ROAD TRANSPORT LIGHTING

1956 No. 741

The Road Vehicles Lighting (Standing Vehicles) (Exemption) (General) Regulations, 1956

Made - - - -	16*th May*, 1956
Laid before Parliament	23*rd May*, 1956
Coming into Operation	5*th June*, 1956

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, in exercise of his powers under sections 1 and 3 of the Road Transport Lighting Act, 1927(**a**), section 2 of the Road Transport Lighting Act, 1953(**b**), and section 1 of the Road Transport Lighting (No. 2) Act, 1953(**c**), and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations other than Regulation 5 thereof, and the Secretary of State and the said Minister acting jointly under sections 48 and 59 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930(**d**), as read with the Transfer of Functions (Roads, Bridges and Ferries) Order, 1955(**e**), hereby make the said Regulation 5 :—

Commencement, Citation and Revocation

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on the fifth day of June, 1956, and may be cited as the Road Vehicles Lighting (Standing Vehicles) (Exemption) (General) Regulations, 1956.

(2) Regulation 28 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations, 1954(**f**), is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations, except where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

" the Acts " means the Road Transport Lighting Acts, 1927 to 1953 ;

" Chief Officer of Police " and " police area " have the same meanings respectively as in the Police Pensions Act, 1921(**g**) ;

" goods vehicle " means any mechanically propelled vehicle the unladen weight of which does not exceed two tons and which is constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of goods or burden of any description ;

" motor cycle " means a bicycle or tricycle propelled by mechanical power ;

" one-way street " means any road in which the driving of vehicles otherwise than in one direction is prohibited at all times ;

" passenger vehicle " means a mechanically propelled vehicle (other than a motor cycle or an invalid carriage) constructed solely for the carriage of passengers and their effects and adapted to carry not more than seven passengers exclusive of the driver ;

(**a**) 17 & 18 Geo. 5. c. 37. (**b**) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 21. (**c**) 1 & 2 Eliz. 2. c. 22.
(**d**) 20 & 21 Geo. 5. c. 43. (**e**) S.I. 1955/1955 (1955 I, p. 1205).
(**f**) S.I. 1954/1105 (1954 II, p. 1965). (**g**) 11 & 12 Geo. 5. c. 31.

" pedal cycle " means a pedal bicycle or pedal tricycle, not being in either case propelled by mechanical power ;

" road " includes part of a road ;

" speed limit ", in relation to a road, means a speed limit of thirty miles per hour or a lower speed limit being in either case a speed limit imposed on mechanically propelled vehicles generally by or under any enactment ;

" the required lights ", in relation to a vehicle, means the lights showing to the front and the lights showing to the rear which, apart from these Regulations, would be required to be shown by that vehicle by the Acts ;

" traffic sign " has the same meaning as in Part III of the Road Traffic Act, 1930 ;

" trailer " means any vehicle drawn by another vehicle.

(2) For the purposes of these Regulations the distance between any part of a vehicle and a street lamp shall be taken to be the distance between that part of the vehicle and the point on the ground vertically below the centre of the street lamp, measured by the shortest line lying wholly within a road.

(3) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Application

3.—(1) These Regulations shall apply to passenger vehicles, goods vehicles and invalid carriages, and to motor cycles and pedal cycles in either case whether having a sidecar attached thereto or not :

Provided that these Regulations shall not apply to any such vehicle—

(*a*) if the vehicle is one to which section 7 of the Road Transport Lighting Act, 1927, (which imposes requirements as to lights on vehicles with overhanging or projecting loads) applies ; or

(*b*) if a trailer is attached thereto.

(2) These Regulations shall apply to roads outside the Metropolitan Police District and the City of London.

Parking of vehicles without lights

4.—(1) In this Regulation the expression " road " does not include any part of a road specially set aside for the parking of vehicles or as a stand for hackney carriages.

(2) A vehicle to which these Regulations apply shall, when standing or parked at any place on a road to which these Regulations apply and on which a speed limit is in force, be exempted from showing the required lights if—

(*a*) in the case of a road not being a one-way street, the left or near side of the vehicle is as close as may be and is parallel to the edge of the carriageway, and, in the case of a road being a one-way street, the left or near side of the vehicle is as close as may be and is parallel to the

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

left-hand edge of the carriageway or the right or off side of the vehicle is as close as may be and is parallel to the right-hand edge of the carriageway;

(*b*) no part of the vehicle is more than twenty-five yards from a street lamp;

(*c*) the street lamp mentioned in the last preceding sub-paragraph is illuminated throughout the time during which the vehicle is standing or parked:

Provided that for the purposes of this sub-paragraph if, while the vehicle is standing or parked, the light shown by the lamp becomes accidentally extinguished, no account shall be taken of any time during which the light is so extinguished;

(*d*) no part of the vehicle is within fifteen yards from the junction of any part of the carriageway of any highway with the carriageway of the road on which the vehicle is standing or parked, whether that junction is on the same side of the road as that on which the vehicle is standing or parked or not; and

(*e*) the road on which the vehicle is standing or parked is specified in a written consent given by the Chief Officer of Police of the police area in which the road is situate as being a road on which vehicles to which these Regulations apply may stand or be parked without showing the required lights and a traffic sign for conveying the information that such vehicles may so stand or be parked has been placed on or near the post or standard by which the lamp mentioned in sub-paragraph (*b*) is supported or near such lamp when not supported by a post or standard.

5. Every traffic sign for the purposes of the last sub-paragraph of the last preceding Regulation shall be of the size, colour and type shown in either Diagram 1 or Diagram 2 set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

6. A vehicle to which these Regulations apply and which is lawfully permitted to stand or be parked in any parking place or stand for hackney carriages on a road to which these Regulations apply shall, when standing or parked in that parking place or stand for hackney carriages, be exempted from showing the required lights, if the parking place or stand has been specified in a written consent given by the Chief Officer of Police of the police area in which the road is situate as being a parking place or stand in which vehicles lawfully permitted to stand or be parked therein may stand or be parked without showing the required lights.

Parking of vehicles with parking lights

7. A vehicle to which these Regulations apply shall, when standing or parked at any place on a road to which these Regulations apply and on which a speed limit is in force, be exempted from showing the required lights if—

(*a*) the left or near side of the vehicle is as close as may be and is parallel to the edge of the carriageway;

(*b*) no part of the vehicle is more than one hundred yards from a street lamp, whether illuminated or not;

(*c*) no part of the vehicle is within fifteen yards from the junction of any part of the carriageway of any highway with the carriageway of

the road on which the vehicle is standing or parked, whether that junction is on the same side of the road as that on which the vehicle is standing or parked or not; and

(*d*) the vehicle shows to the front a white light and to the rear a red light in accordance with the provisions of the two next succeeding Regulations.

Manner of display of parking lights

8. The lights to be shown by a vehicle for the purpose of the last preceding Regulation shall—

(*a*) in the case of a bicycle propelled by mechanical power not having a sidecar attached thereto or a pedal bicycle whether having a sidecar attached thereto or not, be displayed by a parking lamp in accordance with Regulation 9 of these Regulations;

(*b*) in the case of a vehicle which, apart from these Regulations, would be required by the Acts to carry two lamps each showing to the front a white light and two lamps each showing to the rear a red light, be displayed—

(i) by a parking lamp in accordance with Regulation 9 of these Regulations, or

(ii) by that one of those lamps showing to the front a white light and by that one of those lamps showing to the rear a red light which are on the off side of the vehicle, and

(*c*) in the case of a vehicle which, apart from these Regulations, would be required by the Acts to carry two lamps each showing to the front a white light and one lamp showing to the rear a red light, be displayed—

(i) by a parking lamp in accordance with Regulation 9 of these Regulations, or

(ii) by that one of those lamps showing to the front a white light which is on the off side of the vehicle and by that lamp showing to the rear a red light.

Character and position of parking lamps

9.—(1) Every parking lamp shall show a white light to the front and a red light to the rear.

(2) Every parking lamp shall, if circular, have an illuminated area to the front and an illuminated area to the rear of not less than 1 inch in diameter or, if not circular, have an illuminated area to the front and an illuminated area to the rear of not less than the area of a circle of 1 inch in diameter.

In this paragraph the expression "illuminated area" means, in relation to a lamp, the area of the orthogonal projection on a vertical plane at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle of that part of the lamp through which light is emitted.

(3) Every parking lamp shall be so fixed to the vehicle that—

(*a*) it is on the off side of the vehicle;

(*b*) no part of the vehicle or its equipment (other than a driving mirror or direction indicator), when the vehicle is standing or parked, extends laterally on the off side more than 12 inches from the centre of either illuminated area of the lamp;

(*c*) no part of either illuminated area of the lamp is less than 15 inches nor more than 6 feet from the ground ;

(*d*) the white light is clearly visible from the front to an observer at any point on an arc extending 90 degrees from the longitudinal axis of the vehicle to the off side thereof ;

(*e*) the red light is clearly visible from the rear to an observer at any point on an arc extending 90 degrees from the longitudinal axis of the vehicle to the off side thereof.

In this and the last preceding sub-paragraph the expression "observer" means a person at any point 30 feet distant from the lamp whose eye level is not less than 3 feet 6 inches nor more than 9 feet above the plane on which the vehicle is standing or parked.

Scope of Regulations

10. Nothing in these Regulations shall be taken to authorise any person to cause or permit a vehicle which is exempted by these Regulations from showing the required lights to stand or be parked on a road in any place or for any period in or for which it would be unlawful for the vehicle to stand or be parked.

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State this fifteenth day of May, 1956.

(L.S.)

James Stuart.
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation this sixteenth day of May, 1956.

(L.S.)

Harold Watkinson.
The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation.

SCHEDULE

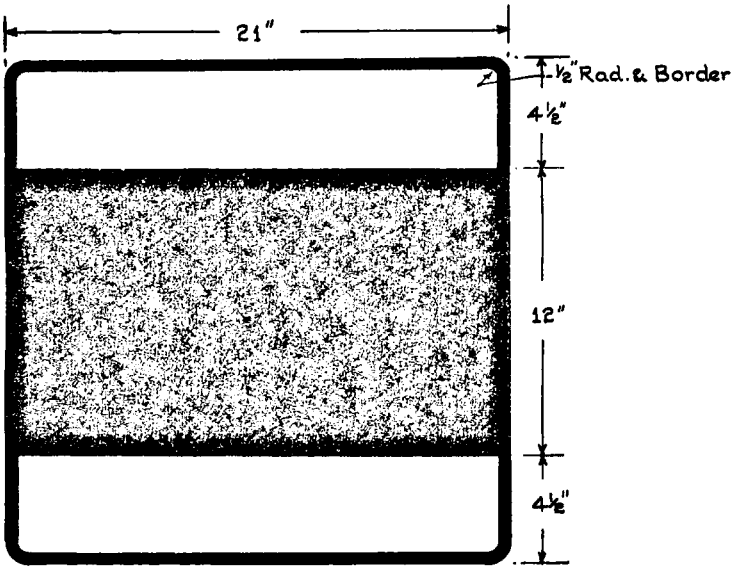


DIAGRAM 1

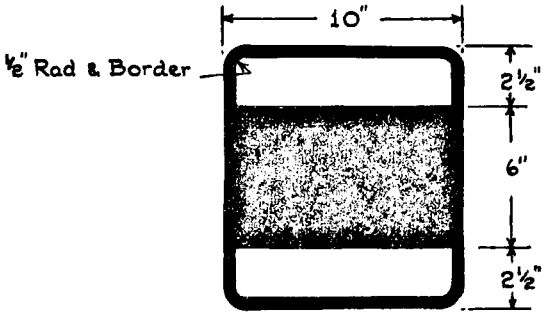


DIAGRAM 2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations exempt, subject to conditions, the vehicles mentioned below, when parked on roads outside the Metropolitan Police District and the City of London, from showing the front and rear lights required to be shown at night by the Road Transport Lighting Acts, 1927 to 1953.

The exemptions apply to passenger vehicles adapted to carry not more than 7 passengers exclusive of the driver, to goods vehicles not exceeding two tons in unladen weight, to invalid carriages, and to motor and pedal cycles with or without sidecars—all which terms are defined in Regulation 2 (1) or in the Acts; but no vehicle is exempted when it carries certain overhanging or projecting loads (Regulation 3 (1), Proviso (*a*)) or if a trailer is attached.

Regulation 4 provides that a vehicle, while parked anywhere (except as mentioned below) on a road on which a 30 m.p.h. or lower speed limit is in force, and as respects which the Chief Officer of Police has consented to vehicles being parked without showing lights, need not show any lights, if the near side of the vehicle is next to the kerb (special provision is made for one-way streets: Regulation 4 (2) (*a*)), if no part of the vehicle is more than 25 yards, measured in accordance with Regulation 2 (2), from a lit street lamp near which a traffic sign of either of the types shown in the Schedule has been placed, and if no part of the vehicle is within 15 yards from a road junction. The exception is that under Regulation 4 a vehicle may not park, without showing lights, on any part of the road for the time being set aside as a parking place or stand for hackney carriages: these are dealt with in Regulation 6.

By Regulation 6 vehicles lawfully permitted to park on a parking place or stand for hackney carriages need not show any lights, if the Chief Officer of Police has consented to the vehicles being parked on the parking place or stand without showing lights. (This Regulation is a re-enactment with regard to roads outside the Metropolitan Police District and the City of London of the provisions of Regulation 28 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations, 1954, which Regulation is consequentially revoked.)

Regulation 7 provides that a vehicle, while parked anywhere on a road on which a 30 m.p.h. or lower speed limit is in force, need not show the front and rear lights required to be shown by the Acts, if the near side of the vehicle is next to the kerb, if no part of the vehicle is more than 100 yards, measured in accordance with Regulation 2 (2), from a street lamp (whether lit or not), if no part of the vehicle is within 15 yards from a road junction, and if the vehicle shows a front white light and a rear red light, which satisfy Regulations 8 and 9.

Regulation 8 provides that the lights to be shown for the purpose of Regulation 7 shall be displayed by a parking lamp or, alternatively, in the case of a vehicle normally required by the Acts to show two front and two rear lamps, by the off side front and rear lamps or, in the case of a vehicle normally required to show two front lamps and one rear lamp, by the off side front lamp and by the rear lamp.

Regulation 9 specifies conditions as to the character of parking lamps and as to their position on vehicles.

These Regulations deal only with exemptions from vehicle lighting requirements, and do not otherwise affect the law with regard to parking and obstruction.