



Highways Act 1980

1980 CHAPTER 66

U.K.

An Act to consolidate the Highways Acts 1959 to 1971 and related enactments, with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission. [13th November 1980]

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act: definition of "carriageway" applied (1.1.1963) by [Pipelines Act 1962](#) (c. 58, SIF 102), **ss. 15(10)**, 70(3); S.I. 1963/2790, **art. 1**
- Act: definitions ("highway authority", "local highway authority", "special road", "special road authority" and "traffic") applied (1.11.1991) by [New Roads and Street Works Act 1991](#) (c. 22, SIF 59, 108), **s. 26(1)** (with ss. 25(2), 167(2)); S.I. 1991/2288, **art. 3, Sch.**
- Act: definitions ("highway" and "highway authority") applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991](#) (c. 56, SIF 130), **ss. 219(1)**, 223(2) (with ss. 82(3), 186(1), 222(1), Sch. 13 para. 1, Sch. 14 para. 6)
- Act: definitions ("bridleway" and "footpath") applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991](#) (c. 56, SIF 130), ss. 167, 223(2), **Sch. 11 para. 10** (with ss. 82(3), 186(1), 222(1), Sch. 13 para. 1, Sch. 14 para. 6)
- Act: definitions applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Industry Act 1991](#) (c. 56, SIF 130), ss. 183, 223(2), **Sch. 13 para. 3(1)** (with ss. 82(3), 186(1), 222(1), Sch. 13 para. 1, Sch. 14 para. 6)
- Act: definition of "highway" applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Resources Act 1991](#) (c. 57, SIF 130), **ss. 221(1)**, 225(2) (with ss. 16(6), 179, 222(3), 224(1), 225(4), Sch. 22 para. 1)
- Act: definitions ("bridleway" and "footpath") applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Resources Act 1991](#) (c. 57, SIF 130), ss. 168, 225(2), **Sch. 19 para. 10** (with ss. 16(6), 179, 222(3), 224(1), 225(4), Sch. 22 para. 1)
- Act: definitions applied (1.12.1991) by [Water Resources Act 1991](#) (c. 57, SIF 130), ss. 178, 225(2), **Sch. 22 para. 3(1)** (with ss. 16(6), 179, 222(3), 224(1), 225(4), Sch. 22 para. 1)
- Act: definitions ("highway authority" and "local highway authority") applied (14.7.1992) by [New Roads and Street Works Act 1991](#) (c. 22, SIF 59, 108), **s. 86(1)** (with s. 167(4)(5)); S.I. 1992/1686, **art. 3, Sch.**
- Act: definitions ("carriageway" and "footway") applied (14.7.1992) by [New Roads and Street Works Act 1991](#) (c. 22, SIF 59, 108), **s. 105(1)** (with s. 167(4)(5)); S.I. 1992/1686, **art. 3, Sch.**

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- C2** Act: functions of Minister of Transport (except those exercisable jointly with Secretary of State under ss. 258, 300(2), Sch. 1 paras. 7, 8, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21) now exercisable by Secretary of State by S.I. 1981/238, **arts. 2(2), 3(2)(3)**
Act: certain functions made exercisable as specified (25.7.1995) by S.I. 1995/1986, **art. 2, Sch. 1** (which affecting provisions were revoked (24.3.2009) by S.I. 2009/721, **art. 4(1)(2)** (subject to art. 4(3)(4))
Act: powers transferred (1.7.1999) (subject to the specified exceptions in the amending S.I.) by S.I. 1999/672, **art. 2, Sch.**
- C3** Act extended by **Gas Act 1986** (c. 44, SIF 44:2), s. 67(1)(3), Sch. 7 para. 2(1)(xl), **Sch. 8 para. 33**
Act extended by **Electricity Act 1989** (c. 29, SIF 44:1), ss. 112(1)(3), Sch. 16 para. 2(4)(d)(6)(9), Sch. 17 paras. 33, **35(1)**
Act extended by **Water Act 1989** (c. 15, SIF 130), ss. 58(7), 101(1), 141(6), 160(1)(2)(4), 163, 189(4)-(10), 190, 193(1), Sch. 25 para. 1(2)(xxv)(8), Sch. 26 paras. 3(1)(2), 17, 40(4), 57(6), **58**
Act extended (10.11.1993) by 1993 c. 28, **s. 172(5)**; S.I. 1993/2762, **art. 3**
- C4** Act amended (prosp. in part) by **Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (c. 8, SIF 123:1), **ss. 27, 28** (1)(2)
Act amended by **Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (c. 8, SIF 123:1), **s. 54(1)**
Act amended (1.3.1996) by 1995 c. 45, s. 16(1), **Sch. 4 para. 2(1)(xxix)**; S.I. 1996/218, **art. 2**
Act amended (1.3.1996) by 1995 c. 45, s. 16(1), **Sch. 4 para. 2(6)**; S.I. 1996/218, **art. 2**
Act amended (1.4.1996) by S.I. 1996/593, **reg. 2, Sch. 1**
- C5** Act: power to exclude conferred by **Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (c. 8, SIF 123:1), **s. 61(3)(b)**
Act: power to apply conferred by **Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (c. 8, SIF 123:1), **s. 247(3)**
- C6** Act restricted (1.10.1991) by **Road Traffic Act 1991** (c. 40, SIF 107:1), **s. 60(1)**; S.I. 1991/2054, **art. 3**
- C7** Act applied (1.11.1991) by **New Roads and Street Works Act 1991** (c. 22, SIF 59, 108), **s. 1(2)**; S.I. 1991/2288, **art. 3, Sch.**
- C8** Act modified by **Channel Tunnel Act 1987** (c. 53, SIF 102), s. 35, Sch. 4 paras. 7(1), **10(1)**
Act modified by **Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Act 1988** (c. 20, SIF 59), ss. 3, 19, **Sch. 3 para. 9**
Act modified by **Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (c. 8, SIF 123:1), ss. 28, 54, **Sch. 2 Pt. I para. 1(2), Pt. III para. 2**
Act modified (10.2.1992) by **Planning and Compensation Act 1991** (c. 34, SIF 123:1), s. 27, **Sch. 4 Pt. III para. 44(9)** (with s. 84(5)); S.I. 1991/2095, **art. 4**
Act modified (13.2.1992) by the **Severn Bridges Act 1992** (c. 3), s. 3, **Sch. 3 para. 5(3)**
Act modified (1.4.1996) by 1990 c. 8, **Sch. 2 Pt. IA** (inserted (1.4.1996) by 1994 c. 19, s. 20(3), Sch. 5 Pt. II para. 8 (with s. 54(7), Sch. 17 paras. 22(1), **23(2)**); S.I. 1995/3198, **art. 4, Sch. 2**)
Act modified (18.12.1996) by 1996 c. 61, s. 44, **Sch. 12 Pt. III para. 8(1)**
Act modified (18.12.1996) by 1996 c. 61, s. 44, **Sch. 12 Pt. III para. 11**
Act modified (28.9.2004 for E. and 15.10.2003 for W.) by **Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004** (c. 5), **s. 38** (with s. 111); S.I. 2004/2202, **art. 2(c)** (subject to art. 4); S.I. 2005/2847, **art. 2(a)** (subject to art. 3)
- C9** Act excluded (26.8.2005) by **The River Tyne (Tunnels) Order 2005** (S.I. 2005/2222), **art. 10(6)** (with arts. 45(1), 48, Sch. 10 paras. 21, 29)
Act excluded (26.8.2005) by **The River Tyne (Tunnels) Order 2005** (S.I. 2005/2222), **art. 37(1)** (with arts. 45(1), 48, Sch. 10 paras. 21, 29)
- C10** Act: certain functions made exercisable as specified (24.3.2009) by **The Contracting Out (Highway Functions) Order 2009** (S.I. 2009/721), **art. 3, Sch. 1**
- C11** Act: power to amend conferred (1.10.2010) by **Flood and Water Management Act 2010** (c. 29), **ss. 28, 49(3)** (with s. 49(1)(6)); S.I. 2010/2169, **art. 4, Sch.**
- C12** Act excluded (1.2.2011) by **The River Mersey (Mersey Gateway Bridge) Order 2011** (S.I. 2011/41), **arts. 1, 11(3)** (with arts. 3(5), 51, Sch. 10 paras. 68, 85)
- C13** Act: transfer of functions (2.7.2012) by **The British Waterways Board (Transfer of Functions) Order 2012** (S.I. 2012/1659), **art. 2, Sch. 1** (with arts. 4-6)
- C14** Act applied (with modifications) (18.2.2014) by **London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2013** (c. v), **s. 6**

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C15 Act functions made exercisable as specified (E.) (1.4.2015) by [The Delegation of Functions \(Strategic Highways Companies\) \(England\) Regulations 2015 \(S.I. 2015/378\)](#), regs. 1(1), 3, **Sch. 1 para. 1**

Commencement Information

I1 Act not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 345(2); Act wholly in force at 1.1.1981

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 79(15)(aa) inserted by [2023 asc 3 Sch. 13 para. 54\(b\)](#)
- s. 90B(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 10 para. 15\(3\)](#)
- s. 90C(2)(2A) substituted for s. 90C(2) by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 10 para. 16\(3\)](#)
- s. 90FA inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 10 para. 20](#)
- s. 118ZA(5)(a) words inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 25\(3\)](#)
- s. 120(3ZA) inserted by [2000 c. 37 Sch. 6 para. 13\(6\)](#)
- s. 121E(1A)(1B) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 23\(5\)](#)
- s. 146(6) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 24\(6\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 147(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 24\(3\)](#)
- s. 147(5A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 24\(5\)](#)
- s. 203(2)(b)(ia) inserted by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 219(1)(a)(i)(ii) inserted by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(3\)](#)
- s. 220(1A) inserted by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 223(1A) inserted by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 223(5A) inserted by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(5\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 223(5B)-(6) s. 223(6) renumbered as s. 223(5B)(6) by [S.I. 2023/908 reg. 6\(5\)\(e\)](#)
- s. 322(5)(ab) inserted by [2004 c. 18 s. 64\(2\)](#)
- s. 325(2B) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 10 para. 21](#)
- s. 337(c) inserted by [2024 asc 3 Sch. 3 para. 2\(10\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 1(3ZA) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 2(2ZA)-(2ZE) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 2(4) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 2(5)(6) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(5\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 2ZZA inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(6\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 4A(2) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(7\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 5(ba) inserted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(8\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 4A(1) words renumbered as Sch. 6 para. 4A(1) by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(7\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 4A(1) words substituted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 7 para. 8\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 6 Pt. 1 para. 2B(4) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 25\(6\)](#)