



# Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 54

An Act to require local 1999 c. 29 authorities to prepare reports relating to the levels of road traffic in their areas; and for related purposes. [21st March 1997]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Act: transfer of functions (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, Sch. 1

### Commencement Information

II Act not in force at Royal Assent see s.4(3)

## 1 Interpretation.

In this Act the following terms shall have the following meanings, that is to say—

[<sup>F1</sup>“local implementation plan”, in relation to a London council, means the plan prepared by the council under section 145 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999;”]

“local road traffic” means traffic consisting of mechanically propelled vehicles on roads for which the Secretary of State is not the traffic authority;

[<sup>F1</sup>“London council” means a London borough council or the Common Council of the City of London;”]

[<sup>F1</sup>“the Mayor of London’s transport strategy” means the transport strategy prepared and published under section 142 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999;”.]

“principal council” means any council which is a local traffic authority;

“traffic authority” and “local traffic authority” have the meaning given by section 121A of the <sup>M1</sup>Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

---

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997. (See end of Document for details)*

---

### Textual Amendments

- F1** Definitions in s. 1 inserted (3.7.2000) by 1999 c. 29, s. 280(1) (with Sch. 12 para. 9(1)); S.I. 2000/801, art. 2(2)(c), Sch. Pt. 3

### Commencement Information

- I2** S. 1 wholly in force at 21.4.2000; s. 1 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 4(3); s. 1 in force at 10.3.2000 as regards to England and Wales by S.I. 2000/735, art. 2; s. 1 in force at 21.4.2000 as regards to Scotland by S.S.I. 2000/101, art. 2

### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1984 c. 27.

## 2 Duty of principal councils to make reports.

- (1) It shall be the duty of every principal council to prepare, at such time or times as the Secretary of State may direct, a report containing—
- (a) an assessment of the levels of local road traffic in their area, and
  - (b) a forecast of the growth in those levels.
- (2) Subject to subsection (5), the report must also specify targets for—
- (a) a reduction in the levels of local road traffic in the area, or
  - (b) a reduction in the rate of growth in the levels of such traffic.
- (3) The report must also contain any other information or proposals which—
- (a) relate to levels of local road traffic in the area, and
  - (b) are required by guidance under subsection (6) [<sup>F2</sup>or (in the case of a report prepared by a London council) directions under subsection (6A)].
- (4) The report—
- (a) may specify different targets for different parts of the principal council's area or for different classes of local road traffic, and
  - (b) may specify targets under subsection (2)(a) in relation to certain classes of local road traffic, or in relation to part of the area and under subsection (2)(b) in relation to other classes of local road traffic or in relation to another part of the area.
- [<sup>F3</sup>(4A) A report under this section prepared by a London council must take account of the Mayor of London's transport strategy and the council's local implementation plan; and—
- (a) any targets specified in such a report pursuant to subsection (2), and
  - (b) any proposals contained in such a report pursuant to subsection (3),
- must be in conformity with that strategy and that plan.]
- (5) A principal council are not obliged to specify targets under subsection (2)(a) or (b) in relation to their area, or in relation to any part of their area, if they consider it inappropriate to do so, but in that case the report must state—
- (a) that they consider it inappropriate to do so, and
  - (b) their reasons for so considering.
- (6) The Secretary of State may issue guidance to principal councils in relation to—

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997. (See end of Document for details)*

- (a) the preparation and content of reports under this section, and
  - (b) consultation in connection with the preparation of such reports;
- and a principal council shall have regard to any guidance when preparing a report.
- [<sup>F4</sup>(6A) The Mayor of London may give directions or issue guidance to London councils in relation to any matter in relation to which the Secretary of State may issue guidance under subsection (6).
- (6B) The Mayor of London must not give any direction or issue any guidance under subsection (6A) which conflicts with guidance under subsection (6).
- (6C) A London council preparing a report under this section—
- (a) shall comply with any directions given under subsection (6A), and
  - (b) shall have regard to any guidance issued under that subsection.]
- (7) Where a principal council have prepared a report under this section they shall—
- (a) send the report to the Secretary of State [<sup>F5</sup>and, if the council is a London council, send a copy of the report to the Mayor of London], and
  - (b) publish a copy of the report in such manner as they consider appropriate.
- (8) The Secretary of State shall lay a copy of every report received by him under subsection (7)(a) before each House of Parliament.

#### Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in s. 2(3)(b) inserted (3.7.2000) by 1999 c. 29, s. 280(3) (with Sch. 12 para. 9(1)); S.I. 2000/801, art. 2(2)(c), Sch. Pt. 3
- F3** S. 2(4A) inserted (3.7.2000) by 1999 c. 29, s. 280(4) (with Sch. 12 para. 9(1)); S.I. 2000/801, art. 2(2)(c), Sch. Pt. 3
- F4** S. 2(6A)-(6C) inserted (3.7.2000) by 1999 c. 29, s. 280(5) (with Sch. 12 para. 9(1)); S.I. 2000/801, art. 2(2)(c), Sch. Pt. 3
- F5** Words in s. 2(7)(a) inserted (3.7.2000) by 1999 c. 29, s. 280(6) (with Sch. 12 para. 9(1)); S.I. 2000/801, art. 2(2)(c), Sch. Pt. 3

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C2** S. 2: transfer of functions (1.4.2014) by The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/865), arts. 1, 11(1) (with arts. 8(4), 11(7), 12)
- C3** S. 2 functions made exercisable (E.W.) (8.5.2017) by The West Midlands Combined Authority (Functions and Amendment) Order 2017 (S.I. 2017/510), arts. 1(2), 7

#### Commencement Information

- I3** S. 2 wholly in force at 21.4.2000; s. 2 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 4(3); s. 2 in force at 10.3.2000 as regards to England and Wales by S.I. 2000/735, art. 2; s. 2 in force at 21.4.2000 as regards to Scotland by S.I. 2000/101, art. 2

### 3 Expenses.

There shall be paid out of monies provided by Parliament—

- (a) any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State under or by virtue of this Act, and
- (b) any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable out of moneys so provided under any other Act.

---

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997. (See end of Document for details)*

---

#### Commencement Information

- I4** S. 3 wholly in force at 21.4.2000; s. 3 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 4(3); s. 3 in force at 10.3.2000 as regards to England and Wales by S.I. 2000/735, art. 2; s. 3 in force at 21.4.2000 as regards to Scotland by S.S.I. 2000/101, art. 2

#### 4 Citation, extent and commencement.

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997.
- (2) This Act does not extend to Northern Ireland.
- (3) This Act shall come into force on such day as may be appointed by order made by statutory instrument by the Secretary of State; and different days may be appointed for different purposes or different areas.
- (4) Before making an order under subsection (3), the Secretary of State shall consult such associations of local authorities as appear to him to be concerned.

#### Subordinate Legislation Made

- P1** S. 4(3) power partly exercised: 10.3.2000 appointed for Act as regards to England and Wales by S.I. 2000/735, art. 2  
S. 4(3) power partly exercised: 21.4.2000 appointed for Act as regards to Scotland by S.S.I. 2000/101, art. 2

#### Commencement Information

- I5** S. 4 wholly in force at 21.4.2000; s. 4 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 4(3); s. 4 in force at 10.3.2000 as regards to England and Wales by S.I. 2000/735, art. 2; s. 4 in force at 21.4.2000 as regards to Scotland by S.S.I. 2000/101, art. 2

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997.