



## FWC Survey: Only a quarter of businesses check grey fleet drivers

THE EXTENT to which businesses continue to underestimate the importance of their grey fleet drivers and the lack of adequate provisions they have in place to meet duty of care commitments are revealed today in the results of the first Fleet World Confidential Fleet Operator Opinion Survey, in conjunction with fleet software supplier, Mycompanyfleet.

The Fleet World Confidential study, the first in a 12-monthly research series, found that some 91.7% of fleet respondents had a grey fleet in place - those drivers who use their own cars on company business.

These varied in size, with the most common being 0-50 drivers but a substantial proportion of fleets (18.2%) had over 200 grey fleet drivers.

However, only 25% of fleets said they carried out checks on grey fleet vehicles. The remainder, some three out of four fleets, did not, which potentially lays them open to the charge of failure to meet their duty of care responsibilities to drivers who use their own cars on company business.

Those fleets which did have vehicle condition checks in place did so on a fairly haphazard basis, with some companies insisting that the driver signed a declaration verifying the condition of the vehicle was roadworthy, while others relied on the existence of a current MOT certificate and up-to-date servicing schedule.

Others carried out tyre and bodywork checks, but not fluid levels,

while other respondents said they used to rely on their leasing supplier to check vehicle condition but currently did nothing.

Licence checking was recognised as being important, however, and some 90.0% respondents had some form of driver licence checking in place, most commonly on a 12-month basis.

But again, emphasising the haphazard nature of the general approach to managing the grey fleet, only 17% of respondents said they had in place fleet management software systems to manage their grey fleet while the majority of fleets, some 83%, did not.

