

Chiltern Transport & Warehousing Limited
Chiltern Transport (Northern) Limited
Chiltern Group Transport

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDE TO DRIVING

1 OBJECTIVE & SCOPE

The following information should serve to inform on ways in which we can minimise the impact of vehicles and driving. The information applies to company and private car owners alike. The fuel consumed, and emissions from vehicles form a significant portion of the environmental impact of our company. It is each member of staff's individual responsibility to use their vehicles in an environmentally responsible manner.

2 DRIVING

2.1 Before turning the key

- Plan and consolidate your trips – bypass congested routes, minimise your journey length and consider alternatives – phone calls, car sharing, public transport
- Keep the car properly serviced – poorly maintained cars emit more pollutants, and poor fuel efficiency
- Avoid overfilling your petrol tank – excess fuel will evaporate rather than be used, and contribute to air pollution
- Ensure your tyres are properly inflated – reducing wear and ensuring optimum fuel efficiency

2.2 Starting the car

- Don't pump the accelerator if you have fuel injection – fuel will burn inefficiently and cause air pollution
- Newer model cars don't need to be warmed by idling – prolonged idling on these cars creates excess emissions and may damage the catalytic converter

2.3 Behind the wheel

- Accelerate smoothly – quick starts or gunning the engine wastes fuel and may cause unburned fuel to escape directly to the atmosphere
- Avoid excess idling in non-traffic situations – idling for more than thirty seconds consumes more fuel than restarting the engine
- Obey speed limits – besides being unlawful, speeding increases fuel consumption and may increase exhaust emissions

- Maintain a steady speed – Using cruise control is ideal where safe, because it decreases accelerator pedal activity
- Remove excess weight – unnecessary weight (non-required items in the boot for example) makes the engine work harder and consume more fuel

3 EMISSION-REDUCING EQUIPMENT

The following equipment can be applied and used in a vehicle to reduce the vehicle's emissions:

- Catalytic converters – eliminate more than 95% of carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, and nitrogen oxides
- Cruise control – Saves fuel at motorway speeds by reducing excess accelerator pedal activity
- Fuel injection – efficiently regulates the amount of fuel delivered to the engine
- Overdrive transmissions – decrease the number of engine revolutions at higher speeds under cruise conditions, thus saving fuel
- Radial tyres – have less rolling resistance which makes for smooth rides and improves fuel economy

4 CONTACTS

Any comments, questions or queries should be directed as follows:

Servicing/maintenance – Keith Croker – Environmental Manager
Environment matters – Keith Croker – Environmental Manager

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