

1989 No. 203

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES**The Motor Vehicles (Speed Limits) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1989**

Made 5th June 1989

Coming into operation 24th July 1989

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 28(1) and 218(1) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 and shall come into operation on 24th July 1989.

Speed limits

2. The speed at which a motor vehicle is driven on the classes of road specified in the Schedule shall not exceed the maximum speed specified therein for a motor vehicle of the class or description mentioned therein.

Revocation

3. The Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984(b) and the Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986(c) are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on 5th June 1989.

(L.S.)

Trevor Pearson

Assistant Secretary

(a) S.I. 1981/154 (N.I. 1)
(b) S.R. 1984 No. 135
(c) S.R. 1986 No. 267

SCHEDULE

(See regulation 2)

PART I

Vehicles fitted with pneumatic tyres on all wheels

1	2	3		
Item No.	Class of Vehicle	<i>Maximum speed (in miles per hour) while vehicle is being driven on:—</i>		
		<i>(a) Motorway</i>	<i>(b) Dual carriage- way road not being a Motorway</i>	<i>(c) Other road</i>
1.	A passenger vehicle, car-derived van, motor cycle, motor caravan or dual purpose vehicle not drawing a trailer being a vehicle with an unladen weight not exceeding 3.05 tonnes or equipped to carry not more than 8 passengers.	70	70	60
2.	A passenger vehicle, motor caravan or dual-purpose vehicle not drawing a trailer being a vehicle with an unladen weight exceeding 3.05 tonnes or adapted to carry more than 8 passengers— <i>(a)</i> if not exceeding 12 metres in overall length; <i>(b)</i> if exceeding 12 metres in overall length.	70	60	50
		60	60	50
3.	A passenger vehicle, car-derived van, motor caravan or dual-purpose vehicle drawing one trailer.	60	60	50
4.	A passenger vehicle, car-derived van, motor caravan or dual-purpose vehicle drawing more than one trailer.	40	20	20

PART I (continued)

5.	<p>(1) A goods vehicle having a maximum laden weight not exceeding 7.5 tonnes and which is not—</p> <p>(a) an articulated vehicle;</p> <p>(b) drawing a trailer; or</p> <p>(c) a car-derived van.</p> <p>(2) A goods vehicle which is—</p> <p>(a) (i) an articulated vehicle having a maximum laden weight not exceeding 7.5 tonnes; or</p> <p>(ii) a motor vehicle, other than a car-derived van, which is drawing one trailer where the aggregate maximum laden weight of the motor vehicle and the trailer does not exceed 7.5 tonnes;</p> <p>(b) (i) an articulated vehicle having a maximum laden weight exceeding 7.5 tonnes;</p> <p>(ii) a motor vehicle having a maximum laden weight exceeding 7.5 tonnes and not drawing a trailer; or</p> <p>(iii) a motor vehicle drawing one trailer where the aggregate maximum laden weight of the motor vehicle and the trailer exceeds 7.5 tonnes;</p> <p>(c) a motor vehicle, other than a car-derived van, drawing more than one trailer.</p>	70	60	50
		60	60	50
		60	50	40
		40	20	20

PART I (continued)

6.	A motor tractor (other than an industrial tractor), a light locomotive or a heavy locomotive— (a) if the provisions about springs and wings as specified in paragraph 3 of Part IV are complied with and the vehicle is not drawing a trailer or if those provisions are complied with and the vehicle is drawing one trailer which also complies with those provisions; (b) in any other case.	40 20	30 20	30 20
7.	A works truck.	18	18	18
8.	An industrial tractor.	not applicable	18	18
9.	An agricultural motor vehicle.	40	40	40

PART II

Vehicles, other than track-laying vehicles, not fitted with pneumatic tyres on all wheels

1	2	3
Item No.	Class of Vehicle	Maximum speed (in miles per hour) while being driven on any road
1.	A motor vehicle, or in the case of a motor vehicle drawing one or more trailers, the combination, where— (a) every wheel is fitted with a resilient tyre; or (b) at least one wheel is fitted with a resilient tyre and every wheel which is not fitted with a resilient tyre is fitted with a pneumatic tyre.	20
2.	A motor vehicle, or in the case of a motor vehicle drawing one or more trailers, the combination, where any wheel is not fitted with either a pneumatic tyre or a resilient tyre.	5

PART III

Track-laying vehicles

1	2	3
<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Class of Vehicle</i>	<i>Maximum speed (in miles per hour) while being driven on any road</i>
1.	A motor vehicle being a track-laying vehicle which is fitted with— (a) springs between its frame and its weight-carrying rollers; and (b) resilient material between the rims of its weight-carrying rollers and the surface of the road, and which is not drawing a trailer.	20
2.	A vehicle specified in item 1 drawing one or more trailers each one of which is either— (a) a track-laying vehicle fitted with springs and resilient material as mentioned in that item; or (b) not a track-laying vehicle and each wheel of which is fitted with either a pneumatic tyre or a resilient tyre.	20
3.	A vehicle specified in item 1 drawing one or more trailers any one of which is either— (a) a track-laying vehicle not fitted with springs and resilient material as mentioned in that item; or (b) not a track-laying vehicle and at least one wheel of which is not fitted with either a pneumatic tyre or a resilient tyre.	5
4.	A motor vehicle being a track-laying vehicle which is not fitted with springs and resilient material as mentioned in item 1, whether drawing a trailer or not.	5

PART III (continued)

5.	A motor vehicle, not being a track-laying vehicle, which is drawing one or more trailers any one or more of which is a track-laying vehicle— (a) if every wheel of the motor vehicle and of any non-track-laying trailer is fitted with a pneumatic tyre or with a resilient tyre, and every trailer which is a track-laying vehicle is fitted with springs and resilient material as mentioned in item 1; (b) in any other case.	20 5
----	---	---------

PART IV

Application and Interpretation of Schedule

1. This Schedule does not apply to a vehicle which is being used for the purpose of experiments or trials under Article 7 of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1980(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the 1980 Order"), or the use of which on roads is authorised by an order made under Article 29(3) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

2. In this Schedule—

"agricultural motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle which is constructed or adapted for use off roads for the purpose of agriculture, horticulture or forestry and which is primarily used for one or more of those purposes but does not include a dual-purpose vehicle;

"articulated vehicle", "dual-purpose vehicle", "industrial tractor", "passenger vehicle", "pneumatic tyre", "track-laying", "wheel" and "works truck" have the same meanings as are respectively given to those expressions in regulation 3(1) of the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976(b);

"car-derived van" means a goods vehicle which is constructed or adapted as a derivative of a passenger vehicle and which has a maximum laden weight not exceeding 2.0 tonnes;

"dual-carriageway road" means a road part of which consists of a central reservation to separate a carriageway to be used by vehicles proceeding in one direction from a carriageway to be used by vehicles proceeding in the opposite direction;

"maximum laden weight" in relation to a vehicle or a combination of vehicles means—

(a) in the case of a vehicle, or combination of vehicles, in respect of which a gross weight not to be exceeded in Northern Ireland or Great Britain is specified in construction and use requirements, those weights; or

(a) S.I. 1980 No. 1085 (N.I. 11)

(b) S.R. 1976 No. 320; relevant amending Regulations are S.Rs. 1978 No. 208, 1983 Nos. 62 and 137

(b) in the case of any vehicle, or combination of vehicles, in respect of which no such weight is specified in construction and use requirements, the weight which the vehicle, or combination of vehicles, is designed or adapted not to exceed when in normal use and travelling on a road laden; and

(c) in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) the expression “construction and use requirements” means either the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976 or the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986(a), whichever is appropriate;

“motorway” means a road designated as a special road under Article 14 of the 1980 Order or under any statutory provision repealed by the 1980 Order and includes trunk roads to which Part III of the 1980 Order applies by virtue of paragraph 7 of Schedule 7 to the 1980 Order;

“motor caravan” means a motor vehicle which is constructed or adapted for the carriage of passengers and their effects and which contains, as permanently installed equipment the facilities which are reasonably necessary for enabling the vehicle to provide mobile living accommodation for its users; and

“resilient tyre” means a tyre, not being a pneumatic tyre, which is soft or elastic.

3. The specification as regards springs and wings mentioned in item 6 in Part I is that the vehicle—

(a) is equipped with suitable and sufficient springs between each wheel and the frame of the vehicle; and

(b) is provided with wings or other similar fittings to catch, so far as practicable, mud or water thrown up by the rotation of the wheels, unless adequate protection is afforded by the body of the vehicle.

4. A vehicle falling in two or more classes specified in Part I, II or III shall be treated as falling within the class for which the lower or lowest speed limit is specified.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations consolidate and replace with one amendment the Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984 as amended by the Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986 both of which are revoked (regulation 3).

The Regulations prescribe the maximum speed limits to be observed by drivers of motor vehicles on various types of road in Northern Ireland.

The effect of the amendment is that the maximum speed limit for a passenger vehicle, car-derived van, motor cycle, motor caravan or dual-purpose vehicle not drawing a trailer, not equipped to carry more than 8 passengers and having an unladen weight not exceeding 3.05 tonnes, is 70 mph on motorways and dual carriageways and 60 mph on other roads (Part I, item 1 of the Schedule).