



# Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976

## 1976 CHAPTER 3

An Act to amend the Road Traffic Act 1972 in so far as it relates to drivers' licences and the minimum age for driving certain classes of vehicles and to amend Part VI of the Transport Act 1968 and for connected purposes. [25th March 1976]

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Words of enactment omitted under authority of [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\), s. 3](#)

1 ..... F1

### Textual Amendments

F1 [Ss. 1, 4\(2\)\(b\), Sch. 1](#) repealed by [Road Traffic \(Consequential Provisions\) Act 1988 \(c. 54, SIF 107:1\)](#), [ss. 3, 5, Sch. 1 Pt. I, Sch. 4 paras. 1–3](#)

## 2 **Amendment of Transport Act 1968 about drivers' hours.**

(1) In Part VI of the <sup>M1</sup>Transport Act 1968 (drivers' hours)—

- (a) in section 103(1), for the definition of “the international rules” there shall be substituted the words ““the applicable Community rules” means any directly applicable [<sup>F2</sup>EU] provision for the time being in force about the driving of road vehicles”
- (b) in section 103(1), in the appropriate places in alphabetical order, there shall be inserted the following definitions—
  - ““the domestic drivers' hours code” has the meaning given by section 96(13) of this Act”

*Changes to legislation: Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

““relevant [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision” means any [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision for the time being in force about the driving of road vehicles, whether directly applicable or not”;

- (c) for the words “the international rules” wherever occurring in that Part, there shall be substituted the words “the applicable Community rules”;
- (d) in section 95(1), there shall be inserted after the words “proper hours” the words “or periods” and there shall be substituted, for the words after “fatigue” (about the adaptation of that Part to take account of [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provisions relating to international journeys), the following words—

“but the Secretary of State may by regulations make such provision by way of substitution for or adaptation of the provisions of this Part, or supplemental or incidental to this Part, as he considers necessary or expedient to take account of the operation of any relevant [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision.

(1A) Regulations under subsection (1) above may in particular—

- (a) substitute different requirements for the requirements of the domestic drivers' hours code or add to, make exceptions from or otherwise modify any of the requirements of that code;
- (b) apply to journeys and work to which no relevant [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision applies;
- (c) include provisions as to the circumstances in which a period of driving or duty to which a relevant [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision or the domestic drivers' hours code applies is to be included or excluded in reckoning any period for purposes of the domestic drivers' hours code or any relevant [F<sup>2</sup>EU] provision respectively; and
- (d) may contain such transitional, supplemental or consequential provisions as the Secretary of State thinks necessary or expedient”;
- (e) in section 96(11), for the words from “subsections (1) to (6)” to “(10) thereof” there shall be substituted the words “the domestic drivers' hours code”;
- (f) after section 96(12) there shall be added the following subsection—

“(13) In this Part of this Act “the domestic drivers' hours code” means the provisions of subsections (1) to (6) of this section as for the time being in force (and in particular, as modified, added to or substituted by or under any instrument in force under section 95(1) of this Act or subsection (10) or (12) of this section)”;

- (g) in section 98, for the words “books and records” in subsection (2) and the words “books and records” in subsection (4), there shall be substituted the words “books, records or documents”;
- (h) in section 99, in subsection (1)(d), the word “corresponding” shall be omitted and in subsection (5) for the words “book or register kept” there shall be substituted the words “book, register or document kept or carried”;
- (i) in section 101, in subsection (3), after the words “(except regulations made” there shall be inserted the words “under section 95(1) or” and after that subsection there shall be inserted the following subsection—

**Changes to legislation:** Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

“(3A) No regulations shall be made under section 95(1) of this Act unless a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.”

<sup>F3</sup>(2) .....

(3) In . . . <sup>F4</sup> . . . <sup>F5</sup> . . . <sup>F6</sup> Schedule 2 to the <sup>M2</sup>Road Traffic (Foreign Vehicles) Act 1972, for the words “the international rules” there shall be substituted the words “the applicable Community rules”.

(4) The enactment specified in Part II of Schedule 3 to this Act is hereby repealed.

(5) Nothing in subsection (1) above shall invalidate any regulations made under the said section 95(1) and those regulations shall have effect as if they had been made under that subsection as substituted by paragraph (d) of subsection (1) above.

**Textual Amendments**

- F2** Words in Act substituted (22.4.2011) by [The Treaty of Lisbon \(Changes in Terminology\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1043\)](#), arts. 2, 3, 6 (with arts. 3(2)(3), 4(2), 6(4)(5))
- F3** S. 2(2) repealed (1.1.1996) by [1995 c. 23](#), s. 60(2), [Sch. 8 Pt. I](#) (with ss. 54, 55); [S.I. 1995/2181](#), art. 2
- F4** Words repealed by [Employment Act 1980 \(c. 42, SIF 43:5\)](#), s. 2(3), [Sch. 2](#)
- F5** Entry repealed with savings by [Wages Councils Act 1979 \(c. 12, SIF 43:1\)](#), s. 31, [Sch. 5 para. 1](#), [Sch. 7](#)
- F6** Word repealed by [Employment Act 1980 \(c. 42, SIF 43:5\)](#), s. 2(3), [Sch. 2](#)

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

- C2** The text of ss. 2(1)(a)–(i)(4), 3, [Sch. 3 Pts. I, II](#) is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.
- C3** The text of s. 2(3) is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and, except as specified, does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

**Marginal Citations**

- M1** [1968 c. 73](#).
- M2** [1972 c. 27](#).

**3 Extension of jurisdiction over offences about drivers' hours.**

For section 103(7) of the Transport Act 1968 (which confers jurisdiction over an offence about drivers' hours on any court having jurisdiction in the place where the person charged with the offence is for the time being) there shall be substituted the following—

“(7) A offence under this Part of this Act may be treated for the purpose of conferring jurisdiction on a court (but without prejudice to any jurisdiction it may have apart from this subsection) as having been committed in any of the following places, that is to say—

- (a) the place where the person charged with the offence was driving when evidence of the offence first came to the attention of a constable or vehicle examiner;

**Changes to legislation:** Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) the place where that person resides or is or is believed to reside or be at the time when the proceedings are commenced; or
- (c) the place where at that time that person or, in the case of an employee-driver, that person's employer or, in the case of an owner-driver, the person for whom he was driving, has his place or principal place of business or his operating centre for the vehicle in question.

In this subsection "vehicle examiner" means an officer within the meaning of section 99 of this Act."

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

**C4** The text of ss. 2(1)(a)–(i)(4), 3, Sch. 3 Pts. I, II is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

**4 Citation, commencement and extent.**

(1) This Act may be cited as the Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages and Hours of Work) Act 1976.

<sup>F7</sup>(2) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(3) .....

<sup>F7</sup>(4) .....

(5) This Act does not extend to Northern Ireland.

**Textual Amendments**

**F7** S. 4(2)-(4) repealed (22.7.2004) by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004 (c. 14), Sch. 1 Pt. 14

**Changes to legislation:** Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 1

F8  
. . .

#### Textual Amendments

- F8** Ss. 1, 4(2)(b), Sch. 1 repealed by Road Traffic (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988 (c. 54, SIF 107:1), ss. 3, 5, Sch. 1 Pt. I, **Sch. 4 paras. 1–3**

### SCHEDULE 2

F9  
. . .

#### Textual Amendments

- F9** Sch. 2 repealed by Road Traffic (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988 (c. 54, SIF 107:1), ss. 3, 5, Sch. 1 Pt. I, **Sch. 4 paras. 1–3**, (but reg. 16 of S.I. 1990/2611 excludes a restriction in Sch. 2 para. 3(3)(5))

### SCHEDULE 3

Sections 1 and 2.

### ENACTMENTS REPEALED

#### PART I

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

- C5** The text of ss. 2(1)(a)–(i)(4), 3, Sch. 3 Pts. I, II is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
1972 c. 20.	The Road Traffic Act 1972.	Section 4.  In section 107, in subsections (1) and (2), the words “section 4 or”.

**Changes to legislation:** Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

		In section 110, the words “and section 4 thereof”.
		Section 122.
		In section 124, the words “and Schedule 5 thereto”.
		In section 198(1), the word “4”.
		In Schedule 4, in Part I, the entries relating to section 4(4).
		Schedule 5.
1972 c. 68.	The European Communities Act 1972.	In Schedule 4, in paragraph 9, sub-paragraph (1).
1974 c. 50.	The Road Traffic Act 1974.	Section 15(1).

## PART II

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C6** The text of ss. 2(1)(a)–(i)(4), 3, Sch. 3 Pts. I, II is in the form in which it was originally enacted: it was not reproduced in Statutes in Force and does not reflect any amendments or repeals which may have been made prior to 1.2.1991.

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
1972 c. 68.	The European Communities Act 1972.	In Schedule 4, in paragraph 9, sub-paragraph (3).

**Changes to legislation:**

Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages And Hours Of Work) Act 1976 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- s. 2(4) repealed by [2004 c. 14 Sch. 1 Pt. 14](#)