



Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 14

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Traffic Areas and Traffic commissioners

[^{F1}4 Traffic commissioners.

[^{F2}(1) For the purposes of this Act there shall be—

- (a) such number of commissioners for England and Wales as the Secretary of State may consider appropriate; and
- (b) a single commissioner for the Scottish Traffic Area (the “Scottish traffic commissioner”).

(2) The commissioners shall be appointed by the Secretary of State and shall be known as traffic commissioners.]

(3) [^{F3}A traffic commissioner] shall be responsible for issuing licences under this Act and shall have such other functions as are given to him by, or in pursuance of, this Act or any other enactment.

[A traffic commissioner for England and Wales—

- ^{F4}(3A) (a) may exercise the functions of a traffic commissioner in any traffic area in England and Wales; and
- (b) may exercise in relation to the Scottish Traffic Area any functions of a traffic commissioner that relate to reserved matters within the meaning of the Scotland Act 1998.

(3B) The Scottish traffic commissioner—

- (a) is to exercise the functions of a traffic commissioner in relation to the Scottish Traffic Area; and

Changes to legislation: Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981, Section 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 April 2024. 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) may exercise in relation to any traffic area in England and Wales any functions of a traffic commissioner that relate to reserved matters within the meaning of the Scotland Act 1998.]
- (4) Any person appointed to be [^{F5}a traffic commissioner] shall—
- (a) act under [^{F6}the general directions of, and shall have regard to any guidance given by, the senior traffic commissioner]; and
- (b) vacate his office on attaining the age of [^{F7}75], but otherwise hold office during Her Majesty’s pleasure.
- (5) Where the Secretary of State proposes to appoint a person to be [^{F8}a traffic commissioner] he shall, before making the appointment, require that person to declare if he has any, and if so what, financial interest in any transport undertaking which carries passengers or goods by road within Great Britain.
- (6) Schedule 2 to this Act shall have effect with respect to traffic commissioners.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 4, 5 substituted by [Transport Act 1985 \(c. 67, SIF 126\)](#), **s. 3(2)**
- F2** S. 4(1)(2) substituted (3.7.2013) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 2(2)**, 134(4); S.I. 2013/685, art. 3(1)(2)(a)
- F3** Words in s. 4(3) substituted (3.7.2013) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 2(3)**, 134(4); S.I. 2013/685, art. 3(1)(2)(a)
- F4** S. 4(3A)(3B) inserted (3.7.2013) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 2(4)**, 134(4); S.I. 2013/685, art. 3(1)(2)(a)
- F5** Words in s. 4(4) substituted (3.7.2013) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 2(5)**, 134(4); S.I. 2013/685, art. 3(1)(2)(a)
- F6** Words in s. 4(4)(a) substituted (4.3.2009) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 3(2)(a)**, 134(4); S.I. 2009/107, art. 3, Sch. 3
- F7** Word in s. 4(4)(b) substituted (10.3.2022) by [Public Service Pensions and Judicial Offices Act 2022 \(c. 7\)](#), s. 131(1)(4)(a), **Sch. 1 para. 17** (with Sch. 1 para. 43)
- F8** Words in s. 4(5) substituted (3.7.2013) by [Local Transport Act 2008 \(c. 26\)](#), **ss. 2(6)**, 134(4); S.I. 2013/685, art. 3(1)(2)(a)

Changes to legislation:

Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981, Section 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 April 2024. 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 the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 51(1A)(1B) inserted by 1982 c. 49 s. 21(4)(b)