SPEED LIMITS

1960 No. 1125

The Traffic Signs (Speed Limits) (England and Wales) Directions, 1960

Made - - - - 30*th June*, 1960
Coming into Operation 4*th August*, 1960

The Minister of Transport (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") in exercise of his powers under subsection (7) of section 1 of the Road Traffic Act, 1934(**a**), as amended by section 4 of the Road Traffic Act, 1956(**b**), and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf, hereby directs as follows:—

1. These Directions shall come into operation on the fourth day of August, 1960, and may be cited as the Traffic Signs (Speed Limits) (England and Wales) Directions, 1960.

2. The Traffic Signs (30 m.p.h. Speed Limit) (England and Wales) Directions, 1957(**c**), and the Traffic Signs (30 m.p.h. Speed Limit) (England and Wales) Directions, 1958(**d**), are hereby revoked.

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

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

"Class I road" means a road classified by the Minister under the Ministry of Transport Act, 1919(**e**), in Class I;

"thirty miles per hour speed limit" means a speed limit of thirty miles per hour imposed by or under section 1 of the Road Traffic Act, 1934;

"forty miles per hour speed limit" means a speed limit of forty miles per hour imposed under section 1 of the Road Traffic Act, 1934, by virtue of a direction given under subsection (4) of section 4 of the Road Traffic Act, 1956;

"speed limit" means a thirty miles per hour speed limit or a forty miles per hour speed limit.

(2) Any reference in these Directions to a numbered diagram is a reference to the diagram of that number set out in the Schedule to the Traffic Signs (Speed Limits) Regulations, 1960(**f**).

(3) Any reference in these Directions to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended or extended by any subsequent enactment.

(4) The Interpretation Act, 1889(**g**), shall apply to the interpretation of these Directions as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if for the purposes of section 38 of that Act these Directions were an Act of Parliament and the Directions revoked by paragraph 2 of these Directions were Acts of Parliament thereby repealed.

(a) 24 & 25 Geo. 5. c. 50. (b) 4 & 5 Eliz. 2. c. 67. (c) S.I. 1957/275 (1957 II, p. 2092).
(d) S.I. 1958/304 (1958 II, p. 2097). (e) 9 & 10 Geo. 5. c. 50.
(f) S.I. 1960/1124 (Pt. III, p. 2947, of this vol.). (g) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Directions as to signs for 30 *m.p.h. speed limits*

4.—(1) This paragraph applies in the case of a road—

(*a*) which is a Class I road on which a thirty miles per hour speed limit is in force, and

(*b*) where that speed limit commences at a point on the road where the width of the carriageway, or, where the road has more than one carriageway, the total of the widths of each carriageway (excluding in either case the width of any central reservation or street refuge) is thirty feet or more.

(2) Two signs shown in diagram 1 or diagram 9 shall be erected one on each side of the carriageway of the road, or, where the road has more than one carriageway, on each side of each carriageway, at or as near as practicable to every point where a motor vehicle may duly pass on any such carriageway from a length of the road on which a speed limit is not in force or on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force to a length of the road on which a thirty miles per hour speed limit is in force.

5. Subject to the provisions of the last preceding paragraph, two signs shown in diagram 1, diagram 2 or diagram 9 shall be erected one on each side of the carriageway of a road, or, where the road has more than one carriageway, on each side of each carriageway, at or as near as practicable to every point where a motor vehicle may duly pass on any such carriageway from a length of the road on which a speed limit is not in force or on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force to a length of the road on which a thirty miles per hour speed limit is in force.

6. Signs shown in diagram 3 shall be erected in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph along a length of road more than two hundred yards in length on which a thirty miles per hour speed limit is in force, not being a road on which a system of street lighting furnished by lamps placed two hundred yards or less apart is provided.

7. The signs mentioned in the last preceding paragraph shall be so erected along the carriageway of a length of road so mentioned, or, where the said length of road has more than one carriageway, along each carriageway, such that—

(*a*) they are situated on each side of the carriageway, or, as the case may be, on each side of each carriageway;

(*b*) the distance between any one sign on one side of a carriageway and any sign next following that sign on that side and facing in the same direction does not exceed three hundred yards;

(*c*) the distance between any one sign on one side of a carriageway and any sign next following that sign on the other side of that carriageway and facing in the same direction does not exceed two hundred yards;

(*d*) one such sign is situated on the left or near side of the carriageway, or, as the case may be, of each carriageway, not more than one hundred and fifty yards from each end of the said length of road.

Directions as to signs for 40 *m.p.h. speed limits*

8. Two signs shown in diagram 4 shall be erected one on each side of the carriageway of a road, or, where the road has more than one carriageway, on each side of each carriageway, at or as near as practicable to every point where a motor vehicle may duly pass on any such carriageway from a length

of the road on which a speed limit, or a speed limit of forty miles per hour on the driving of motor vehicles imposed under section 10 of the London Traffic Act, 1924(a), is not in force or on which a thirty miles per hour speed limit is in force to a length of the road on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force.

9. Where a road, not being a road on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force, has a junction with a side of a length of road on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force, two signs shown in diagram 5 shall be erected on each side of the carriageway of the first mentioned road, or, where that road has more than one carriageway, on each side of each carriageway from which a vehicle may pass into the said length of road, at or as near as practicable to that junction.

10. Signs shown in diagram 6 shall be erected in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph along a length of road on which a forty miles per hour speed limit is in force.

11. The signs mentioned in the last preceding paragraph shall be so erected along the carriageway of a length of road so mentioned, or, where the said length of road has more than one carriageway, along each carriageway, such that—

(*a*) they are situated on each side of the carriageway, or, as the case may be, on each side of each carriageway;

(*b*) the distance between any one sign on one side of a carriageway and any sign next following that sign on that side and facing in the same direction does not exceed three hundred and twenty five yards;

(*c*) the distance between any one sign on one side of a carriageway and any sign next following that sign on the other side of that carriageway and facing in the same direction does not exceed two hundred yards; and

(*d*) one such sign is situated on the left or near side of the carriageway, or, as the case may be, of each carriageway, not more than two hundred and twenty-five yards from each end of the said length of road.

Directions as to derestriction signs

12. Two signs shown in diagram 7 or diagram 10 shall be erected one on each side of the carriageway of a road, or, where the road has more than one carriageway, on each side of each carriageway, at or as near as practicable to every point where a motor vehicle may duly pass on any such carriageway from a length of the road on which a speed limit is in force to a length of the road on which a speed limit, or a speed limit of forty miles per hour on the driving of motor vehicles imposed under section 10 of the London Traffic Act, 1924, is not in force.

13. Signs shown in diagram 8 shall be erected in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph along a length of road on which there are one or more street lamps and on which a speed limit, or a speed limit of forty miles per hour on the driving of motor vehicles imposed under section 10 of the London Traffic Act, 1924, is not in force.

14. A sign mentioned in the last preceding paragraph shall be erected on each lamp-post along any length of road mentioned in that paragraph so as to be clearly visible to the drivers of motor vehicles using the road, but if any lamp is mounted otherwise than on a post or if any existing lamp-post is not available or cannot conveniently be used for the purpose of erecting

(a) 14 & 15 Geo. 5. c. 34.

the sign upon it such sign shall be erected on a post to be specially placed for the purpose by the side of the road as close to each lamp as is consistent with the visibility of the sign to the drivers of motor vehicles using the road:

Provided that where on such a length of road—

(*a*) there is a lamp which is placed more than two hundred yards from the nearest other lamp on that road; or

(*b*) on one side of the road there are more than three lamps without there being any lamp on the other side of the road between the first and last of those lamps; or

(*c*) there are not more than three lamps which are placed two hundred yards or less apart;

two such signs facing in opposite directions shall be erected on each lamp-post on which is mounted each of such lamps or on a post close to each of such lamps, as the case may require.

Supplementary

15. Where a sign shown in any of the diagrams set out in the Schedule to the Traffic Signs (Speed Limits) Regulations, 1960, is mounted on or attached to a post specially provided for that purpose, such post shall be coloured in alternate black and white bands the lowest band being coloured black and being not less than eleven inches nor more than three feet three inches in width and each other band being not less than eleven inches nor more than thirteen inches in width.

16. Nothing in these Directions shall be taken to limit the power of the Minister by any special Direction to dispense with, add to or modify any of the requirements of these Directions in their application to any particular case.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport this thirtieth 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 are general directions by the Minister of Transport with respect to the erection of traffic signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs (Speed Limits) Regulations, 1960 (S.I. 1960/1124) which it is the duty of local authorities in England and Wales to erect in their areas for the purpose of securing that guidance is given to drivers of motor vehicles as to whether or not a speed limit of thirty miles per hour or forty miles per hour applies on a length of road.