
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

These Regulations implement in relation to the whole of the United Kingdom, the European Parliament and Council Directive [2004/54/EC](#) on minimum safety requirements for tunnels in the trans-European road network (O.J. No. L 167, 30.4.24, p.39. A corrigendum to the Directive can be found in O.J. L.201, 7.6.2004, p. 56). The purpose of that Directive is to ensure a minimum level of safety for road users in tunnels in the trans-European road network. The Regulations apply to all United Kingdom road tunnels that are over 500 metres in length and form part of the trans-European road network.

In Part I, *Regulation 1* provides for the Regulations to come into force on 22nd June 2007. *Regulation 2* deals with interpretation and definitions and introduces *the Schedule* which prescribes road signs to be used in regulated road tunnels.

Regulation 3 provides for the Regulations to apply to road tunnels that are in operation, under construction or at the design stage.

Part II sets out the main requirements of the Regulations.

Regulations 4 - 14 define the role and duties of the administrative authority (regulations 4 - 7), the tunnel manager (regulations 8 - 9), the safety officer (regulations 10 - 11), inspection entities (regulations 12 - 13) and the technical approval authority (regulation 14).

Regulation 15 specifies actions to be taken to bring existing tunnels into compliance with the regulations.

Regulation 16 requires that tunnels must meet the safety requirements specified in the Regulations.

Regulations 17 - 19 set out provisions for alternative risk reduction measures, risk analyses and derogations applicable where it would otherwise not be possible to implement the Regulations.

Regulation 20 provides for good record keeping in cases where one individual occupies two roles in the management of a tunnel.

Regulation 21 provides for the UK to meet the Directive's requirements to notify the European Commission of progress in implementing safety measures.

A full regulatory impact assessment of the effect that this instrument will have on the costs of business and the voluntary sector is available from Department for Transport, RLTSF3, zone 3/19, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DR. A copy has been placed in the library of each House of Parliament and is annexed to the Explanatory Memorandum which is available alongside the instrument on the OPSI website.

A copy of the Transposition Note is available from Department for Transport, RLTSF3, zone 3/19, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DR.