



Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 27

PART VI

SPEED LIMITS

87 Exemption of fire brigade, ambulance and police vehicles from speed limits. E
+W

[^{F1}(1)] No statutory provision imposing a speed limit on motor vehicles shall apply to any vehicle on an occasion when it is being used for [^{F2}fire and rescue authority], for ambulance purposes or police purposes, if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion.

[^{F3}(1A)] Subsection (1) above applies in relation to a vehicle that, although not being used for ambulance purposes, is being used for the purpose of providing a response to an emergency at the request of an NHS ambulance service.

(1B) In subsection (1A), “an NHS ambulance service” means—

- (a) an NHS trust or NHS foundation trust established under the National Health Service Act 2006 which has a function of providing ambulance services;
- (b) an NHS trust established under the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 which has a function of providing ambulance services;
- (c) the Scottish Ambulance Service Board.]

[^{F4}(2)] Subsection (1) above applies in relation to a vehicle being used—

- (a) for [^{F5}National Crime Agency] purposes, or
- (b) for training persons to drive vehicles for use for [^{F5}National Crime Agency] purposes,

as it applies in relation to a vehicle being used for police purposes.

(3) But (except where it is being used for training the person by whom it is being driven) subsection (1) above does not apply in relation to a vehicle by virtue of subsection (2)

Status: There are multiple versions of this provision on screen. These apply to different geographical extents. Skip to: E+W - England and Wales extent S - Scotland extent

Changes to legislation: Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 87 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

above unless it is being driven by a person who has been trained in driving vehicles at high speeds.]

Extent Information

- E1** This version of this provision extends to England and Wales only; a separate version has been created for Scotland only

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 87 renumbered (E.W.) (1.1.2006) as s. 87(1) by [Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 59, 178, [Sch. 4 para. 42\(2\)](#); S.I. 2005/3495, [art. 2\(1\)\(l\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 87 substituted (E.W.) (1.10.2004 for E., 10.11.2004 for W.) by [Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 \(c. 21\)](#), ss. 53, 61, [Sch. 1 para. 55](#); S.I. 2004/2304, [art. 2\(2\)](#) (subject to art. 3); S.I. 2004/2917, [art. 2](#)
- F3** S. 87(1A)(1B) inserted (26.5.2015) by [Deregulation Act 2015 \(c. 20\)](#), [ss. 50\(4\)\(5\)](#), 115(3)(d)
- F4** S. 87(2)(3) added (E.W.) (1.1.2006) by [Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 59, 178, [Sch. 4 para. 42\(3\)](#); S.I. 2005/3495, [art. 2\(1\)\(l\)](#)
- F5** Words in s. 87(2)(a)(b) substituted (7.10.2013) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(2), [Sch. 8 para. 29\(2\)](#); S.I. 2013/1682, [art. 3\(v\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 87 modified (temp.) by 2012 asp 8 sch. 7 para. 54 (as modified) (S.) (1.4.2013) by [The Police and Fire Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2012 \(Commencement No. 4, Transitory and Transitional Provisions\) Order 2013 \(S.S.I. 2013/51\)](#), arts. 1(1), [4](#) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.S.I. 2013/121)

87 Exemption of fire brigade, ambulance and police vehicles from speed limits. **S**

No statutory provision imposing a speed limit on motor vehicles shall apply to any vehicle on an occasion when it is being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes [^{F6}or for or in connection with the exercise of any function of [^{F7}the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service]], if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion.

[^{F3}(1A) Subsection (1) above applies in relation to a vehicle that, although not being used for ambulance purposes, is being used for the purpose of providing a response to an emergency at the request of an NHS ambulance service.

(1B) In subsection (1A), “an NHS ambulance service” means—

- (a) an NHS trust or NHS foundation trust established under the National Health Service Act 2006 which has a function of providing ambulance services;
- (b) an NHS trust established under the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 which has a function of providing ambulance services;
- (c) the Scottish Ambulance Service Board.]

Extent Information

- E2** This version of this provision extends to Scotland only; a separate version has been created for England and Wales only

Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 87(1A)(1B) inserted (26.5.2015) by [Deregulation Act 2015 \(c. 20\)](#), [ss. 50\(4\)\(5\)](#), 115(3)(d)

Status: *There are multiple versions of this provision on screen. These apply to different geographical extents.* **Skip to:** *E+W - England and Wales extent* *S - Scotland extent*

Changes to legislation: *Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 87 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- F6** Words in s. 87 inserted (S.) (2.8.2005) by [Fire \(Scotland\) Act 2005 \(asp 5\)](#), ss. 89(1), 90, **Sch. 3 para. 12**; [S.S.I. 2005/392](#), **art. 2**
- F7** Words in s. 87 substituted (S.) (1.4.2013) by [Police and Fire Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2012 \(asp 8\)](#), s. 129(2), **sch. 7 para. 54**; [S.S.I. 2013/51](#), art. 2 (with art. 4) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.S.I. 2013/121](#))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 87 modified (temp.) by 2012 asp 8 sch. 7 para. 54 (as modified) (S.) (1.4.2013) by [The Police and Fire Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2012 \(Commencement No. 4, Transitory and Transitional Provisions\) Order 2013 \(S.S.I. 2013/51\)](#), arts. 1(1), **4** (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.S.I. 2013/121](#))

Status:

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Changes to legislation:

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Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

View outstanding changes

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 87 substituted by [2006 c. 49 s. 19](#)
- s. 87(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 50\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. This amendment is to be applied to the version of s. 87 that is prospectively substituted by [2006 c. 49, s. 19](#))

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

- Act power to amend secondary legislation conferred by [S.I. 2020/1297 art. 48\(6\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S.I. 2020/1297 was withdrawn following a request from the Department of Transport dated 9th August 2021 which followed the decision of the High Court of Justice to quash this Order in the judgement dated 2nd August 2021 (High Court of Justice — Planning Court — The Queen (on the application of Save Stonehenge World Heritage Site) v. Secretary of State for Transport — Case No. CO/4844/2020))

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

- s. 87(1)(a) words omitted by [2015 c. 20 s. 50\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. This amendment is to be applied to the version of s. 87 that is prospectively substituted by [2006 c. 49, s. 19](#))
- s. 87(1)(a) words substituted by [2013 c. 22 Sch. 8 para. 29\(3\)](#)
- s. 87(1)(b) words substituted by [2017 c. 4 s. 26\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 87(1)(c) word inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 50\(2\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. This amendment is to be applied to the version of s. 87 that is prospectively substituted by [2006 c. 49, s. 19](#))
- s. 87(1)(aa) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 50\(2\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. This amendment is to be applied to the version of s. 87 that is prospectively substituted by [2006 c. 49, s. 19](#))
- s. 87(7) inserted by [2017 c. 4 s. 26\(6\)\(b\)](#)