
 STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1984 No. 966

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations and General Directions 1984

<i>Made - - - -</i>	10th July 1984
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	20th July 1984
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	13th August 1984

The Secretary of State for Transport, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly in exercise of the powers conferred by section 54(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967 (a) as amended by paragraph 24(b) of Schedule 3 to the Secretary of State for the Environment Order 1970 (b) and now vested in them (c), and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with section 107(2) of the said Act of 1967, hereby make the following Regulations and give the following Directions:—

PART I – TRAFFIC SIGNS REGULATIONS

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations 1984.
2. The Traffic Signs Regulations 1981 (d) are further amended in accordance with the following provisions of these Regulations.
3. In Regulation 3 (Savings) in paragraph (2), in the proviso—
 - (a) after sub-paragraph (ii) insert the following sub-paragraph:—
 - “(iia) on and after 1st January 1985 in relation to any sign shown in diagram 649 in Schedule 1 to the Regulations of 1975;”;
 - (b) in sub-paragraph (iii) delete “649”; and
 - (c) after sub-paragraph (iii) add the following sub-paragraph:—
 - “(iv) on and after 1st January 1985 in relation to any sign shown in diagram 649.1 in Schedule 1 to these Regulations”.
4. In Regulation 7 (Application of section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 to signs and disqualification)—
 - (a) in paragraph (1)—
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (a) for “649.1” substitute “649.2”;
 - (ii) delete sub-paragraph (d); and
 - (iii) for sub-paragraph (e) substitute the following sub-paragraph:—
 - “(e) until 1st January 1985 to any sign of the type shown in diagram 649 in Schedule 1 to the 1975 Regulations or in diagram 649.1 in Schedule 1 to these Regulations, and”;

(a) 1967 c.76.

(b) S.I. 1970/1681.

(c) S.I. 1979/571 and 1981/238 (as respects the powers of the Secretary of State for Transport).

(d) S.I. 1981/859; the relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 1982/1879.

(b) in paragraph (2)—

- (i) in sub-paragraph (b) for “649.1” substitute “649.2”;
- (ii) delete sub-paragraph (e); and
- (iii) for sub-paragraph (f) substitute the following sub-paragraph:—
 “(f) until 1st January 1985 any sign of the type shown in diagram 649 in schedule 1 to the Regulations of 1975 or in diagram 649.1 in Schedule 1 to these Regulations, and”.

5. In Regulation 9 (Signs to be of the sizes, colours and types shown in diagrams), in sub-paragraph (b), for “or 649.1” substitute “, 649.1 or 649.2”.

6. Regulation 10 is revoked.

7. For Regulation 11 substitute the following Regulation:—

“11.—(1) the requirements conveyed by a sign of the size, colour and type shown in a diagram of a type specified in an item in column 2 of the Table below are specified in that item in column 3 of that Table.

TABLE

1 Item No.	2 Type of diagram of sign	3 Requirements of sign
1.	601.1	(i) Every vehicle shall stop before crossing the transverse line shown in diagram 1002.1 or, if that line is not clearly visible, before entering the major road in respect of which the sign shown in diagram No. 601.1 has been provided; (ii) no vehicle shall proceed past the transverse line shown in diagram 1002.1 or, if that line is not clearly visible, enter the major road in respect of which the sign shown in diagram No. 601.1 has been provided, so as to be likely to cause danger to the driver of any other vehicle on the major road or to cause that driver to change the speed or course of his vehicle so as to avoid an accident.
2.	602	No vehicle shall cross the transverse line shown in diagram 1003 nearest to the major road at the side of which that line is drawn, or if that line is not clearly visible, enter that major road, so as to be likely to cause danger to the driver of any other vehicle or to cause that driver to change the speed or course of his vehicle so as to avoid an accident.

1 Item No.	2 Type of diagram of sign	3 Requirements of sign
3.	602 when used with 602.1	No vehicle shall cross the transverse line shown in diagram 1003 nearest to the level crossing at the side of which that line is drawn or, if that line is not clearly visible, enter that level crossing, so as to be likely to cause danger to the driver of any railway vehicle or to cause the driver to change the speed or course of his vehicle so as to avoid an accident.
4.	649.1 and 649.2	<p>No abnormal transport unit or, in relation to sign 649.1, no motor vehicle or vehicle combination which would be an abnormal transport unit if in sub-paragraph (a)(iii) of the definition of that expression in paragraph (2) below the reference to 38 tonnes were a reference to 32.5 tonnes, shall proceed onto or over an automatic half-barrier level crossing or an automatic open crossing (R) unless—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the driver of the unit has used a telephone provided at or near the crossing for the purpose of obtaining from a person, authorised in that behalf by the railway authority, permission for the unit to proceed; (b) that permission has been obtained before the unit proceeds; and (c) the unit proceeds in accordance with any terms attached to that permission. <p>Provided that sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) above shall not apply if—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) on the use by the driver of the telephone placed at or near the crossing he receives an indication for not less than two minutes that the telephone at the other end of the telephone line is being called, but no duly authorised person answers it or he receives no indication at all due to a fault or malfunction of the telephone; and (ii) the driver then drives the unit on to the crossing with the reasonable expectation of crossing it within times specified in a railway notice at that telephone as being times between which trains do not normally travel over that crossing.

(2) In this Regulation—

“abnormal transport unit” means—

(a) a motor vehicle or a vehicle combination—

- (i) the overall length of which, inclusive of the load (if any) on the vehicle or the combination, exceeds 55 feet;
 - (ii) the overall width of which, inclusive of the load (if any) on the vehicle or the combination, exceeds 9 feet 6 inches; or
 - (iii) the maximum gross weight of which exceeds 38 tonnes; or
- (b) a motor vehicle, or a vehicle combination, which in either case is incapable of proceeding, or is unlikely to proceed, over an automatic half-barrier level crossing or an automatic open crossing (R) at a speed exceeding 5 miles per hour;

“automatic half-barrier level crossing” means a level crossing where a road is crossed by a railway and where barriers are installed to descend automatically across part of the road when a train approaches;

“automatic open crossing (R)” means a level crossing without automatic barriers where a road is crossed by a railway and where light signals are so installed as to be operated automatically by the trains approaching the crossing and the operation of the signals is monitored remotely from the crossing;

“driver”, in relation to an abnormal transport unit, means where that unit is a single motor vehicle the driver of that vehicle and, where that unit is a vehicle combination, the driver of the only or the foremost motor vehicle forming part of that combination;

“major road” means the road at a road junction into which road there emerges vehicular traffic from a minor road;

“minor road” means a road at a road junction on which road there is placed the sign shown in diagram 601.1 or 602; and

“vehicle combination” means a combination of vehicles made up of one or more motor vehicles and one or more trailers all of which are linked together when travelling.”.

8. In Regulation 15 (Illumination of signs by steady lighting), in paragraph (3), after “649.1” insert “649.2,”.

9. In Schedule 1, in Part II—

- (a) in the wording below the diagram of sign 601.1 delete “(1)(b)”;
- (b) in the wording below the diagram of sign 602 delete “(1)(c)(i)”;
- (c) in the wording below the diagram of sign 602.1 delete “(1)(c)(ii)”;
- (d) in the wording below the diagram of sign 649.1 delete “(2)”;
- (e) after diagram of sign 649.1 insert a diagram for a sign numbered 649.2 being the same as the diagram for sign 649.1 save that for “32.5” there is substituted “38”; and beneath it the same wording as appears beneath the diagram of sign 649.1.

PART II – GENERAL DIRECTIONS

1. These Directions may be cited as the Traffic Signs (Amendment) General Directions 1984.
2. The Traffic Signs General Directions 1981 (a) are hereby amended so that in direction 34, in paragraph (1)(c)—
 - (a) after the words “(which empowers the Secretary of State to authorise special arrangements at public level crossings) for the words “of an” substitute a comma, and
 - (b) after the words (British Railways Board’s obligations at level crossings with roads other than public carriage roads) insert the words “or of an order under section 1 of the Level Crossings Act 1983 (b) (which empowers the Secretary of State to provide for the protection of those using the level crossing)”.

PART III

GENERAL CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT

This Instrument shall come into operation on 13th August 1984 and may be cited as the Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations and General Directions 1984.

2nd July 1984.

Nicholas Ridley,
Secretary of State for Transport.

9th July 1984.

George Younger,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

10th July 1984.

Nicholas Edwards,
Secretary of State for Wales.

(a) S.I. 1981/859, to which there are amendments not relevant to this Instrument.
(b) 1983 c.16.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

1. The Regulations in Part I of this Instrument amend the Traffic Signs Regulations 1981 in the following respects:—

- (1) a new sign, shown in diagram numbered 649.2, is prescribed and other provision is made on account of the increase in the maximum gross weight of certain goods vehicles under the Motor Vehicles (construction and Use) Regulations 1978 (S.I. 1978/1017, as amended by S.I. 1982/1576) from 32.5 tonnes to 38 tonnes. (Regulations 4(a)(i) and (iii) and (b)(i) and (iii), 5, 7, 8, and 9 refer); and
- (2) spent provisions are revoked and other provisions are simplified (Regulations 4(a)(ii) and (b)(ii), 6 and 7 refer).

2. The General Direction in Part II of this Instrument amends the Traffic Signs General Directions 1981 by including in Direction 34 (which imposes conditions about the placing of light signals on or near a road) a reference to the Level Crossings Act 1983.

3. Part III of this Instrument is a general commencement and citation provision.

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