
S T A T U T O R Y I N S T R U M E N T S

1973 No. 2059

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Motorways Traffic (Speed Limit) Regulations 1973

<i>Made - - - -</i>	<i>7th December 1973</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>7th December 1973</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	<i>8th December 1973</i>

The Secretary of State for the Environment (so far as relating to motorways in England), the Secretary of State for Scotland (so far as relating to motorways in Scotland) and the Secretary of State for Wales (so far as relating to motorways in Wales), in exercise respectively of their powers under section 13 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967^(a) and of all other enabling powers, hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 8th December 1973 and may be cited as the Motorways Traffic (Speed Limit) Regulations 1973.

2.—(1) In these Regulations the expression “motorway” has the meaning assigned to it in the Motorways Traffic Regulations 1959^(b).

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889^(c) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if for the purposes of section 38 of that Act these Regulations were an Act of Parliament and the Regulations revoked by Regulation 4 below were Acts of Parliament thereby repealed.

3. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a motorway at a speed greater than 50 miles per hour:

Provided that this Regulation shall not apply to the driving of a motor vehicle on any length of motorway on which there is for the time being a restriction imposed under section 13 of the said Act of 1967 on the driving of a motor vehicle in excess of a maximum speed which is less than 50 miles per hour.

4. The Motorways Traffic (Speed Limit) (England) Regulations 1967^(d), the Motorways Traffic (Speed Limit) (Scotland) Regulations 1967^(e) and the Motorways Traffic (Speed Limit) (Wales) Regulations 1967^(f), and any other regulations made or having effect as if made under section 13 of the said Act of 1967 which are in force on the date of coming into operation of these Regulations and which impose a restriction on the driving of motor vehicles

^(a) 1967 c. 76.

^(c) 1889 c. 63.

^(e) S.I. 1967/1044 (1967 II, p. 3133).

^(b) S.I. 1959/1147 (1959 II, p. 2507).

^(d) S.I. 1967/1041 (1967 II, p. 3125).

^(f) S.I. 1967/1039 (1967 II, p. 3122).

on specified lengths of motorway at a speed greater than 50 miles per hour or in excess of a maximum speed which is greater than 50 miles per hour, are hereby revoked.

Signed by authority of
the Secretary of State.

7th December 1973.

John Peyton,
Minister for Transport Industries,
Department of the Environment.

7th December 1973.

Gordon Campbell,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

7th December 1973.

Peter Thomas,
Secretary of State for Wales.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations impose indefinitely a maximum speed limit of 50 miles per hour on the driving of motor vehicles on motorways (other than lengths of motorway which are subject to lower maximum speed limits) after midnight at the end of Friday 7th December 1973.

On roads other than motorways the same speed limit is imposed by virtue of the 50 miles per hour Speed Limit Order 1973.

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