

# insight

a factsheet from Intelligent Fleet

## Smoking Legislation and Company Vehicles



### Introduction

New smoking legislation will be introduced from 6am on Sunday 1st July 2007. The purpose of this new legislation is to protect people in enclosed public places and workplaces from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

The new laws will affect almost all employers in the UK and therefore organisations need to fully understand the impact it will have on them. One of the most important considerations is the impact on company vehicles as most of these will be designated as a workplace and must be smoke-free under the new laws.

### What types of vehicles does the law apply to?

The law applies to all vehicles provided by an employer, i.e. company cars, vans and other commercial vehicles.

The law does not apply to privately owned vehicles even though they may be used for business travel.

### What exceptions are there?

The only exceptions for company vehicles are as follows:

- convertible vehicles where the roof is down when the driver or their passengers are smoking
- vehicles provided for the sole use of the driver and not used by anybody else either as a driver or as a passenger

### What do employers need to do?

Under the act, employers, managers and those in charge of smoke-free premises and vehicles will need to:

- identify areas where smoking will constitute an offence and display 'no smoking' signs
- take reasonable steps to ensure that staff, customers and visitors are aware that premises and vehicles are legally required to be smoke-free and ensure that no-one smokes in smoke-free premises or vehicles
- provide suitable guidance in staff handbooks and invoke disciplinary proceedings if necessary

### Signage

Stickers or signs must be displayed in company vehicles that are designated as smoke-free. These must display the international no smoking symbol and be no less than 70mm in diameter. All stickers or signs must be clearly visible on entering the vehicle.



Intelligent Fleet can supply stickers as shown above. These stickers are double sided to display information both outside and inside the vehicle and contain the following text:

*"This is a no smoking vehicle. It is an offence to knowingly permit smoking in this vehicle. A penalty may be incurred. If you observe someone smoking in this vehicle, a complaint may be made to ....."*

These are high-quality stickers printed on both sides and are size 105 x 148.5mm. Sides are separated by a non-transparent coating to prevent show through. Orders can be placed via our website at [www.intelligentfleet.co.uk/smokingbanforfleets.htm](http://www.intelligentfleet.co.uk/smokingbanforfleets.htm)

1-10 stickers - £1.50 each (plus £1.45 postage)

11-100 stickers - £1.25 each (plus £3.55 postage)

Over 100 stickers - £0.90 each (plus £6.95 postage)

### Offences and penalties

The penalty for smoking in a smoke-free premises or vehicle is a fixed penalty notice of £50 or fine of up to £200.

For failing to display no smoking signs in smoke-free premises and vehicles as required by the legislation the fine is a fixed penalty notice of £200 or a fine of up to £1,000. For failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free premises or vehicle there is a fine of up to £2,500.

## About Intelligent Fleet

Intelligent Fleet is a specialist fleet consultancy aimed at providing leading-edge solutions to UK businesses. Our consultants are professionally qualified and have many years of fleet experience. We can advise in most areas of fleet provision, including:

- Fleet policy, including car benefit effectiveness, cash allowances, environmental impact and carbon footprint measurement
- Cost efficiency including tax optimisation, funding arrangements, ECO schemes
- Management of occupational road risk including appropriate policies and procedures
- Operational delivery including processes, service levels, tender support

Through our experience we have been able to create a unique products and services offering. Our unique mileagebase mileage capture system enables us to offer a range of specialist solutions aimed at reducing the cost of:

- Private fuel provision
- Cash allowances
- Business fuel costs
- Employee Car Ownership Schemes

In addition to the above, our technology also supports the management of occupational road risk, in particular for those who use their own vehicle for work. For further details visit our website at [www.intelligentfleet.co.uk](http://www.intelligentfleet.co.uk).

Whether you are a fleet operator or fleet supplier, our consultants have the qualifications and experience to deliver practical workable solutions to your business.