STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1985 No. 726

HIGHWAYS, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Severn Bridge Tolls Order 1985

Made - - - - -	*9th May* 1985
Laid before Parliament	*23rd May* 1985
Coming into Operation	*23rd June* 1985

The Secretary of State for Transport, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 of the Severn Bridge Tolls Act 1965(a), and now vested in him(b), and of all other enabling powers, hereby makes the following Order:–

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Severn Bridge Tolls Order 1985, and shall come into operation on 23rd June 1985.

Revocation

2. The Severn Bridge Tolls Order 1979(c) is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3.— (1) In this Order, unless the context otherwise requires—

"the Act" means the Severn Bridge Tolls Act 1965;

"Class I" and Class "II" means respectively the classes of traffic so numbered in Schedule 4 to the Highways Act 1980(d);

"goods vehicle", "motor cycle", "motor vehicle" and "trailer" have the meanings respectively given in section 196(1), section 190(4) and section 190(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972(e);

"the Severn Bridge road" means the new road as defined in section 1(4) of the Act;

"the specified carriageways" has the meaning given in section 1(3) of the Act;

"toll" means a toll leviable under the Act.

(a) 1965 c.24.
(b) S.I. 1970/1681, 1979/571 and 1981/238.
(c) S.I. 1979/883.
(d) 1980 c.66.
(e) 1972 c.20.

(2) For the purposes of this Order an articulated vehicle (that is to say a motor vehicle with a trailer attached thereto by partial superimposition in such a way as to cause a substantial part of the weight of the trailer to be borne by the motor vehicle) shall be treated as one motor vehicle.

Vehicles in Respect of which Tolls are to be Levied

4. Subject to Article 7 below every motor vehicle of Class I or Class II, using the specified carriageways, shall be a vehicle in respect of which tolls are to be levied under the Act.

Amount of the Tolls

5. The tolls to be levied for each occasion on which any such vehicle, whether travelling eastwards or westwards, uses the whole or any part of the specified carriageways shall be:—

(i) 50p where the vehicle is a three-wheeled motor cycle which shall not include a two-wheeled motorcycle with sidecar, or is any other motor vehicle (not being one for which a higher toll is prescribed in (ii) below);

(ii) £1.00 where the vehicle is a goods vehicle having an unladen weight exceeding 30 cwt. or is a passenger vehicle adapted to carry more than 16 passengers.

Power to Compound in Advance for the Payment of Tolls

6.— (1) Any person may, on application to and with the agreement of the Avon County Council, as agents for the Secretary of State, compound in advance with the said Council for the payment of tolls leviable under this Order.

(2) If the said Council make any such agreement they shall issue prepaid vouchers to any person so compounding in books each consisting of 50 vouchers.

(3) Payment of tolls under any composition agreement entered into under the preceeding provisions of this Article shall be made in advance and at the rate for each such books as follows:

(i) £22.50 for a book of 50p vouchers;

(ii) £45.00 for a book of £1.00 vouchers.

(4) All other terms of any such composition agreement shall be the same for every person in like circumstances.

Vehicles Exempted from Payment of Tolls

7. All vehicles of the descriptions specified in the Schedule to this Order (notwithstanding that they are vehicles such as are mentioned in Article 4 above) shall be exempted from the payment of tolls.

Nicholas Ridley,
Secretary of State for Transport.

9th May 1985.

THE SCHEDULE

DESCRIPTIONS OF VEHICLES EXEMPTED FROM PAYMENT OF TOLLS

1. Any two-wheeled motor cycle (whether with or without side car).

2. Any vehicle belonging to a fire authority and being used in the discharge of the functions of such authority under the Fire Services Acts 1947 to 1959(**a**).

3. Any vehicle belonging to, and being used for the purpose of, a police authority, and any other vehicle being used by a police officer acting in the execution of his duty.

4. Any ambulance or other means of transport being used for the purpose of the ambulance services provided by the Secretary of State in the performance of his duty under section 3(3) of the National Health Service Act 1977(**b**).

5. Any vehicle being used in connection with the levying of tolls, or with the inspection, maintenance, repair, renewal, or improvement of, or the provision of additions to, the Severn Bridge road (including any part of it and any structure, works or apparatus in, on, under or over it).

6. Any westbound vehicle which, as a direct result of having broken down on the specified carriageways, thereupon re-enters those carriageways travelling eastwards but not under its own power.

7. Any vehicle which, by virtue of section 7(2) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971(**c**), is not chargeable with any duty under that Act.

8. Any vehicle which is being driven by a disabled person or which is being used for the carriage of one or more disabled persons, and which displays a disabled person's badge issued under and in accordance with the provisions of section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970(**d**).

(**a**) 1947 c.41, 1951 c.27 and 1959 c.44.
(**b**) 1977 c.49.
(**c**) 1971 c.10, as amended by section 8 of the Finance Act 1978 (c.42).
(**d**) 1970 c.44.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order has the effect of increasing the Severn Bridge tolls for three-wheeled motor cycles and motor vehicles from 20p to 50p and for buses, coaches and goods vehicles having an unladen weight in excess of 30 cwt. from 40p to £1.00. The toll for motor cycles is abolished.

The charges for books of vouchers issued when tolls are compounded are prescribed so as to reflect the new rates of toll.

No separate toll is leviable on a trailer, but where a trailer forms part of an articulated vehicle, the trailer and the drawing vehicle are treated as one motor vehicle for the purpose of determining the appropriate rate of toll.

This Order revokes and replaces the Severn Bridge Tolls Order 1979.

Printed in the UK for HMSO by Burgess & Son (Abingdon) Ltd.
850/850800P I43 C13 5/85
80p net
ISBN 0 11 056726 9