STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

# 1963 No. 1025

# ROAD TRAFFIC

## The Motor Vehicles (Minimum Age for Driving) Regulations 1963

| | |
|---|---|
| *Made* - - - - | *27th May* 1963 |
| *Laid before Parliament* | *7th June* 1963 |
| *Coming into Operation* | *1st July* 1963 |

The Minister of Transport, in exercise of his powers under section 97 of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a) as amended by section 24 of the Road Traffic Act 1962(b) and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of the said Act of 1960, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

**1.**—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st July 1963 and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Minimum Age for Driving) Regulations 1963.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

**2.** The age under which a person may not drive on a road a motor car constructed as mentioned in subsection (9) of section 253 of the Road Traffic Act 1960 (which relates to motor vehicles constructed to draw partially superimposed trailers) shall, if the motor car has an unladen weight exceeding 2 tons, and is driven with a trailer attached to it in the manner mentioned in that subsection, be 21 instead of 17.

**3.**—(1) The age under which a person may not drive on a road a tractor used primarily for work on land in connection with agriculture shall, if the tractor—

(*a*) is so constructed that the whole of its weight is transmitted to the road surface by means of wheels;

(*b*) has an overall width not exceeding 8 feet;

(*c*) is chargeable with duty under section 1 of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962(d) by reference to paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 to that Act as being an agricultural machine or, by virtue of the provisions of section 6(6) of the said Act, is not chargeable with duty thereunder;

and is driven without a trailer attached to it, other than a trailer which has an overall width not exceeding 8 feet and which is either a two-wheeled or a close-coupled four-wheeled trailer, be 16 instead of 17.

(2) For the purposes of the foregoing paragraph—

(*a*) any implement fitted to a tractor shall be deemed to form part of the tractor notwithstanding that it is not a permanent or essentially permanent fixture;

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 16.
(b) 10 & 11 Eliz. 2. c. 59.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.
(d) 10 & 11 Eliz. 2. c. 13.

(*b*) "overall width", in relation to a vehicle, means the width of the vehicle measured between vertical planes parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the extreme projecting points thereof exclusive of any driving mirror and so much of the distortion of any tyre as is caused by the weight of the vehicle; and

(*c*) "close-coupled", in relation to a trailer, means that the wheels on the same side of the trailer are so fitted that at all times while it is in motion they remain parallel to the longitudinal axis of the trailer, and that the distance between the centres of their respective areas of contact with the road surface does not exceed 33 inches.

**4.**—(1) The age under which a person may not drive on a road a road roller falling within paragraph 4 of the Table set out in section 97(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1960 (which specifies 21 as the minimum age for driving locomotives, motor tractors and heavy motor cars) shall, if the roller—

(*a*) is propelled otherwise than by steam;

(*b*) has an unladen weight not exceeding 11½ tons;

(*c*) is not constructed or adapted for the conveyance of a load other than the following articles, that is to say, water, fuel, accumulators and other equipment used for the purpose of propulsion, loose tools, loose equipment and objects such as are mentioned in the following paragraph;

and if no wheel of the roller is fitted with a pneumatic, soft or elastic tyre, be 17 instead of 21.

(2) For the purposes of the foregoing paragraph, the unladen weight of a vehicle shall be treated as including the weight of any object for the time being attached to the vehicle, being an object specially designed to be so attached for the purpose of temporarily increasing the vehicle's gross weight.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 27th May 1963.

(L.S.) *Ernest Marples,*
The Minister of Transport.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These Regulations provide that the minimum age for driving certain vehicles shall be as specified in the Regulations instead of as specified in section 97(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1960. The minimum age for driving a motor car constructed to draw a partially superimposed trailer and driven with such a trailer attached, if the unladen weight of the motor car exceeds 2 tons (that is to say, certain kinds of motor vehicle commonly known as an "articulated vehicle"), is increased from 17 to 21 (Regulation 2); the minimum age for driving certain descriptions of agricultural tractor, when driven in certain circumstances, is reduced from 17 to 16 (Regulation 3); and the minimum age for driving certain descriptions of road roller is reduced from 21 to 17 (Regulation 4).