1960 No. 1096

The Traffic Signs General Directions, 1960

Made - - - -	*24th June*, 1960
Coming into Operation	*15th July*, 1960

The Secretary of State and the Minister of Transport, acting jointly in exercise of their powers under section 48 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930(a), as read with the Transfer of Functions (Roads, Bridges and Ferries) Order, 1955(b), and of all other powers them enabling in that behalf, hereby give the following Directions:—

1.—(1) These Directions shall come into operation on the fifteenth day of July, 1960, and may be cited as "The Traffic Signs General Directions, 1960".

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

2. The Traffic Signs General Directions, 1957(d), as amended(e), shall have effect as though—

(*a*) for paragraph 13 there were substituted the following paragraph:—

"13.—(1) The sign shown in diagram No. 131 may be used only for the purpose of giving advance warning of a level crossing not provided with gates or any other form of barrier and the sign shown in diagram No. 132 may be used only at the site of a level crossing not provided with gates or any other form of barrier.

(2) The sign shown in diagram No. 130A may only be placed on the same post as that on which a sign shown in either of diagrams Nos. 130 or 131 (hereinafter referred to as "the advance warning sign") is placed and the signs shown in diagrams Nos. 130 B and 130C may only be placed between the advance warning sign and the level crossing at distances from the advance warning sign respectively of approximately one third and two thirds of the distance between the said sign and the level crossing.";

(*b*) in paragraph 16, the words from

"and the legend on the sign" to the end of the paragraph were omitted;

(*c*) for paragraph 21 there were substituted the following paragraph:—

"21.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, light signals for the control of vehicular traffic may be placed only—

(*a*) so that they face the stream of traffic which the signal is intended to control, and

(*b*) at sites approved in writing by or on behalf of the Minister or the Secretary of State, as the case may be, after consideration of such plans for the sites, particulars of the apparatus to be used and information as to the volume and character of the traffic affected as he may require.

(a) 20 & 21 Geo. 5. c. 43. (b) S.I. 1955/1955 (1955 I, p. 1205).
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63. (d) S.I. 1957/513 (1957 II, p. 2001).
(e) S.I. 1957/2150, 1959/760 (1957 II, p. 2087; 1959 II, p. 2376).

(2) Light signals may be used only in conjunction with the carriageway marking shown in diagram No. RM1 in the Second Schedule to the Regulations and any lens of the size and colour shown in diagram 1 in the Third Schedule may only be fitted to such signals in any of the methods shown in diagrams Nos. 4 to 8 inclusive in that Schedule where vehicular traffic controlled by the signals is restricted by virtue of an order, regulation or byelaw to proceeding in the direction indicated by the arrow shown in such lens or the directions indicated by the arrows where two such lenses are fitted.

(3) Sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) of this paragraph shall not apply—

(*a*) in the case of such portable light signals as are prescribed by Regulation 29 of the Regulations,

(*b*) in the case of such light signals as are prescribed by paragraph (3) of Regulation 27 of the Regulations, being signals provided at or near to any level crossing in pursuance of an order made by the Minister under section 66 of the British Transport Commission Act, 1957(a) (which empowers the Minister to authorise special safety arrangements at public level crossings).

(4) Sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall not apply in the case of any light signals where the Minister or the Secretary of State has agreed to contribute, either wholly or in part, towards the cost of the installation of those signals.

(5) In the case of such light signals as are prescribed by paragraph (2) of Regulation 27 or by Regulation 31 of the Regulations the head of the signal enclosing the lamps and the post, if any, on which it is supported shall be coloured black and white in alternate horizontal bands.

(6) In the case of such light signals as are prescribed by paragraph (3) of Regulation 27 of the Regulations the signal shall be supported by a post which shall be coloured black and white in alternate horizontal bands";

(*d*) after paragraph 36 there were inserted the following paragraph:—

"36A. Light signals prescribed by paragraph (3) of Regulation 27 of the Regulations may be placed on or near a road only if the mechanism by means of which the signals are capable of complying with the provisions of sub-paragraph (*d*) of the said paragraph (3) is of a type which has been approved in writing by or on behalf of the Minister or the Secretary of State, as the case may be.";

(*e*) in paragraph 41, for the words "such post shall be painted" to the end of the paragraph, there were substituted the words "the post shall be coloured in alternate black and white bands such that the lowest band visible to approaching traffic is coloured black and is not less than eleven inches nor more than three feet three inches in width and, except in the case of the band which coincides with the lower side of the lowest sign supported by the post, that each other band is not less than eleven inches nor more than thirteen inches in width.";

and

(*f*) in paragraph 42—

(i) for sub-paragraph (*a*) there were substituted the following sub-paragraph:—

(a) 5 & 6 Eliz. 2. c. xxxiii.

"(*a*) a post specially provided for the purpose which shall be coloured in alternate black and white bands such that the lowest band visible to approaching traffic is coloured black and is not less than eleven inches nor more than three feet three inches in width and, except in the case of the band which coincides with the lower side of the lowest sign supported by the post, that each other band is not less than eleven inches nor more than thirteen inches in width;", and

(ii) for sub-paragraph (*b*), there were substituted the following sub-paragraph:—

"(*b*) a lamp post or other standard which, in either case, may be coloured with one or more yellow horizontal bands and which, except in the case of a band coinciding with the lower side of the lowest sign supported by the post or standard, shall be not less than eleven inches nor more than thirteen inches in width.".

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State this twenty-third day of June, 1960.

(L.S.)

John S. Maclay,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport this twenty-fourth day of June, 1960.

(L.S.)

Ernest Marples,
The Minister of Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Directions further amend the Traffic Signs General Directions, 1957. The principal changes are:—

1. Directions are given as to the placing of certain of the new traffic signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations, 1960. (Paragraph 2 (*a*).)

2. That part of the direction contained in paragraph 16 of the 1957 Directions requiring that the legend on the sign "children crossing ahead" shall be visible to approaching drivers only when a school crossing patrol is on duty in the vicinity of the site of the sign, is no longer to apply. (Paragraph 2 (*b*).)

3. (*a*) The direction contained in paragraph 21 of the 1957 Directions (which, inter alia, requires that certain light signals may be placed only at sites approved by the Minister or the Secretary of State) is amended so as to provide that it does not apply to the new flashing red light signals prescribed by the traffic Signs (Amendment) Regulations, 1960 when those signals are provided at or near a level crossing in pursuance of an order authorising special safety arrangements at that crossing made by the Minister under section 66 of the British Transport Commission Act, 1957, and

(*b*) the said direction is also amended to provide for the direction in which light signals are to face, for the colouring of the posts used to support light signals and in the case of light signals prescribed by paragraph (2) of Regulation 27 of the Traffic Signs Regulations, 1957, for the colouring of the head of the signal which encloses its lamps. (Paragraph 2 (*c*).)

4. A direction is given that the new light signals may be placed on or near a road only if the mechanism of the signals is of a type approved by the Minister or the Secretary of State. (Paragraph 2 (*d*).)

5. Amended directions are given as to the colouring of posts used to support traffic signs. (Paragraphs 2 (*e*) and (*f*).)