



North Somerset Council

Introduction

North Somerset Council run a diverse fleet of vehicles that includes minibuses, HGVs and 4x4s as well as cars and vans; 110 vehicles in total. North Somerset Council had made the decision to tender for a fleet management solution that would replace their existing system, in a bid to improve their internal management and controls.

Challenges

Varied fleets can be difficult to control, and North Somerset's fleet manager, Carl Nicholson, was finding that as the fleet grew, data was becoming increasingly fragmented. He concluded that the complex array of spreadsheets they'd relied on to date were hindering instead of helping his job, and so, armed with a very clear wish list, the Council embarked on an evaluation of fleet management software. Several products were trialled and the Council quickly concluded that FleetCheck not only ticked all of their immediate requirements, but it gave scope for improvement far beyond what was initially hoped for.

How FleetCheck Helped

Soon after initial discussions it became apparent that FleetCheck's integration flexibility would help solve the day to day pains fleet manager Carl Nicholson was experiencing with their incumbent supplier.

As part of the implementation process, FleetCheck managed the full migration of existing data from the old system. They then set about integrating the Council's telematics suppliers

data, giving real-time mileage capture. What's more, bringing in live data from fuelcard providers meant that Carl had a really comprehensive, accurate insight into the costs and performance of every vehicle in the fleet.

Carl Nicholson, fleet manager, said, "Migrating to FleetCheck was a simple business decision because first and foremost FleetCheck delivers exceptional value for money. But it's not just about cost. FleetCheck makes it easy to bring a multitude of fleet data sources into one place, and for a diverse fleet like ours that's a fundamental requirement."

Benefits were instant; Carl no longer had to search numerous systems for information on their drivers, vehicles and costs and he could pick and choose the reporting options that were right for him and for others within the Council's hierarchy.

The use of visual alerts and automated emails within FleetCheck also meant that compliance was no longer a constant worry.

Working relationships with maintenance contractors were greatly improved due to the free flow of information within the system, to the extent where they have been able to confidently hand over the day to day responsibility of regular maintenance work scheduling to the contractors, using their own access within the system. Carl still has full visibility and control, but the process no longer relies on his intervention at each stage – it just flows smoothly and everyone involved knows exactly what to do.

Results and ROI

Migrating to FleetCheck was hailed a resounding success, and North Somerset Council quickly found that evolving technology and data intelligence, when combined with FleetCheck's intuitive user interface, helped to transform the management of their fleet.

An ongoing programme of fleet review has revealed that thanks to the effective combination of vehicle telematics, accident cameras and the use of FleetCheck's software, North Somerset Council is enjoying a significant reduction in their fleet operating costs.

Carl explains: "The system is so effective that we have been able to free up time and resource equivalent to two full time employees. This resource was deployed elsewhere within the council, saving circa £40,000 per annum in back office costs."