

# Motor Fleet Risk Management Advisory

Covid-19 Returning to Work



# Motor Fleet Risk Management Advisory

## Covid-19 Returning to Work

During these unprecedented times some of the vehicles in your customers' commercial fleet may be parked up. With this in mind Zurich have put together some potentially useful advice to help keep their vehicles safe. We have also included some additional risk management advice in respect of other notable risk exposures as we move through the phased return to work:

- Vehicles should be locked and parked in the most **secure location** possible.
- If a number of vehicles are parked in one location, try to allow **as much space as possible between the vehicles** (In the event that fire breaks out to this will help control the spread).
- It is important during Covid-19 disruption to continue to **comply with relevant legislation** including: maintaining vehicles in roadworthy condition (regardless of extension to CVRT and NCT testing) and drivers hours regulations for heavy goods and public service vehicles as appropriate, as well as carrying out appropriate driver walk around checks in order to identify and repair defects.
- When starting all vehicles for the first time after a long period of inactivity, a thorough defect identification (walk around) check should be carried out and documented concentrating on wheels, tyres, brakes, etc. before use. The vehicle may not start or you may see warning lights on the display and in the event that this happens it's important to **follow manufacturer guidelines** so as not to invalidate any warranty on the vehicle.
- All vehicles should be **cleaned and disinfected regularly** and provide **cleaning equipment/disinfectant wipes** for your employees to use in the work vehicle, along with hand sanitizer.
- As people return to work, more vehicles will be on the roads as people may avoid public transport and make more solo car journeys. Specific action should be taken to identify and manage the risks associated with **vulnerable road users like pedestrians and cyclists**.
- Managing **driver health and safety** is more important than ever at this time. The Health and Safety Authority has a range of helpful advice for employers on their site: [https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/covid-19\\_advice\\_for\\_employers\\_and\\_employees/](https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/covid-19_advice_for_employers_and_employees/)
- In addition, it's best practice to have a **driving for work system in place** (at all times). Again, the Health and Safety Authority have a range of supports available here: [https://www.hsa.ie/eng/Vehicles\\_at\\_Work/Driving\\_for\\_Work/](https://www.hsa.ie/eng/Vehicles_at_Work/Driving_for_Work/)

**All actions taken in respect of changes required as a result of Covid-19 should be written down, recorded and distributed to all employees. Current handbooks/instruction manuals etc. must reflect the changes in work practices required in order to show compliance to all rules and regulations as instructed by the Irish Government in collaboration with the HSA and HSE including full details of risk assessment performed.**