

**2023 No. 868 (W. 131)**

**ROAD TRAFFIC, WALES**

**The M4 Motorway (Junction 42  
(Earlswood), Neath Port Talbot to  
Junction 49 (Pont Abraham),  
Carmarthenshire) (Temporary  
Traffic Prohibitions and  
Restrictions) Order 2023**

*Made* 25 July 2023

*Coming into force* 1 August 2023

The Welsh Ministers, as traffic authority for the relevant lengths of the M4 motorway, are satisfied that traffic on specified lengths of the motorway should be prohibited and/or restricted because of works proposed on or near the road.

The Welsh Ministers, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 14(1), (4) and (7) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984<sup>(1)</sup>, make this Order.

**Title and commencement**

**1.** The title of this Order is the M4 Motorway (Junction 42 (Earlswood), Neath Port Talbot to Junction 49 (Pont Abraham), Carmarthenshire) (Temporary Traffic Prohibitions and Restrictions) Order 2023 and this Order comes into force on 1 August 2023.

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(1) 1984 c. 27; section 14 was substituted by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991 (c. 26), section 1(1) and Schedule 1. By virtue of S.I. 1999/672, and section 162 of, and paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32), these powers are now exercisable by the Welsh Ministers in relation to Wales.

## Interpretation

### 2. In this Order—

“exempted vehicle” (“*cerbyd esempt*”) means—

- (a) any vehicle being used by the emergency services for the purposes described in section 87 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984(1) or in connection with the works giving rise to this Order;
- (b) any vehicle being used for naval, military or air force purposes and being driven by a person for the time being subject to the orders of a member of the armed forces of the Crown, who is a member of the special forces—
  - (i) in response, or for practice in responding, to a national security emergency by a person who has been trained in driving at high speeds; or
  - (ii) for the purpose of training a person in driving vehicles at high speeds;

“special forces” (“*lluoedd arbennig*”) means those units of the armed forces the maintenance of whose capabilities is the responsibility of the Director of Special Forces or which are for the time being subject to the operational command of that Director;

“the motorway” (“*y draffordd*”) means the M4 London to South Wales Motorway;

“works period” (“*cyfnod y gwaith*”) means intermittent periods commencing at 00:00 hours on 1 August 2023 and ending when the temporary traffic signs for each period of works are permanently removed.

## Prohibitions and restrictions

3. No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, on either the westbound or eastbound carriageways of the lengths of the motorway specified in Schedule 1 to this Order.

4. Whilst movement of traffic is, by article 3, prohibited on the westbound carriageway, but pursuant to article 13, not prohibited in the eastbound carriageway, no person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle in the offside lane of the

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(1) Section 87 was amended by the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 (c. 21), Schedule 1, paragraph 55, the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (c. 15), Schedule 4, paragraph 42, the Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), Schedule 8, paragraph 29(2) and the Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), section 50(4) and (5).

eastbound carriageway of the motorway in any direction other than westwards.

**5.** Whilst movement of traffic is, by article 3, prohibited on the eastbound carriageway, but pursuant to article 11, not prohibited in the westbound carriageway, no person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle on the offside lane of the westbound carriageway of the motorway in any direction other than eastwards.

**6.** No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, on the lengths of the motorway and slip roads specified in Schedule 2 to this Order.

**7.** No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle with a width of or exceeding 2.5 metres on the lengths of the motorway and slip roads specified in Schedule 3 to this Order.

**8.** No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle with an overall width exceeding 2.5 metres in any lane other than the left hand lane on the lengths of the motorway specified in Schedule 4 to this Order.

**9.** No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50 or 30 miles per hour on the lengths of the motorway specified in Schedule 4 to this Order.

**10.** No person may, during the works period, drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 40 miles per hour on the lengths of the motorway specified in Schedule 5 to this Order.

**11.** No person may, during the works period, use or permit the use of a motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, in such a way that it overtakes any other vehicle on the lengths of the motorway specified in Schedule 1 to this Order during such times as the restrictions referred to in article 1 are in operation.

**12.** The hard shoulder adjacent to the lengths of motorway specified in Schedule 4 to this Order may be available for use as a traffic lane by all motor vehicles.

### **Application**

**13.—(1)** The prohibitions and restrictions in articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 apply only during such times and to such extent as indicated by traffic signs.

(2) No speed limit imposed by this Order applies to an exempted vehicle.

### **Suspension**

**14.** Any statutory provisions restricting the speed of vehicles on the relevant lengths of the motorway

specified in Schedule 4 and 5 to this Order are suspended during such times as the restrictions specified in articles 9 and 10 are in operation.

**15.** Regulation 5 of the Motorways Traffic (England and Wales) Regulations 1982<sup>(1)</sup> and the provisions of regulation 9 of those Regulations relating to the driving of vehicles are suspended insofar as they apply to the hard shoulder which is contiguous with the lengths of the westbound and eastbound carriageways of the motorway specified in Schedule 4 to this Order and traffic is, by article 12, directed to use the specified hard shoulder.

#### **Duration of this Order**

**16.** The maximum duration for this Order is 18 months.

Signed on behalf of the Deputy Minister for Climate Change, acting under the authority of the Minister for Climate Change, one of the Welsh Ministers.

Dated

25 July 2023

*Nicci Hunter*  
Business Team Leader  
Welsh Government

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(1) S.I. 1982/1163.

**SCHEDULE 1**  
**Temporary Contraflow and no overtaking**

The lengths of the westbound and eastbound carriageways of the motorway that extends from the crossover point 510 metres east of Allt-Y-Graban Road to the nosing of the westbound entry slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).

**SCHEDULE 2**  
**Temporary Prohibition of Vehicles**

1. The length of the westbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from the nosing of the westbound exit slip road at Junction 47 (Penllergaer) to the nosing of the westbound entry slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).
2. The length of the westbound entry slip road at Junction 47 (Penllergaer).
3. The length of the eastbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from the nosing of the eastbound exit slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy) to the nosing of the eastbound entry slip road at Junction 47 (Penllergaer).
4. The length of the eastbound entry slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).
5. The length of the westbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from the nosing of the westbound exit slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy) to its junction with the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham).
6. The length of the westbound entry slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).
7. The length of the westbound exit slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).
8. The length of the eastbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from its junction with the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham) to its nosing of the eastbound entry slip road at Junction 48 (Hendy).

**SCHEDULE 3**  
**Temporary Prohibition of Vehicles over 2.5 metres wide**

1. The length of the westbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from the nosing of the westbound exit slip road at Junction 47 (Penllergaer) to its junction with the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham).

2. The length of the eastbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from its junction with the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham) to its nosing of the eastbound entry slip road at Junction 47 (Penllergaer).

**SCHEDULE 4**  
**Temporary Trafficking of Hard Shoulder and**  
**50mph & 30mph Speed limit**

The length of the hard shoulder of the westbound and eastbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from a point 2441 metres east of the crossover point of Allt-Y-Graban Road to a point 940 metres west of the crossover point with the B4306.

**SCHEDULE 5**  
**Temporary 40 mph Speed Limit**

1. The length of the westbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from a point 373 metres east of its nosing with the westbound entry slip road at Junction 42 (Earlswood) to a point 607 metres south west of its junction with the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham).

2. The length of the eastbound carriageway of the motorway that extends from its junction with the eastbound entry slip road of the roundabout at Junction 49 (Pont Abraham) to a point 413 metres east of its nosing with the eastbound exit slip road at Junction 42 (Earlswood).