1992 No. 54

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992

Made . . . . . *19th February 1992*

Coming into operation . . *1st April 1992*

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 2(2)(**a**), 28(1) and 218(1) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**b**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1992.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989(**c**).

Amendment to regulation 2 (interpretation) of the principal Regulations

2. In regulation 2(1) of the principal Regulations insert in the appropriate place the following definition—

" "articulated bus" means a bus so constructed that—

(*a*) it can be divided into two parts, both of which are vehicles and one of which is a motor vehicle, but cannot be so divided without the use of facilities normally available only at a workshop; and

(*b*) passengers carried by it can at all times pass from either part to the other.".

Amendments to regulation 6 (length) of the principal Regulations

3. In the Table to regulation 6(1) of the principal Regulations—

(*a*) items 2A and 2B(**d**) shall be renumbered 2B and 2C respectively; and

(*b*) after item 2 insert the following in columns 1, 2 and 3 respectively—

"**2A**	An articulated bus	18".

(**a**) *See* definition of "Department"
(**b**) S.I. 1981/154 (N.I. 1)
(**c**) S.R. 1989 No. 299 as amended by S.R. 1991 Nos. 147 and 420
(**d**) Items 2A and 2B were inserted by S.R. 1991 No. 420, regulation 3(1)(*b*)

Amendments to regulation 12 (turning circle — buses) of the principal Regulations

4. Regulation 12(**a**) of the principal Regulations shall be amended as follows:—

(*a*) in paragraph (3) at the end insert the words "or 1.2 m if it is an articulated bus";

(*b*) after paragraph (3) add the following—

"(4) For the purposes of paragraph (3) the two rigid portions of an articulated bus shall be in line at the beginning of the manoeuvre.".

Connecting services, etc of articulated buses

5. After Regulation 12B of the principal Regulations insert the following regulation—

"*Connecting sections and direction-holding of articulated buses*

12C.—(1) This regulation applies to every articulated bus first used on or after 1st April 1982.

(2) The connecting section of the two parts of every articulated bus to which this regulation applies shall be constructed so as to comply with the provisions relating to such a section specified in paragraph 5.9 in ECE Regulation 36 as regards vehicles within the scope of that Regulation.

(3) Every articulated bus to which this regulation applies shall be constructed so that when the vehicle is moving in a straight line the longitudinal median planes of its two parts coincide and form a continuous plane without any deflection.".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on 19th February 1992.

(L.S.) *Trevor Pearson*
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) Regulation 12 was amended by S.R. 1991 No. 420

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations further amend the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 as follows—

1. A definition of "articulated bus" is inserted in regulation 2(1) (regulation 2).

2. An amendment to regulation 6 provides that the maximum permitted overall length of an articulated bus is 18 metres (regulation 3).

3. Regulation 12 is amended to make provision in respect of the turning circle of articulated buses (regulation 4).

4. A new regulation 12C imposes requirements relating to the connecting sections and direction-holding of articulated buses first used after 1st April 1982 (regulation 5).

Copies of ECE Regulation 36 referred to in these Regulations may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.