



# Roads Act 1920

1920 CHAPTER 72 10 and 11 Geo 5

An Act to make provision for the collection and application of the excise duties on mechanically-propelled vehicles and on carriages; to amend the Finance Act, 1920, as respects such duties; and to amend the Motor Car Acts, 1896 and 1903, and the Development and Road Improvement Funds Act, 1909; and to make other provision with respect to roads and vehicles used on roads, and for purposes connected therewith. [23rd December 1920]

## Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1 Words of enactment omitted under authority of [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\), s. 3](#)  
C2 This Act is not necessarily in the form in which it has effect in Northern Ireland

## Commencement Information

- I1 Act wholly in force at 1.1.1921 by s. 20(2) (now repealed)

1 ..... F1

## Textual Amendments

- F1 Ss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11–13, 14(1) repealed by [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\), Sch. 7](#)

2 ..... F2

## Textual Amendments

- F2 S. 2 repealed by [Finance Act 1936 \(c. 34\), Sch. 3 Pt. II](#)

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.**Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed). (See end of Document for details)***3 †Establishment of Road Fund.**

(1) ..... F3

(4) ..... F4

(5) ..... F3

[<sup>F5</sup>(6) The Minister shall make an annual report to Parliament of his proceedings . . . <sup>F6</sup> under Part II of the <sup>M1</sup>Development and Road Improvement Funds Act, 1909, as amended by this Act.]

**Textual Amendments**

**F3** S. 3(1)–(3)(5) repealed by [Miscellaneous Financial Provisions Act 1955 \(4 & 5 Eliz. 2 c. 6\)](#), **Sch. 2 Pt. II**

**F4** Ss. 3(4), 18 repealed by [Vehicle and Driving Licences Act 1969 \(c. 27\)](#), **Sch. 3**

**F5** S. 3(6) repealed (S.) by [Roads \(Scotland\) Act 1984 \(c. 54, SIF 108\)](#), ss. 128(1), 156(3), **Sch. 11**

**F6** Words repealed by [Miscellaneous Financial Provisions Act 1955 \(4 & 5 Eliz. 2 c. 6\)](#), **Sch. 2 Pt. II**

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

**C3** A dagger appended to a marginal note means that it is no longer accurate

**Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1909 c. 47.

**4** ..... F7

**Textual Amendments**

**F7** S. 4, **Sch. 1** repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1989 \(c. 43\)](#), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. X**

**5, 6.** ..... F8

**Textual Amendments**

**F8** Ss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11–13, 14(1) repealed by [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\)](#), **Sch. 7**

**7** ..... F9

**Textual Amendments**

**F9** S. 7 repealed by [Road Traffic Act 1930 \(c. 43\)](#), **Sch. 5** and [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\)](#), **Sch. 7**

**8, 9.** ..... F10

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed). (See end of Document for details)*

#### Textual Amendments

**F10** Ss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11–13, 14(1) repealed by [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\)](#), [Sch. 7](#)

### 10 Power to modify or determine charges for use of vehicles on roads.

Where any persons are, whether by virtue of any Act or otherwise, liable to pay any sums, by way of mileage charges or other annual payments, in respect of the use of any road by their vehicles, the Minister may, on an application by those persons in that behalf, and after considering any objections made by any person interested, suspend, modify or determine the liability to make the payment, as he shall think fit.

11— ..... <sup>F11</sup>  
13.

#### Textual Amendments

**F11** Ss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11–13, 14(1) repealed by [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\)](#), [Sch. 7](#)

### 14 †Local licensing fees to cease to be chargeable.

- (1) ..... <sup>F12</sup>  
(2) ..... <sup>F13</sup>

[<sup>F14</sup>(3) Where, upon application for a licence to ply for hire with an omnibus, the licensing authority either refuses to grant a licence or grants a licence subject to conditions, in either case the applicant shall have a right of appeal to the Minister of Transport from the decision of the licensing authority, and the Minister shall have power to make such order thereon as he thinks fit, and such order shall be binding upon the licensing authority.

An order made by the Minister under this subsection shall be final and not subject to appeal to any court, and shall, on the application of the Minister, be enforceable by writ of mandamus.

For the purpose of this subsection, the expression “omnibus” includes every omnibus, char-a-banc, waggonette, brake, stage coach, or other carriage plying for hire or used to carry passengers at separate fares.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F12** Ss. 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11–13, 14(1) repealed by [Vehicles \(Excise\) Act 1949 \(c. 89\)](#), [Sch. 7](#)

**F13** Ss. 14(2), 20(2)(3), [Sch. 3](#) repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1927 \(c. 42\)](#)

**F14** [S. 14\(3\)](#) repealed so far as relating to public service vehicles by [Road Traffic Act 1930 \(c. 43\)](#), [Sch. 5](#)

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

**C4** A dagger appended to a marginal note means that it is no longer accurate

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.**Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed). (See end of Document for details)***15, 16. .... F15****Textual Amendments****F15** Ss. 15, 16, Sch. 2 repealed by Road Traffic Act 1930 (c. 43), Sch. 5**17 Interpretation.**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

**F16**

The expression “the Minister” means the Minister of Transport;

**F17**The expression “use” means use on a [<sup>F18</sup>public road][<sup>F18</sup>road which is a public road within the meaning of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984];**F17****Textual Amendments****F16** Definitions of “county” and “county council” repealed by Vehicle and Driving Licences Act 1969 (c. 72), s. 38(2), Sch. 3**F17** Definitions of “prescribed” and “police authority” repealed by Vehicles (Excise) Act 1949 (c. 89), Sch. 7**F18** Words commencing “road which is” substituted (S.) for words “public road” by Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (c. 54, SIF 108), s. 128(1), Sch. 9 para. 24**Modifications etc. (not altering text)****C5** Functions of Minister of Transport under this Act now exercisable by Secretary of State: S. R. & O. 1941/654 (Rev. XV, p. 228: 1941 I, p. 1221), 1946/375 (Rev. XV, p. 229: 1946 I, p. 1009), S. I. 1955/1955 (1955 I, p. 1205), 1965/319 and 1970/1681**18 ..... F19****Textual Amendments****F19** Ss. 3(4), 18 repealed by Vehicle and Driving Licences Act 1969 (c. 27), Sch. 3**19 Provisions as to default on the part of county councils in Ireland. 1 & 2 Geo. 5. c. 45.**

- (1) This Act, in its application to Ireland, shall have effect with the following modification, namely, a reference to section two of the Public Roads (Ireland) Act, 1911, shall be substituted for the reference to section twenty-eight of the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878.
- (2) Section four of the Locomotives Act, 1898 (which relates to the erection and use of weighing machines), shall apply to Ireland with the following modifications, namely—

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed). (See end of Document for details)*

- (a) a reference to county councils and urban district councils shall be substituted for the reference to road authorities ;
  - (b) a reference to the enactments with respect to arbitrations in Ireland shall be substituted for a reference to the Arbitration Act, 1889; and
  - (c) a reference to the Public Health Ireland Acts, 1878 to 1919, shall be substituted for the reference to the <sup>M2</sup>Public Health Act, 1875.
- (3) Provision may be made by Order in Council for the discharge by the Minister or otherwise of the functions under this Act and the Motor Cars Acts, 1896 and 1903, of any county council in Ireland which, in the opinion of the Minister, neglects or refuses to perform any of those functions, and for carrying the provisions of this Act, and of any such order, or any other order under this Act, into effect as respects the area of such county council.

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

- C6** The text of s. 19 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.

**Marginal Citations**

- M2** 38 & 39 Vict. c. 55.

**20 †Short title, commencement and repeal.**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Roads Act, 1920.
- (2) ..... <sup>F20</sup>

**Textual Amendments**

- F20** Ss. 14(2), 20(2)(3), Sch. 3 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1927 (c. 42)

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

- C7** A dagger appended to a marginal note means that it is no longer accurate

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed). (See end of Document for details)*

FIRST  
SCHEDULE. ....  
F21

**Textual Amendments**

**F21** S. 4, Sch. 1 repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1989 (c. 43), s. 1(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. X**

F22F22  
SECOND SCHEDULE

**Textual Amendments**

**F22** Ss. 15, 16, Sch. 2 repealed by Road Traffic Act 1930 (c. 43), **Sch. 5**

F22  
.....

F23F23  
THIRD SCHEDULE

**Textual Amendments**

**F23** Ss. 14(2), 20(2)(3), Sch. 3 repealed by Statute Law Revision Act 1927 (c. 42)

F23  
.....

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Roads Act 1920 (repealed).