

### National Fleet Database (NFD) – Information for Motor Fleet and Motor Trade Policyholders including questions and answers

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#### 1. Background

The Road Traffic and Roads (RTR) Act (2023) has brought new obligations for Motor Fleet and Motor Trade policyholders.

The RTR Act was passed by Dáil Éireann in June 2023 and most of the insurance sections were commencement on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023. This legislation will be enforced by An Garda Síochána, so we advise that you start populating the NFD with the required information before the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 when the sections relating to fleet owners and motor traders will be commenced.

It is important for fleet owners and motor traders to have a process in place that allows them to upload the required data as this will ensure that you are compliant with the law (with no risk of conviction or being fined) and prevent your vehicles being seized by An Garda Síochána

The purpose of these new rules is to ensure that all vehicles driven on Irish roads are insured at all times, by enabling the enforcement authorities to identify uninsured vehicles or drivers, and thereby reduce the overall level of uninsured driving in Ireland.

These new legislative requirements in the Road Traffic Act will mean that fleet owners and motor traders who do not provide the required information will commit an offence, and will be liable, to a Class E fine of up to €500 on summary conviction in the District Court. In addition, a policyholder may have their vehicle seized by An Garda Síochána, if the vehicle is believed to be uninsured or their driver may be prosecuted for driving with no insurance.

#### 2. The National Fleet Database (NFD)

The NFD is the solution to help you to ensure that you are in compliance with the requirements in Road Traffic and Roads Act (2023)

The Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI), working with the insurance industry and their representative body, Insurance Ireland, have built a new National Fleet Database (NFD) to allow Motor Fleet and Motor Trade policyholders to easily upload and maintain the required information, which will support you in your compliance with the new legislation.

The NFD will be a central record of all vehicles insured under motor fleet and motor trade policies in the Republic of Ireland. It will be managed by the MIBI and be used by An Garda Síochána to support enforcement of the legal requirement for motor insurance and reduce the levels of uninsured driving. The NFD will also be used by the Department of Transport to track the insurance status of all registered vehicles, especially when motor tax is renewed each year for fleet vehicles.

An Garda Síochána will use, in addition to other technologies, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) to access the information from the NFD in order to identify and catch vehicles being driven while uninsured.

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#### 3. Your obligations as Fleet Owners and Motor Traders

The RTR Act places direct obligations on the policyholder to supply up to date and accurate information to the NFD. They can do this through their NFD login. The legislation will require a policyholder to supply the information within 14 days from the actual date of a vehicle acquisition/disposal or the addition/removal of a named driver covered under the policy. We would advise that in order for you to ensure you meet your obligations, you should update the information immediately a change takes place. Alternatively, you should schedule a review of the information on a weekly basis to ensure that the information is always up to date and accurate.

Upon logging in to the NFD, you will find that the database already contains the following;

- 1. the name of the Motor Fleet or Motor Trade Policyholder;
- 2. the insurer name and motor insurance policy number;
- 3. the Policyholder address noted on the policy;
- 4. the identity of any named drivers that are covered by the policy (if the policy is issued on an open driving basis, then only the drivers who are outside the range of the open driving rules, will be named on the policy and will appear in the NFD as named drivers that are covered under the policy);
- 5. The registration numbers for vehicles that you have provided to the insurer under an "Immediate Declaration Policy".

This information will be supplied by the motor insurer that underwrites the insurance policy or their designated representative and will be uploaded by them on a nightly basis in most cases.

#### 4. What information do you have to upload to the NFD?

In addition to the information supplied by the motor insurer, the fleet and motor trade policyholder will have to upload the following information to ensure compliance with the legislation;

- 1. All permanent vehicles: you must supply the registration number, VIN or serial number, for every vehicle covered (including any forklifts, tractors, special type vehicles and trailers\*\*) by uploading them to the NFD system within 14 days of change. This includes vehicles registered to, owned by, or leased to you, the policyholder, that are covered under the motor fleet or motor trade policy in question
  - \*\*In relation to trailers, it is those that are owned, hired or leased by you that need to be uploaded to the NFD.
- 2. **Temporary vehicles** held for <u>more than 14 days</u> (e.g. borrowed or hired vehicles): you must supply the registration number, VIN or serial number, for every temporary vehicle held for more than 14 days that are covered under the motor fleet or motor trade policy in question by uploading them to the NFD system
- 3. Additional information about drivers who are named on the policy as named drivers;
  - a. Driver's Date of Birth for each named driver (required from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023)
  - b. The driver number (item 4d from the driver's licence) of each named driver (required from Mid-2024 when the system is updated to accept this data)
  - The licence country of origin of the driving licence of each named driver (required from mid-2024 when the system is updated to accept this data – pick from list)
- 4. **Personally Owned Vehicle(s):** If the motor fleet or motor trade policy provides cover for vehicles which are 'personally owned vehicle(s)' the registration number and name of person to whom such 'personally owned vehicle' is registered. A 'personally owned vehicle(s)' is considered a vehicle for which you have agreed with your insurer in advance will be covered by the motor fleet or motor trade policy and is owned by a person other than the policyholder.
- 5. Trade Plates: Trade Plates are special registration plates obtained by motor traders/repairers. These are dealer plates issued to motor traders in order to transport vehicles on the road that may not yet have been registered or taxed. If you hold trade plates, the trade plate number(s) should be upload to the NFD using the trade plate screen in the format that they appear on the actual trade licence plate.

**Note 1:** Motor trade policyholders, should list all vehicles covered by the policy, including any such vehicles which are either owned by you or available for sale, and any trade plates operated by you. When you buy or sell a vehicle there is a grace period of up to 14 days to update the NFD, however we strongly recommend updating it as soon as you can. An Garda Síochána can, and have, stopped policyholders within the 14 day period.

**Note 2:** If a motor fleet or motor trade policyholder sells a vehicle and does not remove it from NFD, they may remain responsible for it and by default, so will their insurer. If the new owner has an accident and they have not arranged insurance elsewhere, then it is possible

that your insurer may be left responsible for dealing with the claim, or at least sharing responsibility. Therefore, it is vitally important that you keep the records on the NFD accurate and maintain the NFD in a timely manner to avoid any issues.

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#### 5. Sharing insurance data with An Garda Síochána

An Garda Síochána envisage making over two million enquiries a month using the data in the Irish Motor Insurance Database (IMID). The NFD is a component part of the IMID and the Gardai will use the data in the NFD to check if vehicles have adequate insurance. They also have the power to seize vehicles which they believe to be uninsured. By making sure your vehicles are correctly added to the NFD when they come on cover, and then removed when you no longer have them, you are;

- a. Complying with the Law.
- b. Saving your drivers the inconvenience and potential embarrassment if they are stopped by the Gardai and questioned about insurance for their vehicle.
- c. Saving yourself the potential costs associated with recovering vehicles that are seized.
- d. Helping An Garda Síochána to concentrate on those drivers that are actually uninsured.
- e. Helping protect all road users from uninsured drivers.

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#### 6. Who will have access to the data in the NFD?

The information in the NFD will be accessible to An Garda Síochána, the Department of Transport, the Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI) as set out in the RTR Act and your current motor insurer.

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#### 7. What it means for you?

Fleet Owners and Motor Traders should enter the data required for each of their vehicles and drivers on the NFD website at <a href="https://nfd.mtpl.ie/">https://nfd.mtpl.ie/</a>

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#### 8. Why do I have to provide my data to the NFD?

The RTR Act requires that details of all motor insurance policies be made available to An Garda Síochána, the Department of Transport and the Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI is the body responsible for dealing with claims against uninsured drivers).

#### 9. What happens if I don't provide the data to the NFD?

- a. The Gardai will have access to the data on the NFD,
- b. If a vehicle registration belonging to you or under your custody or control is not entered on the NFD, it will show as being uninsured if a Garda makes an enquiry on the NFD from their office or on their new mobility devices,
- c. If your vehicle is scanned by the ANPR system in Garda cars, an alert will be signaled to the Garda that your vehicle may be uninsured. Your vehicle will then be stopped.
- d. Your vehicle may then be impounded until proof of insurance is furnished or you may have to produce proof of insurance at a local Garda Station,
- e. This will continue to occur until your vehicle registration has been put on the NFD,
- f. In addition to the above, if you do not provide your data to the NFD, you run the risk of being convicted of an Offence and will be liable on summary conviction to a Class E fine of up to €500.

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#### 10. How do I do upload my data to the NFD?

You may already have a "Unique Fleet Identifier" (UID), but if not, your broker or insurer will provide you with a UID to log on to the NFD. Your UID together with a valid policy number will allow you to register and start uploading your vehicle and driver details at <a href="https://nfd.mtpl.ie/">https://nfd.mtpl.ie/</a>.

It's important to note that this UID is unique to your fleet or motor trade business and will remain with you even if you change insurer and/or broker. Please ensure that when you change broker or insurer, that your new broker or insurer uses the same UID for your fleet. Otherwise, if you receive a new UID from the broker or insurer, you will have to set up a new user account on the NFD and your previous history will be unavailable.

If you already have a valid UID, (that you may have used to log onto the old NFD), you can use it together with a valid policy number to register on the new NFD. Your old NFD password will not work on the new NFD. You must register again on the new NFD before you can access it to upload your data.

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#### 11. Is there a user manual or help videos available?

While the website is extremely user-friendly, there is a manual and helpful short videos available to view or download under the "Help" button on the homepage of the NFD website. They will assist you through each step in using the NFD to upload your vehicle and driver data.

#### 12. Who do I contact if I have an issue?

Should you have any difficulty in using the site or uploading your data, you should firstly contact your broker, or insurer, who will advise you about your UID and policy number.

If you receive an error when you enter your UID, please check to ensure that the UID and policy number is valid for your insurance policy. Your broker, or insurer, will be able to verify your UID.

Please note that broker policy numbers will not work on the NFD. You must use the policy number that is issued by your insurer. You broker can check the policy number using the broker portal on the NFD if you have any difficulties.

For all other support issues, please contact the NFD system administrator at the MIBI using the following email address <a href="mailto:mtpl@mibi.ie">mtpl@mibi.ie</a>.

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#### 13. What vehicle types should I update on the NFD?

- a. Any vehicle that is owned by you or is in your custody and control and which is covered under your motor fleet or motor trade policy.
- b. For example, this might include private cars, commercial vehicles (both LCV and HGV), special types of vehicles (such as diggers, dumpers and excavators), coaches & buses and so on.
- c. Any vehicle that you intend to have covered or is covered by your motor fleet or motor trade policy should be added. This also includes "personally owned vehicles" that may be covered under your fleet or motor trade policy provided that this has been agreed in advance by your broker/insurer.
- d. If you operate a garage or a motor trade business and use "Trade Plates", these have to be uploaded to the NFD using the trade plate screen on the NFD. You should not include trade plate registration in the Excel sheet that you use to upload vehicle registrations.
- e. If you are unsure if the vehicle should be added to the NFD contact your broker or insurer for clarification.

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### 14. Do I have to upload Trailers to the NFD?

Yes, trailers that are owned, hired or leased by you and covered on the fleet policy have to be added to the NFD using the individual registration number or serial number for the trailer.

### 15. How often do I have to update my vehicle list and driver details on the NFD?

- a. It is recommended that you update the NFD whenever insured vehicles are added to or removed from your fleet, or your custody or control as a motor trader. This will ensure your vehicles, or the vehicles you are responsible for, are not stopped by the Gardaí,
- b. In any event, the RTR Act places an obligation on motor fleet and motor trade policyholders to update their data on the NFD within 14 days of a change to the list of vehicles in the fleet or a change to the driver details.

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#### 16. How do I get access to the NFD?

Your broker or insurer will provide you with a UID (Unique Identifier) to log on to the NFD. This together with a valid policy number will allow you to register at <a href="https://nfd.mtpl.ie/">https://nfd.mtpl.ie/</a>. It's important to note that this UID is unique to your fleet or motor trade business and will remain with you even if you change insurer and/or broker. If you already have a valid UID that you use to log onto the old NFD, you can use it to register on the new NFD, however, you should check with your broker or insurer to ensure that it is still valid. Also see question "4 How do I do this?" above.

**Note:** Passwords from the old NFD will not work on the new NFD. You must register on the new NFD using your UID and a valid policy number.

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### 17. Where do I get my UID and Password for NFD?

- a. Your broker or current insurer will provide you with your UID.
- b. You can then use the UID and your insurance policy number to register on the NFD at <a href="https://nfd.mtpl.ie/">https://nfd.mtpl.ie/</a>
- c. You cannot use the password associated with your UID on the old NFD. When you register with the new NFD using your UID and Policy number the system will generate a new password for you which you can use when logging into the new NFD system.
- d. Please note that if you have multiple policies covering your fleet of vehicles, you will need a separate UID and NFD log on for each policy.

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#### 18. Do I need to renew my UID and Password every year?

No. But it is good practice to change your password on a regular basis for security reasons. Your UID is a unique number to you and you must provide this to your broker and insurer when moving to a different provider.

#### 19. What happens if I forget my UID and Password?

The log on page for NFD provides access to reissue your UID and renew your password.

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#### 20. What if I don't have access to a computer?

It is unlikely that a Garda will accept this as a reason for not uploading your data to the NFD. If you do not put your vehicle registrations and additional named driver data on to the NFD, you are running the risk of your vehicle being impounded and/or having to produce evidence of insurance at a Garda Station. You may also be prosecuted for not providing the data and risk a Class E fine of up to €500 in the District Court

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## 21. If I have multiple insurance policies do I need a separate UID for each policy?

- a. Yes. You need a separate UID for each policy,
- b. You also need a separate NFD logon for each UID, so if you have multiple policies, you will have to register as a user on the NFD for each policy/UID combination.

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### 22. How do I add or delete vehicle and driver details on the NFD?

- a. Once you log in, you can click on the appropriate menu option to add or delete the data on vehicles and drivers. Please click the "Help" button on the NFD to obtain a copy of the Excel template for bulk uploading vehicles to the NFD.
  - **Note:** If you used a template to upload vehicles to the old NFD, please obtain the new template as the old one will not work on the new NFD,
- Please note that you will only have to upload vehicles details that are covered by a declaration policy to the NFD,
- c. If your policy is written on a specified vehicle basis, then you do not have to upload these vehicle registrations to the NFD. If your policy requires the immediate declaration (to insurer) of a new vehicle or the removal of a vehicle when it is being disposed of, then your insurer will upload the registrations to the NFD. You should check with your broker, or insurer, what type of policy you have to ensure the obligations to have such vehicles uploaded on the NFD is being completed. However, please remember you will still have to provide the additional driver information to the NFD regardless of the type of policy you have.

# 23. Is it possible to upload a large number of vehicle registrations in one go?

Yes. You can upload a list of vehicles using an Excel spreadsheet. Please follow the instructions once you log on to the NFD. Click the "Help" button and obtain a copy of the Excel template that can be used to bulk add or delete vehicles from your fleet. You must insert the registration number for all active vehicles in your fleet when you complete the Excel sheet. If you omit any, they will be marked as being off cover if they were uploaded in previous Excel sheets. For example, if you uploaded 100 vehicles on 1/Jun/22 and then uploaded 90 vehicles on the 5/Jun/22, the ten missing vehicles will be marked as off cover from 5/Jun/22.

Note: Do not include trade plates in the Excel upload file for registration numbers.

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#### 24. Can I ask someone else to upload my data to the NFD?

- a. You need to consider who is the best person to upload your data to the NFD. We have found that ideally this should be the person who is responsible for managing vehicles and drivers in your business on a day-to-day basis, as they will be involved in the changes associated with the information you need to keep updated in the NFD. This person might be a fleet manager, someone responsible for drivers and cars in a HR or procurement department, or the business owner. It is important to find the right person and it should be someone who is involved in overseeing the vehicles and drivers that are covered by your insurance policy.
- b. You can delegate this responsibility to the broker that manages your insurance policy. However, your broker must agree to do so as this is additional administration work that is outside of their usual remit as an insurance broker, and they may charge a fee for carrying out such work. It is important to note that the obligation to upload the vehicle and driver data to the NFD remains with the fleet owner and motor trader. If your broker carries out this for you, it does not prevent you from being liable for a summary conviction to a Class E fine of up to €500 if the data on the NFD is not accurate and kept up to date the obligation is yours as the motor fleet or motor trade policyholder,
- c. If your broker agrees that they will update your data to the NFD, they must firstly, log on to the NFD and tick the box to allow delegated authority for their client. When the broker ticks the box, the fleet owner or motor trader can then log on to the NFD and tick a box to give delegated authority to their broker to upload data on their behalf. This double lock is implemented to ensure that brokers agree to receive delegated authority from their client before the client can give the delegated authority. Please follow the instructions once you log on.

#### 25. Can I add named drivers to the NFD?

- a. No. You must inform your broker, or insurer, if a named driver is added or removed from the policy. This change will then be uploaded to the NFD by the insurer,
- b. If a new named driver is added to the policy, the motor fleet or motor trade policyholder will have to add the driver's date of birth (commencing 30/Nov/23), the driver number (commencing mid-2024) and the country of origin of the driving licence (commencing mid-2024) within 14 days of the named driver being added to the NFD by the insurer.

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## 26. Can I add a personally owned vehicle to the NFD if it is covered by my policy?

- a. Yes. Provided that your broker or insurer permits you to add a personally owned vehicle to your insurance policy,
- b. If this is permitted, you can include a personally owned vehicle in the list of vehicles that you upload to the NFD,
- c. You must also identify the name of the person that owns the vehicle, by including it in the 2<sup>nd</sup> tab in Excel spreadsheet that you use to upload your vehicles to the NFD. When the named is uploaded, you have to add the person's date of birth in the "personally owned vehicle" menu option on the NFD screen.

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### 27. What if I change my broker or insurer?

Please advise your new broker/insurer of your UID as this is unique to you. If you are splitting your fleet across two or more insurance policies, you will need a UID for each policy. This means that if you move to a new insurer and do not transfer the whole fleet of vehicles to the new insurer, then you will have to get a second UID to cover the vehicles that are insured by the new insurer. This is really important as you will not be able to add vehicles to the NFD for two policies using the same UID.

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### 28. Do I need to add temporary vehicles to the NFD?

Motor fleet and motor trade policyholders should enter the registration number of each of their vehicles on the NFD if they will be in possession of the vehicles for <u>more than 14 days</u>. If you are in any doubt about how long the vehicle will be kept by you, it is recommended that you enter the registration number on the database as soon as it comes into your fleet or under your custody or control. If a vehicle will only remain in the fleet or under your custody or control for 14 days or less, then you do not have to add it to the NFD. This exception is designed to reduce the administration associated with adding and removing temporary vehicles that are covered for short durations.

#### 29. Do motor traders have to upload all vehicles in their stock?

Yes. The registration numbers of all vehicles **covered by the motor trade policy** must be uploaded to the NFD, provided that they will remain in your ownership, custody or control for more than 14 days. It is advised that motor traders should upload their stock list at least weekly to ensure that the NFD is kept up to date as the stock of vehicles changes.

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#### 30. Do I need to register the make and model of the vehicle?

- a. No. You do not have to enter this information unless the system cannot automatically identify a vehicle,
- b. The NFD is linked to Cartell and the vehicle details are automatically populated in the NFD using the registration number of each vehicle. Cartell is an Irish company that provides comprehensive vehicle data to all sectors of the automotive industry and is a value added service we have included in the NFD to reduce the amount of data that you enter into the system.

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#### 31. When do I need to start populating the NFD?

- a. The deadline to commence uploading vehicles and dates of birth for named drivers is the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- b. Our advice is don't wait for the legislation. Having a process to populate the information on the NFD as a business-as-usual task prior to the legislation will also ensure that you can access the system, are familiar with the system and you or your teams have everything ready in time.
- c. This new requirements in the RTR Act will be enforced by An Garda Síochána from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and therefore we advise that you start populating the NFD with the required information immediately. Having a process up and running that populates this important information as a 'business-as-usual task' will ensure you are compliant with the law (with no risk of conviction or being fined) and prevent a vehicle being seized (which would otherwise cause your normal business to be disrupted) by An Garda Síochána.

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#### 32. Will my data transfer from the old NFD to the new NFD?

No. The data on the old NFD will not be transferred to the new NFD as the data content and structure of the database is different in the new NFD. If you are already uploading data to the old NFD, you should firstly register on the new NFD. Then download the vehicle Excel template that is available under the help screen. You will notice a new tab in the template that allows you to identify "personally owned vehicles" in your fleet which is not catered for in the old NFD.

# 33. Do I have to upload my fleet to the NFD if I am on an immediate declaration policy?

If vehicles are on an immediate declaration, then the insurer receives a list of vehicles to be covered by the policy. They add the list of vehicles to the policy and then the insurer uploads the vehicle registrations to the NFD with other policy information. Fleet owners only have to upload vehicles on annual declaration type policies.

From November 30, 2023, fleet owners will be required to register the date of birth for any named drivers on both immediate declaration and annual declaration policies. This does not apply to 'open drive' drivers as their names do not have to be provided to the NFD.