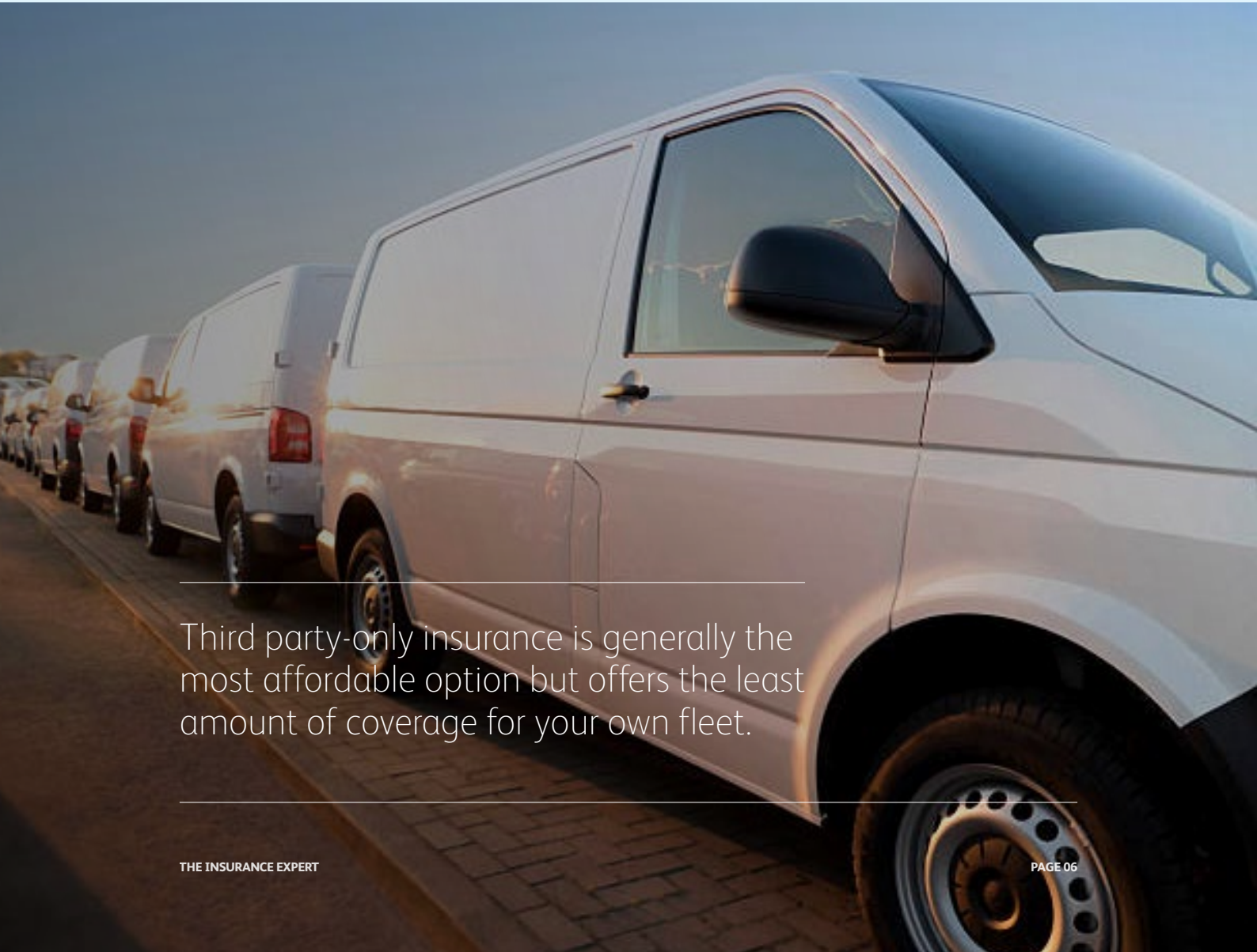
Third-party-only insurance is the minimum legal requirement for all vehicles on the road in Ireland. It provides coverage for damages or injuries caused to third-party vehicles, property, or individuals by your fleet vehicles. This policy does not cover any damage to your own vehicles. Third party-only insurance is generally the most affordable option but offers the least amount of coverage for your own fleet.

It's important to assess your business needs, the value of your fleet, and the level of risk you're willing to bear when choosing the

type of insurance policy for your fleet. While comprehensive coverage offers the highest level of protection, it may not always be necessary for every fleet owner.

Evaluating the nature of your business, the types of vehicles in your fleet, and your budget will help you determine the most appropriate type of policy.

In the next part of this consumer guide, we will delve into the factors that can affect the premiums of your fleet insurance, enabling you to make informed decisions and obtain the best coverage at a competitive price.



Third party-only insurance is generally the most affordable option but offers the least amount of coverage for your own fleet.

Part 3: FACTORS AFFECTING FLEET INSURANCE PREMIUMS

When it comes to fleet insurance in Ireland, several factors can influence the premiums you will pay. Understanding these factors will help you assess the potential costs and make informed decisions. This section will explore the key factors that insurers consider when determining fleet insurance premiums.

1. Number of vehicles

The number of vehicles in your fleet is a significant factor that insurers consider. Generally, the larger your fleet, the higher the premium is likely to be. This is because a larger fleet presents a higher overall risk exposure to the insurer.

2. Vehicle types and usage

The types of vehicles in your fleet and their intended usage also impact the insurance premium. Factors such as the make, model, age, and value of the vehicles can influence the cost. Vehicles with higher values or those classified as high-performance, or specialty vehicles may attract higher premiums. Additionally, certain vehicle uses, such as hauling hazardous materials or heavy construction equipment, may increase the risk and affect the premium.

3. Driver history

Insurers often consider the driving history of the drivers operating your fleet vehicles. Drivers with a history of accidents, traffic violations, or convictions may be deemed higher risk, potentially leading to increased premiums. It's important to regularly check and assess the driving records of your fleet drivers and promote safe driving practices within your organisation.

4. Claims history

The claims history of your fleet also affects the insurance premium. A history of frequent or high-cost claims indicates a higher risk and may result in higher premiums. Demonstrating good claims management practices, implementing preventive measures, and maintaining a low claims frequency can help in keeping premiums competitive.

5. Security measures

The security measures you have in place for your fleet can impact your insurance premiums. Installing security devices such as alarms, immobilisers, GPS tracking systems, and vehicle recovery systems can reduce the risk of theft or unauthorised use. Insurers often offer discounts for fleets equipped with effective security measures.

6. Annual mileage

The annual mileage of your fleet vehicles can influence the insurance premium. Higher mileage generally leads to an increased risk of accidents and potential claims, which can result in higher premiums. Providing accurate information about the expected annual mileage for each vehicle is crucial for determining the appropriate coverage and premium.

Considering these factors, it's important to assess and manage the risks associated with your fleet to ensure you have adequate coverage while keeping premiums at a reasonable level. In the next part of this consumer guide, we will explore various policy considerations to help you tailor your fleet insurance coverage to meet your specific needs.

A photograph showing two men standing in a parking lot filled with white commercial vans. The man on the left, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and dark trousers, is gesturing with his right hand while holding a clipboard. The man on the right, wearing a blue polo shirt and dark trousers, is listening attentively with his hands clasped. The background shows a row of similar white vans under a cloudy sky.

Drivers with a history of accidents, traffic violations, or convictions may be deemed higher risk, potentially leading to increased premiums.

Part 4: POLICY CONSIDERATIONS FOR FLEET INSURANCE

When obtaining fleet insurance in Ireland, there are several policy considerations to keep in mind. These considerations allow you to tailor your coverage to align with your specific business requirements and provide optimal protection for your fleet. This section will consider important policy considerations for fleet insurance.

1. Additional coverage options

In addition to the standard coverage provided by your fleet insurance policy, you may have the option to add additional coverage. Consider additional coverage options such as:

- **Breakdown assistance:** Coverage for roadside assistance and vehicle breakdowns.
- **Windscreen protection:** Protection against damage to windshields and windows.
- **Legal expenses coverage:** Assistance with legal costs in case of disputes or litigation related to your fleet.

Evaluate the specific needs of your fleet and determine if any additional coverage options would be beneficial for your business.

Assess your specific needs, budget, and risk tolerance to determine the most suitable policy considerations for your fleet insurance.

2. Named drivers or any driver policy

Consider whether you want to insure specific named drivers or have an “any driver” policy. A named driver policy specifies authorised individuals who can operate the fleet vehicles. This option provides greater control and ensures that only approved drivers are covered. On the other hand, an “any driver” policy allows any driver who meets certain criteria (e.g., age, license requirements) to operate the vehicles. This flexibility can be beneficial if your fleet has multiple drivers and requires a higher level of adaptability.

3. Voluntary excess

Voluntary excess refers to the amount you agree to pay out of pocket in the event of a claim. Opting for a higher voluntary excess can help lower your insurance premium. However, it’s important to strike a balance between the excess amount and your ability to cover it in the event of a claim. Assess your financial capabilities and determine an appropriate voluntary excess that aligns with your risk tolerance.

4. No claims bonus

Some insurers offer a no-claims bonus, which provides a discount on your premium for every year without a claim. It incentivises safe driving practices and responsible fleet management. Consider insurers that offer no claims bonuses and explore the potential savings over time. Take the time to carefully review the policy options provided by different insurers. Assess your specific needs, budget, and risk tolerance to determine the most suitable policy considerations for your fleet insurance.

In the next part of this consumer guide, we will explore how to obtain quotes, compare policies, and effectively manage your fleet insurance to ensure you have the best coverage at the most competitive price.



Part 5: OBTAINING QUOTES AND COMPARING FLEET INSURANCE POLICIES

When it comes to fleet insurance in Ireland, obtaining quotes from Insurance Brokers and comparing policies is crucial to find the best coverage and premium for your business. This section will guide you through the process of obtaining quotes, utilising insurance brokers, and effectively comparing policies.

1. Use an Insurance Broker

Consider using the services of Insurance Brokers who specialise in fleet insurance. Insurance Brokers have access to a wide range of insurers and can help you navigate the market to find the most suitable policy for your fleet. They can assist in assessing your needs, obtaining multiple quotes, and providing expert advice on coverage options and policy terms. Insurance Brokers can save you time and effort while ensuring you have a comprehensive understanding of the available options. Knowing that they have the necessary coverage to recover from loss or damage to their business assets.



2. Compare coverage and premiums

When comparing fleet insurance policies, it's essential to consider both the coverage provided and the premium costs. Look beyond just the price and carefully review the terms and conditions of each policy. Pay attention to key factors such as:

- Coverage limits for own damage and third-party liability
- Additional coverage options available
- Exclusions and limitations
- Policy renewal terms
- Claims process and customer service reputation of the insurer

By comparing coverage and premiums side by side, you can make an informed decision that aligns with your budget and provides adequate protection for your fleet.

3. Evaluate policy benefits and discounts

Consider the additional benefits and discounts offered by insurers. Some Insurance Brokers may provide value-added services such as dedicated claims support, online policy management tools, or risk management resources. Look for Insurance Brokers that offer discounts or incentives for implementing certain safety measures, such as installing GPS tracking systems or conducting driver training programs. These benefits and discounts can contribute to cost savings and improved risk management.

Throughout the process of obtaining quotes and comparing policies, keep your business's specific needs and risk profile in mind. Don't hesitate to ask questions and seek clarification from Insurance Brokers to ensure you have a clear understanding of the coverage and policy terms.

In the next part of this guide, we will explore how to effectively manage your fleet insurance policy and navigate the claims process, ensuring a smooth experience in the event of an incident or accident involving your fleet vehicles.

Don't hesitate to ask questions and seek clarification from Insurance Brokers to ensure you have a clear understanding of the coverage and policy terms.

Part 6: MANAGING YOUR FLEET INSURANCE POLICY AND NAVIGATING CLAIMS

Effectively managing your fleet insurance policy and understanding the claims process are essential aspects of fleet insurance in Ireland. This section will provide guidance on policy management and navigating the claims process to ensure smooth operations and timely resolution in case of incidents or accidents involving your fleet vehicles.

1. Accurate documentation

Maintain accurate and up-to-date documentation of your fleet, including vehicle details, driver information, and any changes that occur. This documentation will be crucial for policy administration, claims processing, and ensuring that your insurance coverage remains relevant and comprehensive.

2. Notify Insurance Brokers of changes

Promptly inform your Insurance Broker of any changes in your fleet, such as adding or removing vehicles, changes in vehicle usage, or changes in authorised drivers. Keeping your Insurance Brokers informed helps ensure that your coverage remains accurate and up to date. Failure to notify Insurance Brokers of changes may result in coverage gaps or potential issues during the claims process.

3. Annual policy review and renewal

Regularly review your fleet insurance policy to assess its continued suitability for your business. Consider changes in your fleet size, vehicle types, or business requirements that may necessitate adjusting your coverage. Conducting an annual policy review allows you to ensure that your policy adequately protects your fleet while identifying opportunities for cost savings or additional coverage benefits. Compare quotes from different Insurance Brokers during the renewal process to ensure you are still obtaining the most competitive rates.

4. Understanding the claims process

Familiarise yourself with the claims process of your chosen insurance provider. Understand the steps involved, the documentation required, and the timeline for reporting and processing claims. Promptly report any accidents, incidents, or damage involving your fleet vehicles to your Insurance Brokers to initiate the claims process. Provide all necessary information and documentation to support your claims, such as incident reports, photographs, and driver details. Follow up with your Insurance Broker regularly to stay informed about the progress of your claim.

5. Effective claims management

Implement effective claims management practices within your business. Encourage drivers to report incidents promptly and provide accurate and detailed information. Keep thorough records of all incidents, including dates, times, and descriptions. Ensure drivers understand their responsibilities and obligations in the event of an accident or incident. By actively managing the claims process, you can help expedite resolution and minimise any disruptions to your business operations.

6. Utilise support and resources

Take advantage of any support and resources offered by your Insurance Broker. Many Insurance Brokers provide dedicated claims support, online portals for policy management, and resources for risk management and driver training. Stay in contact with your Insurance Brokers to access these valuable tools that can assist in managing your fleet insurance effectively.

By effectively managing your fleet insurance policy and understanding the claims process, you can ensure a smooth experience in the event of an incident involving your fleet vehicles. Regular communication with your Insurance Broker and prompt adherence to reporting and documentation requirements will help facilitate timely resolution and minimise potential disruptions to your business.

In the next part of this consumer guide, we will explore the importance of regularly reviewing and updating your fleet insurance coverage to ensure it remains relevant and aligned with your evolving business needs.



Part 7: REGULARLY REVIEWING AND UPDATING YOUR FLEET INSURANCE COVERAGE

Regularly reviewing and updating your fleet insurance coverage is crucial to ensure it remains relevant and adequately protects your business. As your business evolves, your fleet may change in size, composition, or usage, which can impact your insurance needs. This section will guide you through the importance of reviewing and updating your fleet insurance coverage.

1. Assessing changing business needs

Regularly assess your business needs and how they relate to your fleet insurance coverage. Consider factors such as changes in the size of your fleet, addition or removal of vehicles, modifications in vehicle usage, or expansion into new areas of operation. These changes may require adjustments to your coverage to ensure you have adequate protection for your evolving business.

2. Evaluating coverage limits

As your business grows, you may need to reassess the coverage limits of your fleet insurance policy. Consider factors such as the value of your vehicles, potential liability risks, and the financial impact of potential incidents or accidents. Ensure that the coverage limits adequately reflect the potential risks associated with your fleet.

3. Exploring additional coverage options

Review the additional coverage options available for your fleet insurance policy. As your business expands, you may require additional coverage such as breakdown assistance, windscreen protection, or increased liability limits. Assess the benefits and costs of these options and determine if they align with your business needs.



Regularly reviewing and updating your fleet insurance coverage allows you to adapt to changes in your business and ensure that your coverage remains aligned with your evolving needs.

4. Re-evaluating premiums

Regularly review the premiums you are paying for your fleet insurance coverage. As your fleet grows or changes, there may be opportunities to negotiate premiums with your Insurance Broker. Compare quotes from different Insurance Brokers to ensure you are still obtaining the most competitive rates. Engaging with insurance brokers can provide insights into potential cost-saving measures or policy options that better suit your budget.

5. Staying informed of insurance regulations

Stay up to date with insurance regulations and laws that may affect your fleet operations. Changes in legislation, industry regulations, or insurance requirements may necessitate adjustments to your coverage. Stay informed through industry publications, professional networks, or by consulting insurance experts to ensure your fleet insurance remains compliant.

6. Seek professional advice from an Insurance Broker

Consider seeking professional advice from Insurance Brokers. They can provide guidance on the most suitable coverage options for your fleet based on your specific business needs. Insurance professionals can help you navigate the complexities of fleet insurance, assess risks, and ensure that you have comprehensive coverage that protects your business interests.

Regularly reviewing and updating your fleet insurance coverage allows you to adapt to changes in your business and ensure that your coverage remains aligned with your evolving needs. By proactively managing your fleet insurance, you can maximise protection, optimise costs, and minimise potential gaps in coverage.

Part 8: **THE NATIONAL FLEET INFORMATION DATABASE**

In Ireland, the National Fleet Information Database plays a crucial role in managing fleet information and ensuring compliance with insurance regulations. This section will provide an overview of the National Fleet Information Database and its significance for fleet owners and insurers.

1. What is the National Fleet Information Database?

The National Fleet Information Database is a centralised system that stores and maintains essential information about registered vehicles in Ireland. It serves as a comprehensive repository of data, providing valuable insights into the country's vehicle fleet.

2. Purpose and benefits

The database serves multiple purposes, including facilitating efficient administration of vehicle registration, road tax, and insurance compliance. It offers various benefits for both fleet owners and insurers:

- **Accurate data management:** The database maintains accurate and up-to-date information about registered vehicles, their ownership, and relevant details. This helps ensure the accuracy of insurance policies and facilitates efficient administration.
- **Insurance compliance:** The database assists insurers in verifying the accuracy of fleet information provided during the insurance application process. It helps ensure that fleet owners have the appropriate insurance coverage as required by law.
- **Data integrity and security:** The database employs robust data management protocols to ensure the integrity and security of the stored information. Measures are in place to protect against unauthorized access and maintain data confidentiality.
- **Streamlined processes:** The database streamlines various administrative processes related to fleet management, such as vehicle registration, licensing, and insurance documentation. This reduces the administrative burden for fleet owners and insurers alike.

3. Role in fleet insurance

The National Fleet Information Database plays a crucial role in fleet insurance by providing insurers with reliable and accurate vehicle information. Insurers can cross-reference the data from the database with the information provided by fleet owners during the insurance application process. This helps ensure that fleet insurance policies align with the registered vehicles and their associated details.

4. Importance of accurate reporting

Fleet owners have a responsibility to ensure accurate and timely reporting of their vehicle information to the National Fleet Information Database. Any changes to the fleet, such as adding or removing vehicles, changes in ownership, or modifications to vehicle details, should be promptly updated in the database. This ensures that insurers have access to the most current and accurate information when underwriting fleet insurance policies.

5. Collaboration between insurers and database administrators

Insurers work closely with the administrators of the National Fleet Information Database to validate and verify the accuracy of the fleet information. This collaboration helps ensure that insurers have access to reliable data and can make informed decisions when providing fleet insurance coverage.

Fleet owners should maintain a proactive approach to accurately reporting their fleet information and collaborate with insurers to ensure compliance with the database requirements.

One of the key factors influencing the pricing of small business insurance products in Ireland is the type of business itself. Different industries carry varying levels of risk, and insurers take this into account when determining premiums.

Part 9: IRISH MOTOR INSURANCE DATABASE

The Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI), Insurance Ireland and insurers have been working on a project to create a central insurance database, which is referred to as the "Irish Motor Insurance Database" (IMID).

The collection of insurance data in the IMID reflects the new requirements in the Road Traffic and Roads Act (2023) which was passed by the Oireachtas in June 2023.

Section 56A(7) to 56A(10) of the Act requires:

- **Fleet owners to upload details** on vehicles and named drivers for their fleets.
- **Motor traders to upload details** on vehicles and named drivers that are covered by their trade policies.

This IMID is designed to help identify the insurance status of all vehicles and will be used by the MIBI, the Department of Transport and An Garda Síochána, as part of their role of enforcing insurance legislation.

The overall objective is to reduce the high level of uninsured vehicles on the road, which is estimated by MIBI to be about 8.3 % of vehicles on our roads. This is considerably higher than other EU countries and the UK.

The IMID is comprised of data from two separate databases, the Motor Third Party Liability (MTPL) database (which contains data on private motor & small commercial policies) and the National Fleet Database (NFD) (which contains data on fleet and motor trade policies).

The data is collected by the MIBI as set out in the **Road Traffic and Roads Act (2023)** which was passed by the Oireachtas in June 2023.

Motor policy data is currently being uploaded to the IMID on a nightly basis by insurers or their representatives.

At this stage, the IMID holds about 3m private motor and small commercial vehicles and information on over 5 million named drivers that are permitted to drive those vehicles. This information will be very useful to Roads Policing Gardai when carrying out vehicle stops on our roads.

The Next Stage

The next stage in building the IMID is to commence uploading fleet and motor trade vehicle registrations to the NFD.

In preparation for this, all fleet and motor trade insurers have commenced uploading high level fleet data to the NFD, including policy numbers, policy holder names and other high level policy details.

In a small number of cases, insurers are uploading (immediate declaration) vehicle registrations to the NFD where they are provided by fleet and motor traders to insurers; however, as most fleets are written on a declaration basis, insurers are normally only told the number of vehicles in a fleet, but not the individual vehicle registrations.

From 30th November 2023, fleet and motor traders will be required to provide the registration numbers for each of the vehicles in their fleet within 14 days of a vehicle being added or removed from the fleet, provided that the vehicle(s) will remain in the fleet for more than 14 days. This means that temporary additions to the fleet will not have to be uploaded to the NFD (if vehicles are not intended to remain on cover in the fleet for more than 14 days).

How do fleet and motor trade policy holders upload data to the NFD?

The MIBI has created a website to allow vehicle registrations to be uploaded to the NFD by policy holders. The website is available at the following link <https://nfd.mtpl.ie/> where policy holders can register to get access to the NFD. Users must input their policy number and fleet Unique Identifier (UID) as part of the registration process. If they receive a registration error, they should check with their Broker/insurer to ensure that the UID and Policy Number is valid in accordance with what is

on the insurer's system. The insurer will issue the UID initially for all fleet owners and motor traders. Also see Notes below.

Note 1:

Only one person can register on the NFD from each organisation (fleet or motor trader); however, once registered, this person can set up additional users who can update the list of vehicles on the NFD.

Note 2:

If a client has a problem with their UID, the Broker can use the UID enquiry screen under their Broker login (at the following link <https://nfd.mtpl.ie/>) to identify the correct UID for the client. The Broker can enter the Client's policy number or do a search on client's name to find the correct UID. It is important to note that the UID is unique to each fleet and should move with the fleet owner or motor trader if they transfer their business to a different insurer.

Note 3:

If a client has more than one fleet policy, they must have different UID's for each policy. They cannot use the same UID across two or more policies. This may happen, for example, if a policy holder splits their fleet over two insurance policies or indeed across different insurers.

There is extensive help documentation and short videos available in the help section to assist users. Please also see NFD User Guide and Q&A document, which is available on the MIBI website at the following link <https://www.mibi.ie/about-us/imid.2054.html>

Once registered, users can upload vehicle registrations individually on the NFD or they can use an Excel template (available from the help section) to upload a larger number of vehicles.

Delegation of Brokers to upload vehicle data to the NFD

In some cases, Brokers may offer a service whereby they will upload data to the NFD on behalf of their clients. If this is the case, the Broker must indicate this by ticking a box on the NFD that they will provide the service to (each) fleet owner.

If the broker agrees to provide the service (box ticked) then the fleet owner or motor trader can tick a box on the NFD to give delegated authority to the broker to upload data on their behalf.

Please note that the fleet owner or motor trader must still register on the NFD. This is necessary in order to provide delegated authority to the broker to allow them to upload the vehicle data. This is simply a matter of the client selecting the broker (see note below) and ticking a box to allow them to maintain the client's vehicle list in the NFD. They can find out how to do this within the user guides available from the help section once the client is fully registered.

Note:

The fleet insurer has to identify the Broker's Central Bank of Ireland (CBI) code in the policy data that they upload to the NFD. If the CBI code is missing or incorrect, then the fleet owner or motor trader will not be able to select the broker to give delegated authority to them. If this happens, the client should refer to their broker who can follow up with the fleet insurer to correct the problem.

Note:

If the broker would like to rescind delegated authority, they can do so revoking delegated authority in the Broker's NFD portal.

When should you start to upload data to the NFD?

The deadline for commencing to upload data is 30/Nov/23. It is important that fleet owners and motor traders plan for this as early as possible so that they have a process in place to maintain their vehicle list on the NFD. If not, then they risk their vehicles being stopped by the Gardai when they start to use the data. They also risk prosecution in the District Court and incurring Class E fines of up to €500 if they fail to upload their data to the NFD.

Are fleet owners required to have two email addresses to register?

Yes, two email addresses are required during registration. They don't necessarily have to be company-based addresses they can be generic email accounts such as yahoo or Gmail etc. The reason behind this requirement is that in the past we have found that the primary email holder may leave a company and then there would be no backup contact for them for NFD if the need arises. The second email address is really a backup just in case the first email becomes unavailable



FINAL WORD

As we reach the end of this Fleet Insurance Consumer Guide, we hope that the information provided has empowered you with a solid understanding of fleet insurance in Ireland. Safeguarding your fleet is a critical aspect of managing your business, and having the right insurance coverage is paramount.

Remember, fleet insurance is a dynamic field, subject to changes in regulations, industry trends, and your own business needs. We encourage you to regularly review and update your coverage, stay informed of industry developments, and seek professional advice when necessary.

By implementing effective risk management strategies, regularly assessing your coverage needs, and maintaining open communication with your Insurance Broker, you can optimise your fleet insurance experience, protect your assets, and ensure the smooth operation of your business.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to explore this guide. Should you have any further questions or require additional assistance, do not hesitate to reach out to your Insurance Broker who specialises in fleet insurance.

What is a Insurance Broker? Insurance Advice from the Experts

It is always best to talk to an Insurance Broker who is your local expert in the market and will always put your interests first. An Insurance Broker will help you decide what kind of insurance cover you need and help you to choose the right provider to meet your requirements at the most reasonable cost. They work for you, not the insurance company. You can therefore be sure of impartial advice at all times, a choice of products, and a helping hand. Insurance Brokers offer the highest professional standards and financial integrity, and always place the interests of their clients first, and are regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

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