

---

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

---

1972 No. 751

## ROAD TRAFFIC

**The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment  
and Use) Regulations 1972**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	10th May 1972
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		25th May 1972
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		15th June 1972

## ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

## PART I—PRELIMINARY

	Regulation
Commencement and citation ... ..	1
Revocation ... ..	2
Interpretation ... ..	3
Exemption for the Crown and visiting force vehicles ... ..	4

 PART II—REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE CONDITIONS AS TO FITNESS OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

Certificates of fitness ... ..	5
Stability ... ..	6
Suspension ... ..	7
Turning circle ... ..	8
Guard rails ... ..	9
Side overhang ... ..	10
Brakes... ..	11
Steering ... ..	12
Brake and steering connections ... ..	13
Hub projection ... ..	14
Fuel tanks, carburettors etc. ... ..	15
Exhaust pipe ... ..	16
Locking of nuts ... ..	17
Artificial lighting ... ..	18
Electrical equipment... ..	19
Body ... ..	20
Height of sides of body ... ..	21
Steps, platforms and stairs ... ..	22
Number and position of entrances and exits ... ..	23

Clear height and width of entrances and exits (other than secondary emergency exits) ...	24
Doors ...	25
Marking, positioning and operation of emergency exits ...	26
Access to exits ...	27
Width of gangways ...	28
Height of gangways ...	29
Seats ...	30
Guarding of transverse windows ...	31
Markings ...	32
Ventilation ...	33
Driver's accommodation ...	34
Wind-screens ...	35
Passengers' communication with driver ...	36
Wireless apparatus ...	37
Luggage racks ...	38
General construction ...	39

### PART III

#### REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE EQUIPMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

Markings on vehicles ...	40
Fire extinguishing apparatus ...	41
First aid equipment ...	42

### PART IV

#### REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

Obstruction of entrances, exits and gangways ...	43
Obstruction of driver ...	44
Body maintenance ...	45
Lamps... ...	46
Use of device for operating power-operated doors ...	47
Filling of petrol tank ...	48
Carriage of conductor ...	49
Carriage of inflammable or dangerous substances ...	50

## SCHEDULES

	Page
1. Regulations revoked by Regulation 2 ... ..	25
2. Exceptions from the conditions prescribed in Part II as applicable to vehicles registered before certain dates ...	25
3. First aid equipment ... ..	30

The Secretary of State for the Environment, in exercise of his powers under sections 129(1) and 160(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a) (as respects Regulations 1, 2 and 3 and the Regulations in Parts II and III of these Regulations) and under section 64(1) of that Act as amended by section 51 of and Schedule 4 to the Road Traffic Act 1962(b) (as respects the Regulations in Parts I and IV of these Regulations), and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of the said Act of 1960, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

## PART I—PRELIMINARY

*Commencement and citation*

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 15th June 1972 and may be cited as the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment and Use) Regulations 1972.

*Revocation*

2. The Regulations specified in Schedule 1 are hereby revoked.

*Interpretation*

3.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

“the Act” means the Road Traffic Act 1960;

“the Commissioners” means the traffic commissioners for any traffic area constituted for the purposes of Part III of the Act;

“deck” means a floor or platform upon which seats are provided for the accommodation of passengers;

“double-decked vehicle” means a vehicle having two decks one of which is wholly or partly above the other and each deck of which is provided with a gangway serving seats on that deck only;

“emergency exit” means an exit which is provided for use only in case of emergency;

“entrance” means any aperture or space provided to enable passengers to board the vehicle;

“exit” means any aperture or space provided to enable passengers to leave the vehicle;

“gangway” means the space provided for obtaining access from any entrance to the passengers’ seats or from any such seat to an exit other than an emergency exit but does not include a staircase or any space in front of a seat or a row of seats which is required only for the use of passengers occupying that seat or that row of seats;

---

(a) 1960 c. 16.

(b) 1962 c. 59.

“half-decked vehicle” means any vehicle not being a single-decked vehicle or a double-decked vehicle;

“overall length” means the length of a vehicle measured between vertical planes at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the extreme projecting points thereof exclusive of—

- (a) any starting handle,
- (b) any hood when down,
- (c) any telescopic fog lamp when extended,
- (d) any snow-plough fixed in front of a vehicle, and
- (e) any post office letter box the length of which measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle does not exceed 1 foot;

“overall width” means the width of a vehicle measured between vertical planes parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the extreme projecting points thereof exclusive of—

- (a) any driving mirror,
- (b) any direction indicator,
- (c) any snow-plough fixed in front of the vehicle,
- (d) so much of the distortion of any tyre as is caused by the weight of the vehicle, and
- (e) in the case of vehicles registered before 2nd January 1939 so much of a swivelling window designed to allow the driver to give hand signals as projects when opened not more than 4 inches beyond the side of the vehicle;

“permanent top” means any covering of a vehicle other than a hood made of canvas or other flexible material which is capable of being readily folded back so that no portion of such hood or any fixed structure of the roof remains vertically above any part of any seat of the vehicle, or, in the case of a double-decked vehicle, of any seat on the upper deck of the vehicle;

“registered” in relation to a vehicle, means registered under the Roads Act 1920(a) or, as the case may be, the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1949(b), the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962(c) or the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971(d) and references to a vehicle being registered are references to the date on which it was first so registered;

“safety glass” means glass so constructed or treated that if fractured it does not fly into fragments likely to cause severe cuts;

“single-decked vehicle” means a vehicle on which no part of a deck or gangway is placed vertically above another deck or gangway;

“vehicle” means a public service vehicle (within the meaning of section 117 of the Act) being, in relation to the Regulations contained in Part II of these Regulations, a vehicle adapted to carry eight or more passengers;

“vehicle in the service of a visiting force or headquarters” has the same meaning as in Article 8(6) of the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965(e).

(2) For the purpose of these Regulations, the date when a motor vehicle is first used shall be taken to be such date as is the earliest of the undermentioned relevant dates applicable to that vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle registered under the Roads Act 1920, the Vehicles

(a) 1920 c. 72.  
(d) 1971 c. 10.

(b) 1949 c. 89.  
(e) S.I. 1965/1536 (1965 II, p. 4462).

(c) 1962 c. 13.



(Excise) Act 1949, the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962 or the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971 the relevant date is the date on which it was first so registered; and

- (b) in each of the following cases, that is to say—
- (i) in the case of a vehicle which is being or has been used under a trade licence within the meaning of section 16(1) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971 (otherwise than for the purposes of demonstration or testing or of being delivered from premises of the manufacturer by whom it was made, or of a distributor of vehicles or dealer in vehicles to premises of a distributor of vehicles, dealer in vehicles or purchaser thereof, or to premises of a person obtaining possession thereof under a hiring agreement or hire purchase agreement);
  - (ii) in the case of a vehicle belonging, or which has belonged, to the Crown which is or was used or appropriated for use for naval, military or air force purposes;
  - (iii) in the case of a vehicle belonging, or which has belonged, to a visiting force or a headquarters within the meaning of Article 3 of the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965;
  - (iv) in the case of a vehicle, being a vehicle which has been used on roads outside Great Britain and which has been imported into Great Britain; and
  - (v) in the case of a vehicle, being a vehicle which has been used otherwise than on roads after being sold or supplied by retail and before being registered,

the relevant date is the date of manufacture of the vehicle.

In case (v) above “sold or supplied by retail” means sold or supplied otherwise than to a person acquiring the vehicle solely for the purpose of resale or re-supply for valuable consideration.

(3) Any reference in these Regulations to a numbered Regulation or Schedule is a reference to the Regulation or Schedule bearing that number in these Regulations except where otherwise expressly provided.

(4) Any reference in these Regulations to any enactment or instrument shall be construed as a reference to that enactment or instrument as amended by any subsequent enactment or instrument.

(5) The provisions of the Regulations in Part IV of these Regulations are in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other Regulations having effect as if made by the Secretary of State under section 64(1) of the Act.

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

#### *Exemption for Crown and visiting force vehicles*

4. The Regulations in Part IV of these Regulations do not apply to any vehicle in the public service of the Crown or in the service of a visiting force or of a headquarters.

## PART II

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE CONDITIONS AS TO FITNESS OF PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

*Certificates of fitness*

5.—(1) The conditions as to fitness which must be fulfilled before a certificate of fitness may be granted are the conditions prescribed in each of the following Regulations contained in this Part of these Regulations subject, however, to such exceptions as are specified in relation to any such condition in Schedule 2 and, where any conditions are prescribed in that Schedule in relation to any such exception, subject to the vehicle in question fulfilling all the conditions so prescribed.

(2) In this Regulation, “certificate of fitness” means such a certificate as is referred to in section 129(1) of the Act (under which a licence to use a vehicle adapted to carry eight or more passengers as a stage carriage, express carriage or contract carriage shall not be granted unless a certificate has been issued that the prescribed conditions as to fitness are fulfilled in respect of the vehicle).

*Stability*

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph 1 of Schedule 2, the stability of a vehicle shall be such that—

(a) in the case of a double-decked vehicle, the point at which overturning occurs would not be passed if, when the vehicle is complete, fully equipped for service and loaded with weights placed in the correct relative positions to represent the driver, a full complement of passengers on the upper deck only and a conductor (if carried), the surface on which the vehicle stands were tilted to either side to an angle of 28 degrees from the horizontal; and

(b) in the case of a single-decked vehicle and of a half-decked vehicle, the point at which overturning occurs would not be passed if, when the vehicle is complete, fully equipped for service and loaded with weights placed in the correct relative positions to represent a driver, a full complement of passengers and a conductor (if carried), the surface on which the vehicle stands were tilted to either side to an angle of 35 degrees from the horizontal.

(2) For the purpose of ascertaining whether the requirements of paragraph (1) above have been complied with, the height of any stop used to prevent a wheel of the vehicle from slipping sideways shall not be greater than two-thirds of the distance between the surface upon which the vehicle stands before it is tilted and that part of the rim of that wheel which is then nearest to that surface when the vehicle is loaded in accordance with the said requirements.

(3) For the purpose of this Regulation 140 lbs. shall be deemed to represent the weight of one person.

*Suspension*

7.—(1) Subject to paragraph 2 of Schedule 2, every vehicle shall be fitted with an efficient suspension system so designed and constructed that there is no excessive body sway.

(2) Subject as aforesaid, every vehicle shall be so constructed or adapted that a failure of a spring, torsion bar or other resilient component of the suspension system is not likely to cause the driver to lose directional control of the vehicle.

(3) For the purpose of this Regulation a tyre shall not be regarded as forming part of the suspension system.

#### *Turning circle*

8. Subject to paragraph 3 of Schedule 2, every vehicle shall be so constructed as to be capable of turning in either direction in a circle which, traced at ground level by a vertical line passing through any part of the vehicle included in the overall length and overall width of the vehicle, does not exceed in diameter 65 feet in the case of a vehicle not exceeding 27 feet in overall length, 71 feet in the case of a vehicle exceeding 27 feet but not exceeding 36 feet in overall length and 78 feet in the case of a vehicle exceeding 36 feet in overall length.

#### *Guard rails*

9. If any two wheels on either side of a vehicle have a clear space of more than 2 feet between the nearest points that space shall be effectively guarded to within 9 inches of the front wheel and 6 inches of the rear wheel and to within 1 foot of the ground when the vehicle is carrying no passengers and is standing on level ground.

#### *Side overhang*

10. Subject to paragraph 4 of Schedule 2, no part of a vehicle included within the overall width thereof shall project laterally more than 6 inches beyond the outer face of the outer tyre on the rearmost wheel on the same side of the vehicle:

Provided that in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, this Regulation shall have effect as if for the reference to 6 inches there were substituted a reference to 7 inches.

#### *Brakes*

11.—(1) Subject to paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 and to paragraph (2) below, all brakes with which a vehicle is required to be fitted shall act directly on the wheels of the vehicle and not through the transmission gear.

(2) Paragraph (1) above shall not apply to a brake operated by a hand lever without the intervention of any hydraulic, electric or pneumatic device if—

- (a) no universal joint is interposed between any such brake and the wheel or wheels so braked;
- (b) the failure of any part through or by means of which the force necessary to apply the brake to any wheel is transmitted would not cause that wheel to become detached from the vehicle; and
- (c) all the wheels of the vehicle are fitted with brakes all of which are operated by one means of operation.

(3) The brakes of one of the braking systems with which a vehicle is required to be fitted shall be applied by pedal.

#### *Steering*

12. Steering mechanism shall be so constructed or arranged that no overlock shall be possible and that the wheels shall not in any circumstances foul any part of the vehicle.

*Brake and steering connections*

13. Where brake and steering connections are secured with bolts or pins the bolts or pins shall be threaded and effectively locked and all connections made with bolts or pins shall be such that when they are in any position other than horizontal the head of the bolt or pin shall be uppermost.

*Hub projection*

14. Subject to paragraph 6 of Schedule 2, no portion of any road wheel or any fittings thereof shall project more than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches beyond the outer face of the tyre.

*Fuel tanks, carburettors etc.*

15.—(1) Subject to paragraph 7 of Schedule 2, in the case of a single-decked vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 12 passengers, a half-decked vehicle or the lower deck of a double-decked vehicle, no fuel tank shall be placed under any part of any gangway or under any part of any passage leading to an emergency exit (not being a secondary emergency exit as defined in Regulation 23) if that part of the gangway or passage is within 2 feet of any entrance or exit.

(2) Subject as aforesaid, in the case of a single-decked vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, no fuel tank shall be placed immediately under any entrance or exit or within 1 foot of any entrance or exit and no filling point for such a tank shall be situated at the rear of the vehicle.

(3) Subject as aforesaid, no part of any fuel tank or apparatus for the supply of fuel shall be placed in the compartments or other spaces provided for the accommodation of the driver or passengers.

(4) All fuel tanks and all apparatus supplying fuel to the engine shall be so placed or shielded that no fuel overflowing or leaking therefrom can fall or accumulate upon any woodwork forming part of the vehicle or upon any other part of the vehicle or fitting thereto such that it might readily be ignited or that it can fall into any receptacle where it might accumulate.

(5) The filling points for all fuel tanks shall be accessible only from the outside of the vehicle and filler caps shall be so designed and constructed that they cannot be dislodged by accidental operation and any vent hole shall be protected from danger of penetration by fire and shall be so designed as to prevent fuel from being splashed over.

(6) Subject as aforesaid, a device shall be provided by means of which the supply of fuel to any carburettor or, in the case of a fuel injection pump, to the injection nozzles, can be readily cut off and the following requirements shall be complied with in respect thereof, that is to say—

- (a) the means of operation shall at all times be readily accessible from outside the vehicle and, except in the case of a vehicle fitted with an engine having a fuel injection system, shall be readily visible from the outside of the vehicle; and
- (b) in a case where the device is so visible, the “off” position of the means of operation thereof shall be clearly marked also on the outside of the vehicle, and in a case where the said device is not so visible, its position shall be clearly marked on the outside of the vehicle and the means of operation shall also be clearly indicated.

*Exhaust pipe*

**16.** The exhaust pipe shall be so fitted or shielded that no inflammable material can fall or be thrown upon the pipe from any other part of the vehicle and so that it is not likely to cause a fire through proximity to any inflammable material on the vehicle, and the outlet of the pipe shall be either at the rear or on the offside and far enough to the rear, to prevent so far as practicable fumes from entering the vehicle.

*Locking of nuts*

**17.** All moving parts of a vehicle and all parts subject to severe vibration which are connected by bolts or studs and nuts shall be fastened by lock nuts or by nuts and efficient spring or lock nut washers or by castellated nuts and split pins or by some other efficient device to prevent their working or coming loose.

*Artificial lighting*

**18.** Subject to paragraph 8 of Schedule 2, adequate internal lighting shall be provided in every vehicle for the illumination—

(a) of each deck having a permanent top and at least one lamp shall be provided as near as practicable to the top of every staircase leading to an upper deck not having a permanent top; and

(b) of any step or platform forming part of any entrance or exit other than an emergency exit,

and all lighting circuits shall be so arranged that an electrical failure of any lighting sub-circuit shall not be capable of extinguishing all the lights on any deck.

*Electrical equipment*

**19.—(1)** All electrical apparatus and circuits in a vehicle shall be so constructed and installed as to guard adequately against the risk of electric shock or the outbreak of fire.

(2) Subject to paragraph 9 of Schedule 2, where the voltage exceeds 100 volts in one or more electrical circuits in a vehicle, a manually operated isolating switch which is capable of disconnecting all such circuits from the main electrical supply shall be connected in each pole of that supply which is not electrically connected to earth, and shall be located inside the vehicle in a position readily accessible to the driver or conductor:

Provided that no such isolating switch shall be capable of disconnecting any electrical circuit supplying the lamps carried for the purposes of section 1 of the Road Transport Lighting Act 1957<sup>(a)</sup> (which provides for lights to be carried by vehicles during the hours of darkness).

In this Regulation any reference to an electrical circuit is a reference to an electrical circuit not being a high tension ignition circuit or a circuit within a unit of equipment.

*Body*

**20.** The body of a vehicle shall be securely fixed to the chassis, every trap door in the floor of a vehicle shall be so fitted or fastened that it cannot become dislodged by vibration, and no lifting device fitted to a trap door shall project above the level of the floor.

---

(a) 1957 c. 51.

*Height of sides of body*

21.—(1) Subject to paragraph 10 of Schedule 2, the top of the side rails or panels of a vehicle not having a permanent top shall be at least 3 feet above the deck and at least 1 foot 6 inches above the highest part of any passenger seat and the top of the front and back rails or panels shall be at least 4 feet above any part of the deck.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation a back rest shall not be deemed to be part of a seat, and the expression “deck”, in relation to a vehicle with more than one deck, means the upper deck.

*Steps, platforms and stairs*

22.—(1) Subject to paragraph 11 of Schedule 2, a rear platform or the top of the tread of the lowest step provided at any entrance or exit, other than an emergency exit, shall not be more than 1 foot 5 inches or less than 10 inches above the ground when the vehicle is empty; all steps and the outer edge of any rear platform shall be fitted with non-slip treads; and fixed steps shall be not less than 9 inches wide and shall in no case project laterally beyond the body of the vehicle unless they are so protected by the front wings of the vehicle or otherwise are such that they are not liable to injure pedestrians.

For the purposes of this paragraph, “rear platform” means a platform from which passengers can step directly to the ground through an exit without any step intervening.

(2) Without prejudice to paragraph (1) above and subject as aforesaid, the following conditions shall also apply in the case of a double-decked vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) the risers of all steps leading from the lower to the upper deck shall be closed and no unguarded aperture shall be left at the top landing board;
- (b) all steps leading from the lower to the upper deck shall be fitted with non-slip treads;
- (c) the horizontal distance from the nearest point of the riser of the top step to the vertical line passing through the nearest point of the seat opposite to the top tread of the staircase, excluding any grab rail which does not project more than 4 inches from the back of the seat, shall not be less than 2 feet 2 inches; and
- (d) the outer stringer of an outside staircase shall be so constructed, or a band shall be so placed, sufficient to act as a screen to persons ascending or descending, and the height of the outer guard rail shall not be less than 4 feet above the front of the tread of each step.

*Number and position of entrances and exits*

23.—(1) Subject to paragraph 12 of Schedule 2, the following provisions of this Regulation shall apply with respect to the number and position of entrances and exits which shall be provided in a vehicle but a vehicle shall not be treated as failing to comply with any of those provisions by reason only that a number of exits is provided in a vehicle in excess of the number specified in relation to it by any provision of this Regulation.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation and Regulation 24—

- (a) “primary emergency exit” means an emergency exit, being an exit provided in a single-decked vehicle or in the lower deck of a double-

decked vehicle, of which the dimensions are not less than 4 feet 6 inches by 1 foot 9 inches except in the case of such an exit provided in accordance with paragraph (3) below in a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 14 passengers in which case the said dimensions shall be not less than 4 feet by 1 foot 9 inches;

- (b) "secondary emergency exit" means an emergency exit of which the dimensions are not less than 3 feet by 1 foot 9 inches;
- (c) neither of the foregoing definitions shall apply in relation to an emergency exit as required by paragraphs (6) and (7) of this Regulation, but the exit so required shall be of dimensions not less than 5 feet by 1 foot 6 inches;
- (d) references to the seating capacity of a vehicle shall, in the case of a double-decked vehicle, be treated as references to the seating capacity of its lower deck;
- (e) references to the distance between the centres or between the nearest points of the openings of two exits in a vehicle are references to the distance between lines drawn at right-angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing respectively through the centres or, as the case may be, the nearest points of the openings of the exits at gangway level; and
- (f) the reference to the distance between the centre of an exit placed at the front end of a vehicle and the foremost part of the vehicle is a reference to the distance between lines drawn at right-angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the centre of that exit and the said foremost part and the reference to the distance between the centre of an exit placed at the rear end of a vehicle and the rearmost part of the vehicle is a reference to the distance between lines drawn as aforesaid and passing through the centre of that exit and the said rearmost part.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4) below, a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 45 passengers shall be provided with two exits so placed as not to be on the same side of the vehicle and one of which may be a primary emergency exit but neither shall be a secondary emergency exit:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply:

- (i) in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 23 passengers and which is provided with an exit by virtue of its having a rear platform (as defined in Regulation 22) which communicates with a deck (being, in the case of a double-decked vehicle, the lower deck) by means of a doorless opening and has a doorless opening on the nearside of the vehicle continuous with another such opening at the rear of the vehicle, that opening serving together as a means of entrance to or exit from the vehicle, and
- (ii) in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers and of which the fuel tank is not placed behind the rear wheels, if one exit is provided and is placed at the rear of the vehicle.

(4) Where the exits provided in accordance with paragraph (3) above are so placed that the distance between their centres is—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle first used before 1st January 1974 which has a seating capacity exceeding 30 passengers, less than 10 feet;

- (b) in the case of a vehicle first used on or after 1st January 1974 which has a seating capacity exceeding 23 passengers, less than 10 feet;
- (c) in the case of a vehicle first used on or after 1st January 1974 which has a seating capacity exceeding 14 but not exceeding 23 passengers, less than 8 feet,

a secondary emergency exit shall be provided so placed that there is a distance of—

- (i) in the cases mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above, not less than 10 feet, and
- (ii) in the case mentioned in sub-paragraph (c) above, not less than 8 feet

between the nearest points of the openings of that exit and one of the two exits mentioned in the said paragraph (3).

(5) A vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 45 passengers shall be provided with three exits in respect of which the following provisions shall apply, that is to say—

- (a) one of the exits, but not more than one, may be a secondary emergency exit;
- (b) two of the exits (neither being a secondary emergency exit) shall be so placed as not to be on the same side of the vehicle;
- (c) where two exits are placed on the same side of the vehicle, the distance between their centres shall not be less than 10 feet; and
- (d) one of the exits (not being a secondary emergency exit) shall be placed at the front end of the vehicle so that the distance between its centre and the foremost part of the vehicle is not more than 10 feet and another of the exits (not being a secondary emergency exit) shall be placed at the rear end of the vehicle so that the distance between its centre and the rearmost part of the vehicle is not more than 10 feet:

Provided that in relation to any vehicle first used before 1st January 1974 sub-paragraph (d) above shall apply with the omission of the words “(not being a secondary emergency exit)” in both places where they occur.

(6) In the case of a half-decked vehicle an emergency exit shall be provided in the roof of the vehicle so placed that the transverse centre line of that exit lies within 2 feet of the mid-point between the front edges of the foremost and of the rearmost passenger seats in the vehicle.

(7) Where, in the case of a double-decked vehicle which has a permanent top, access to the upper deck is obtained by means of an enclosed staircase, an emergency exit shall be provided on that deck and placed otherwise than on the nearside of the vehicle.

(8) Every entrance provided in a vehicle shall be placed on the nearside of the vehicle, but one or more entrances may be provided on the offside of the vehicle if—

- (a) as respects any entrance so provided it is not also an exit provided in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions in this Regulation;
- (b) every such entrance is fitted with a door which can be controlled only by the driver while sitting in his seat; and
- (c) the device available to the driver for opening or closing that door is a separate and readily distinguishable device from that available to the driver for opening or closing any door fitted to the nearside of the vehicle:



Provided that this Regulation shall not apply in the case of any such vehicle as is mentioned in the proviso to paragraph (3) above.

(9) A grab handle shall be fitted to every entrance and exit (other than an emergency exit) to assist passengers to board or alight from the vehicle.

*Clear height and width of entrances and exits (other than secondary emergency exits)*

24.—(1) Subject to paragraph 13 of Schedule 2, the clear height of every primary emergency exit shall not be less than 4 feet 6 inches except in the case of such an exit provided in a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 14 passengers in which case the said clear height shall not be less than 4 feet.

(2) Subject as aforesaid, the width of every entrance and exit (other than the secondary exit or an emergency exit provided in accordance with Regulation 23(6) and (7)) shall be—

(a) except in the case mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) below, not less than 1 foot 9 inches; and

(b) in the case of an entrance or an exit which serves both decks of a double-decked vehicle (disregarding any stanchion), being an entrance or an exit which is either the only such entrance or exit in the vehicle or, where more than one such exit is provided, is that most readily and directly associated with a staircase serving the upper deck, not less than 3 feet:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply in the case of such an exit as is mentioned in proviso (i) to Regulation 23(3) if the width of that exit measured along the side of the vehicle is not less than 1 foot 9 inches and its width measured along the rear of the vehicle is not less than 1 foot 6 inches.

#### *Doors*

25.—(1) Subject to paragraph 14 of Schedule 2, the conditions prescribed in this paragraph shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

(a) means shall be provided for holding every entrance and exit door securely in the closed position and, where any such door is capable of remaining open when the vehicle is in motion or of being accidentally closed by the movement of the vehicle, means shall also be provided for holding that door securely in the open position;

(b) subject to paragraph (2) below, every entrance and exit door shall be provided with at least two devices (of which one may be a device provided for use in circumstances of normal operation only by a person authorised by the owner of the vehicle, and one, but not more than one, shall be provided on the outside of the vehicle) being in each case a device for operating the means for holding the door securely in the closed position, and every such device shall be so designed that a single movement of it will allow that door to be readily opened;

(c) the method of operation of any device mentioned in condition (b) above, the position of such a device where it is not placed on the door and the direction and points of application of any manual effort required to open any door, shall be clearly indicated; and on and after 1st October 1972 there shall, in the case of a power-operated door,

also be an indication that the said device may not be used by passengers except in an emergency;

- (d) where any device mentioned in the said condition (b) is not placed on the door, it shall be placed so as to be readily associated with that door and so that a person of normal height may conveniently operate the device without risk of being injured by movement of the door;
- (e) in the case of every entrance and exit, any device mentioned in the said condition (b), other than such a device provided on the outside of an emergency exit on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle or in the roof of a half-decked vehicle, shall be easily accessible to persons of normal height;
- (f) the means and devices mentioned in conditions (a) and (b) above shall be so designed and fitted that they are unlikely to become dislodged or be operated accidentally;
- (g) every door shall operate so as not to obstruct clear access to any entrance or exit from inside or outside the vehicle;
- (h) any vehicle which has a power-operated door and which, when open or being operated, projects laterally beyond the body of the vehicle shall be so constructed or adapted that it cannot move from rest under its own power when the door is open and the door shall not be capable of being operated while the vehicle is in motion except by operation of such a device as is mentioned in condition (b) above not being a device provided for use in circumstances of normal operation only by a person authorised by the owner of the vehicle;
- (i) the storage and transmission system of the power for operating any power-operated door shall be such that operation of the doors does not adversely affect the efficient operation of the braking system of the vehicle and the apparatus shall be so designed and constructed that in the event of the system becoming inoperative the door shall be capable of being operated manually from inside and outside the vehicle; and
- (j) the design of power-operated doors and their associated equipment at entrances and exits shall be such that, when opening or closing, the doors are unlikely to injure any passenger.

(2) A vehicle shall not be deemed to fail to comply with condition (b) of paragraph (1) above by reason only of the fact that, for the purposes of securing the vehicle when unattended, any entrance or exit door has been fitted with a supplementary lock with or without an actuating mechanism if the lock is so designed and constructed that a single movement of any device mentioned in the said condition (b), being a device provided on the inside of the vehicle, will at all times allow that door to be readily opened.

*Marking, positioning and operation of emergency exits*

**26.** Subject to paragraph 15 of Schedule 2, the following conditions shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) all emergency exits shall—
  - (i) be clearly marked as such inside and outside the vehicle;
  - (ii) be fitted with doors which open outwards;
  - (iii) except in the case of an emergency exit provided in the roof of a half-decked vehicle, be readily accessible to passengers;
  - (iv) in the case of a single-decked or a half-decked vehicle or the

lower deck of a double-decked vehicle, be so situated that passengers can step directly from the passage referred to in Regulation 28(5) to the outside of the vehicle:

Provided that this requirement shall not apply in the case of an emergency exit provided in the roof of the vehicle or in the case of a secondary emergency exit as defined in Regulation 23;

- (b) the means of operation of doors fitted to emergency exits shall be clearly indicated;
- (c) the doors of emergency exits shall not be fitted with any system of power operation; and
- (d) the means of operation of the doors of emergency exits other than those provided in the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle or in the roof of a half-decked vehicle shall be readily accessible to persons of normal height standing at ground level outside the vehicle.

#### *Access to exits*

**27.**—(1) Subject to paragraph 16 of Schedule 2 and to paragraphs (2) and (3) below, the following conditions shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) there shall be unobstructed access from every seat in the vehicle—
  - (i) in a case where the vehicle is, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations, provided with only one exit, to that exit, and
  - (ii) in a case where the vehicle is, in accordance with those provisions, provided with two or more exits, to both or, as the case may be to at least two, of those exits;
- (b) no seat in a vehicle shall be fitted to any door of the vehicle; and
- (c) in the case of a half-decked vehicle, there shall be no obstruction in the space between the floor in front of any passenger seat and the roof of the vehicle.

(2) Condition (a) of paragraph (1) above shall not apply in relation to any seat in a vehicle—

- (a) which is placed beside the driver's seat if there is unobstructed access to that seat by means of an entrance other than the driver's entrance; or
- (b) which is placed on a deck which does not have a permanent top if there is unobstructed access from every seat on that deck to an exit.

(3) In the case of a double-decked vehicle as respects which provision is made for the placing of a barrier at the foot of the staircase leading to the upper deck, the vehicle shall not be treated as failing to comply with the requirements of the said condition (a) by reason only that when that barrier is in position it would effectively prevent passengers from gaining access to the upper deck.

#### *Width of gangways*

**28.**—(1) Subject to paragraph 17 of Schedule 2 and to the following provisions of this Regulation, the conditions prescribed in this paragraph shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) the width of every gangway shall be not less than—

- (i) 1 foot up to a height of 2 feet 6 inches above the level of the deck of the vehicle,
  - (ii) 1 foot 2 inches at heights exceeding 2 feet 6 inches but not exceeding 4 feet above the level of the deck of the vehicle, and
  - (iii) 1 foot 6 inches at heights exceeding 4 feet above the level of the deck of the vehicle;
- (b) a vertical line projected upwards from the centre line of any gangway at deck level shall, to the height prescribed in Regulation 29 as the height of that gangway, be laterally not less than 6 inches from any part of the vehicle other than the roof above the gangway;
- (c) in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 12 passengers, no part of any gangway which is within 3 feet of an entrance or exit (other than an emergency exit) to which it provides access shall be less than 1 foot 9 inches in width; and
- (d) in the case of a double-decked vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 12 passengers no part of any gangway which serves as a joint means of access from any entrance to both the upper and lower decks, or to that exit (other than an emergency exit) which is most readily and directly associated with any staircase from both the upper and lower decks, shall be less than 3 feet in width.
- (2) Subject to the said paragraph 17, for the purposes of this Regulation, in so far as it relates to any vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 12 passengers, when any space in front of a seat in the vehicle is required for the accommodation of seated passengers, the space within 9 inches of the seat shall not be taken into account in measuring the width of a gangway.
- (3) Subject as aforesaid, where a part of a gangway which adjoins an entrance or exit is divided by a handrail, the width of that part of the gangway at any point on each side of the handrail shall not be less than 1 foot 6 inches.
- (4) Subject as aforesaid, where two passenger seats are placed parallel to the longitudinal axis of a vehicle and face each other and the space between those seats is not required for the purpose of obtaining access from an entrance to any other seat or from any other seat to an exit (not being an emergency exit), that space shall not for the purposes of this Regulation and Regulation 29 be treated as forming part of the gangway.
- In this paragraph the expression "passenger seat" means a seat for one passenger only or the portion of a continuous seat allowed for one passenger only measured in accordance with condition (b) of Regulation 30(1).
- (5) Subject as aforesaid, between every exit (not being an emergency exit provided in the roof of a half-decked vehicle) and a gangway there shall be a passage which shall—
- (a) be of dimensions not less than those prescribed for a gangway in condition (a) of paragraph (1) above;
  - (b) be so designed that a vertical line projected upwards from the centre line of the passage at floor level to a height of 2 feet 6 inches from the level of the deck is laterally not less than 6 inches from any part of the vehicle (excluding any cowling or cover which projects not more than 9 inches from the bulkhead of the vehicle into the passage at floor level and not more than 9 inches above the deck level and the provision of which is required by the projection of part of the chassis or mechanism of the vehicle into the body); and

- (c) have a clear height at every point along the centre line of the passage of 5 feet from the deck level:

Provided that—

- (i) for the purposes of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph a seat placed below or in front of an emergency exit, being such an exit provided on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle or in the roof of a half-decked vehicle or which is a secondary emergency exit within the meaning of Regulation 23, shall be deemed to form part of such a passage, and
- (ii) sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph shall not apply in the case of a passage leading to an emergency exit, being such an exit provided on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle or in the roof of a half-decked vehicle or which is a secondary emergency exit within the meaning of Regulation 23, nor shall it apply in the case of a passage in a single-decked vehicle having a permanent top if the vehicle either has a seating capacity not exceeding 14 passengers or is constructed and used solely for conveying school-children and any persons attending them to or from school.

*Height of gangways*

**29.**—(1) Subject to paragraph 18 of Schedule 2, the conditions prescribed in this paragraph shall be complied with by every vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 12 passengers, that is to say—

- (a) the clear height at every point along the centre line of any gangway between the limits specified in paragraph (2) below shall be—
  - (i) in the case of a single-decked vehicle (other than such a vehicle as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (iii) below) being a vehicle having a permanent top, and in the case of a half-decked vehicle and the lower deck of a double-decked vehicle, not less than 5 feet 10 inches if the seating capacity of the vehicle exceeds 14 passengers and not less than 5 feet 3 inches in any other case,
  - (ii) in the case of the top deck of a double-decked vehicle having a permanent top, not less than 5 feet 8 inches, and
  - (iii) in the case of a single-decked vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 14 passengers and which is constructed and used solely for the purpose of conveying school-children and any persons attending them to or from school, not less than 5 feet 6 inches;
- (b) except as respects any part of any gangway placed on the offside of the vehicle which is required only to provide access to the foremost passenger seat in the vehicle, the said clear height shall, outside the limits specified in paragraph (2) below, be not less than the clear height as prescribed in relation to the vehicle in condition (a) above reduced by 4 inches;
- (c) in the case of a single-decked vehicle not having a permanent top, when the hood of the vehicle is extended or raised, the said clear height from the level of the deck shall in no place (except over the driver's seat) be less than 5 feet;
- (d) in the case of the top deck of a double-decked vehicle, no part of any gangway shall project into the compartment or other space provided for the accommodation of the driver in such a manner as to incommode the driver or cause his view of the road to the front of the vehicle or to the sides thereof to be restricted.

(2) The clear height prescribed in condition (a) of paragraph (1) above shall, in the case of the lower deck of a double-decked vehicle, extend throughout the gangway and in any other case shall extend from the front edge of the foremost passenger seat adjacent to the gangway to the front edge of the rearmost passenger seat adjacent to that gangway:

Provided that where the gangway is on the offside of the vehicle it shall be a sufficient compliance with the requirements of sub-paragraph (ii) of the said condition (a) if the clear height of 5 feet 8 inches extends from a point 1 foot 6 inches behind the front edge of the foremost passenger seat adjacent to that gangway to the front edge of the rearmost passenger seat adjacent thereto.

(3) In the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, the clear height at every point along the centre line of any gangway in the vehicle, except for a distance of 12 inches along that line measured from each entrance and exit, shall be not less than 4 feet 8 inches and, in the case of the said distance, shall be not less than 4 feet.

### *Seats*

**30.**—(1) Subject to paragraph 19 of Schedule 2, the conditions prescribed in this paragraph shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) the supports of all seats shall be securely fixed in position;
- (b) a length of at least 1 foot 4 inches measured horizontally along the front of each seat shall be allowed for the accommodation of a seated passenger:

Provided that in the case of a continuous seat fitted with arms for the purpose of separating the seating spaces, being arms so constructed that they can be folded back or otherwise put out of use, the seat shall be measured for the purposes of this paragraph as though it were not fitted with arms;

- (c) every seat shall have a back rest so closed or otherwise constructed as to prevent, as far as practicable, the pockets of passengers from being picked;
- (d) all passenger seats shall be so fitted—
  - (i) that the distance between any part of the back rest of any seat placed lengthwise and the corresponding part of the back rest of the seat facing it shall be, in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, not less than 4 feet 6 inches and in any other case, not less than 5 feet 3 inches, and
  - (ii) that there is a clear space of at least 2 feet in front of the back rest of any seat measured from the centre of each complete length of the seat allowed for the accommodation of a seated passenger in accordance with condition (b) above and a clear space of 8 inches in front of any part of that seat:

Provided that in the case of a seat for more than 3 passengers provided in a stage carriage where access to that seat can be obtained only from one end of the seat, the said clear spaces shall respectively be at least 2 feet 3 inches and 1 foot;

- (e) there shall be a clear space of at least 1 foot 7 inches between any part of the front edge of any transverse seat and any part of any other seat which faces it.

For the purpose of this condition any support provided for a table shall be disregarded if there is a clear space of at least 9 inches between that support and the front edge of the nearest seat and the support is not in such a position as to cause discomfort to passengers occupying the seats;

- (f) no seat shall be placed in such a position as to cause discomfort to passengers;
- (g) there shall, as respects every seat, be a clear space measured vertically from the centre of each complete length of the seat allowed for the accommodation of a seated passenger in accordance with condition (b) above which shall be, in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, not less than 3 feet, and, in any other case, not less than 3 feet 2 inches;
- (h) where any seat is so placed that a passenger seated upon it is liable to be thrown through any entrance to or exit from the vehicle or down a stairway in the vehicle, an effective screen or guard shall be placed so as to afford adequate protection against that occurrence to a passenger occupying that seat; and
- (i) the shortest distances between the edge of the well of any step in the vehicle and a vertical plane passing through the front edge of any seat shall be not less than 9 inches:

Provided that this condition shall not apply in the case of the well of a step provided as a means of obtaining access only to any forward-facing front passenger seat placed alongside the driver in a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers.

- (2) In this Regulation, the expression "back rest" includes any part of the vehicle which is available for seated passengers to lean against.

#### *Guarding of transverse windows*

31. Subject to paragraph 20 of Schedule 2, all transverse glass windows or panels not made of safety glass shall be adequately protected against the likelihood of breakage in the event of passengers being thrown against them.

#### *Markings*

32. Every vehicle shall be marked in accordance with the provisions of regulations for the time being in force under section 148 of the Act (which, amongst other things, enables regulations to provide for the marks to be carried on public service vehicles showing the number of seated and standing passengers whom a vehicle is fit to carry).

#### *Ventilation*

33. Adequate ventilation shall be provided for passengers and the driver without the necessity for opening any main window or wind-screen.

#### *Driver's accommodation*

34. Subject to paragraph 21 of Schedule 2 and to the exceptions specified in conditions (e), (f) and (g)(ii) below, the following conditions shall be complied with by every vehicle, that is to say—

- (a) the vehicle shall be so designed that the driver, when sitting in his seat, has adequate room and can readily reach and operate the controls, including the devices for controlling the direction indicators and stop lamps;

- (b) the controls shall be so placed as to allow reasonable access to the driver's seat;
- (c) the accommodation for the driver shall be so arranged as to afford adequate protection in bad weather;
- (d) means shall be provided (where necessary) to prevent light from the interior of the vehicle from incommoding the driver and, in respect of any window placed on that side of the centre line of the vehicle occupied by the driver, the means so provided shall be capable of being operated by the driver when in his seat;
- (e) except in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, the driver's seat shall be capable of being adjusted in a vertical direction and in a horizontal direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and of being firmly secured in any desired position within the limits of such adjustments: the range of such adjustments shall permit the seat to be fixed in a position such that the horizontal distance between the nearest part of the steering wheel and the backrest of the seat is 1 foot 2 inches and the vertical distance between the lowest part of the steering wheel and the horizontal plane level with the top of the seat cushion is 8 inches and also as to permit the seat to be adjusted at least 2 inches forwards, backwards, upwards and downwards from that position;
- (f) except in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers where direct and reasonable access is provided to the driver's seat, such access shall be provided to that seat either from the offside of the vehicle or by means of a passage which shall be not less than 1 foot in width up to a height of 2 feet 6 inches above the floor of the vehicle and not less than 1 foot 2 inches above that height and shall comply with the requirement prescribed in relation to the gangway of the vehicle by condition (b) of Regulation 28(1);
- (g) where access to the driver's seat is obtained from the offside of the vehicle—
  - (i) an opening in the side of the vehicle shall be provided which shall have a clear width of not less than 1 foot 6 inches, except where this dimension cannot be provided by reason only of the presence of a portion of the wheel arch in that opening,
  - (ii) except in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers where direct and reasonable access is provided to the driver's seat, a grab handle shall be fitted to assist the driver in boarding and alighting from the vehicle, and
  - (iii) a step shall be provided on the vehicle at a convenient position and height adjacent to the opening if the lowest point of the sill of that opening is more than 2 feet 3 inches from ground level when the vehicle is unladen;
- (h) where a separate and enclosed compartment is provided for the driver and access to the driver's seat is obtained from the offside of the vehicle, an emergency escape window shall be provided (otherwise than on the offside of that compartment) which shall be readily accessible to the driver and shall have a clear opening with dimensions of not less than 1 foot 9 inches by 1 foot 6 inches;
- (i) where any seat for a passenger is placed to the side of the driver's seat (whether to one side or to both sides of that seat) then—
  - (i) whether the seat is a separate seat or is continuous with the driver's seat, a space of at least 1 foot 6 inches measured from the centre of



the steering column on the side on which the seat is placed shall be reserved for use solely by the driver, and

- (ii) if the seat is continuous with the driver's seat or if it is a separate seat so placed that any part of it is nearer to the centre of the steering column than 1 foot 6 inches, the said space shall be divided off by means of a solid partition having a height of at least 9 inches measured from the seat level of the driver's seat and extending for the whole depth of the seat; and
- (j) where a seat is provided for a passenger which is continuous with the driver's seat on either side of the driver, a space of at least 1 foot 6 inches measured from the centre of the steering column on that side shall be reserved for use solely by the driver and shall be divided off from that part of the seat to be occupied by passengers by means of a solid partition having a height of at least 9 inches measured from the seat level of the driver's seat and extending for the whole depth of the seat.

#### *Wind-screens*

**35.** Where a vehicle is fitted with a front wind-screen for the driver the wind-screen shall, except where an adequate demisting and defrosting device is fitted, be capable of being opened so as to give the driver a clear view of the road ahead.

#### *Passengers' communication with driver*

**36.** Except in the case of a vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers, adequate means shall be provided in every vehicle to enable passengers on any deck to signal to the driver.

#### *Wireless apparatus*

**37.** Subject to paragraph 22 of Schedule 2, no wireless receiving apparatus or speech transmitting apparatus shall be fitted in any vehicle in such a position that the controls (other than volume controls and controls designed and constructed to operate only in positively located steps or positions) are capable of being operated by the driver when in his seat.

#### *Luggage racks*

**38.** All luggage racks fitted in a vehicle shall be so designed and constructed that any article placed thereon, if it becomes dislodged whilst the vehicle is in motion, is not likely to fall on the driver or interfere with his control of the vehicle.

#### *General construction*

**39.—(1)** Every vehicle shall comply in all respects with such of the requirements as to the construction, weight and equipment of motor vehicles contained in any regulations for the time being in force under section 64 of the Act as are applicable to the vehicle and the vehicle, including all bodywork, upholstery and fittings, shall be soundly and properly constructed of suitable materials, well finished and in good and serviceable condition, and of such design as to be capable of withstanding the loads and stresses likely to be met with in normal operation of the vehicle.

**(2)** No vehicle shall be so constructed or adapted as to be incapable of being fitted with a lighting system which complies in all respects with the requirements of the Road Transport Lighting Act 1957 or of section 15 of the Road Traffic Act 1962 or of any regulations for the time being in force under either of these enactments and no vehicle shall be fitted with a lighting system which is so constructed or adapted as to be incapable of complying with those requirements.

## PART III

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE EQUIPMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE  
VEHICLES*Markings on vehicles*

40. Every vehicle shall be marked, in readily legible characters not less than 1 inch in height and painted in a conspicuous position on the near side of the vehicle in colours which contrast with their background, with the name and address of the authority, company, firm or individual to whom or to whose representative the public service vehicle licence under Part III of the Act was granted in respect of the vehicle.

*Fire extinguishing apparatus*

41.—(1) There shall be carried by every vehicle, in such a position as to be readily available for use and otherwise in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) below, suitable and efficient apparatus for extinguishing fire.

(2) Subject to paragraph (4) below, such apparatus shall be of one or more of the following types, that is to say—

- (a) a foam-producing fire extinguisher complying in all respects with the specification issued by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers of the Foam Type (Chemical) and numbered B.S. 740: Part I: 1948;
- (b) a foam-producing fire extinguisher complying in all respects with the specification issued by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers of the Foam Type (Gas Pressure) and numbered B.S. 740: Part II: 1952;
- (c) a soda acid chemical fire extinguisher complying in all respects with the specification issued by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers of the Water Type (Soda Acid) and numbered B.S. 138: 1948;
- (d) a water fire extinguisher complying in all respects with the specification issued by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers of the Water Type (Gas Pressure) and numbered B.S. 1382: 1948; and
- (e) a bromochlorodifluoromethane (B.C.F.) fire extinguisher with a nominal liquid capacity of 3 lbs. or two such extinguishers having an aggregate such capacity complying in all respects with the specification issued by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers of the Halogenated Hydrocarbon type and numbered B.S. 1721: 1968,

and such apparatus shall be clearly marked with the appropriate British Standards Institution specification number and with the name and address of the manufacturer or the vendor thereof.

(3) Such apparatus shall at all times be maintained in good and efficient working order.

(4) Where immediately before the date on which these Regulations come into operation there is being carried by a vehicle a carbon tetrachloride (C.T.C.) or chlorobromomethane (C.B.M.) fire extinguisher which has a capacity of 1 quart complying in all respects with a specification issued at a time before the said date by the British Standards Institution in respect of Portable Fire Extinguishers numbered B.S. 1721: 1951 or B.S. 1721: 1960, any such type of extinguisher may, during the five years next following that date and so long as it

is maintained in good and efficient working order, be retained for use in and upon that vehicle in lieu of the type of extinguisher which would otherwise be required to be carried by virtue of the said paragraph (2).

*First aid equipment*

**42.**—(1) There shall be carried by every vehicle which is for the time being used as an express carriage or as a contract carriage a suitable receptacle containing the first aid dressings and appliances specified in Schedule 3.

(2) The said receptacle shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use and shall be prominently marked and the said dressings and appliances shall be of the quality and standard prescribed in Schedule 3 and shall at all times be maintained in good condition.

PART IV

REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

*Obstruction of entrances, exits and gangways*

**43.** No person shall, while passengers are being carried by a vehicle, cause or permit any unnecessary obstruction to any entrance or exit or gangway of the vehicle.

*Obstruction of driver*

**44.** No person shall cause or permit any unnecessary obstruction of the driver of a vehicle.

*Body maintenance*

**45.** No person shall use a vehicle while it is carrying passengers or cause or permit it to be so used unless the inside and the outside of the body of the vehicle and all windows and fittings and all passengers' seats are maintained in clean and good condition.

*Lamps*

**46.**—(1) No person shall use a vehicle during the hours of darkness while it is carrying passengers or cause or permit it to be so used unless every lamp provided in compliance with Regulation 18 for the internal illumination of the vehicle is at all times during those hours kept lighted to such extent as is necessary to provide adequate illumination of every access from any seat in the vehicle to every exit in the vehicle and of every such marking as is required by Regulation 26 to be provided in relation to every emergency exit in the vehicle:

Provided that it shall not be necessary to keep lighted any lamp provided on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle if a barrier is secured across the bottom of all staircases leading to that deck so as effectively to prevent passengers using any such staircase.

(2) In this Regulation, "hours of darkness" means the time between half-an-hour after sunset and half-an-hour before sunrise.

*Use of device for operating power-operated doors*

**47.**—(1) Except as provided by paragraph (2) of this Regulation, no person shall use or cause or permit to be used any device for operating the doors of a vehicle having power-operated doors, being a device such as is mentioned in condition (b) of Regulation 25(1) or, as the case may be, in paragraph 14(1)(b) of Schedule 2.

(2) Paragraph (1) above shall not apply—

(a) in the case of any such device, in relation to its use—

(i) by any person in an emergency, or

(ii) by a person authorised by the owner of the vehicle at a time when the vehicle is not in motion and is not carrying any passengers; or

(b) in the case of any such device which is provided for use in circumstances of normal operation only by a person authorised as aforesaid, in relation to its use by that person.

*Filling of petrol tank*

**48.** While the engine of a vehicle is running no person shall cause or permit the filler cap fitted to the petrol tank of the vehicle to be removed or petrol to be put into its petrol tank.

*Carriage of conductor*

**49.** No person shall use or cause or permit to be used as a stage carriage any vehicle which has a seating capacity exceeding 20 passengers unless a person authorised to act as conductor of the vehicle is carried thereby:

Provided that this Regulation shall not apply—

(i) in the case of a single-decked vehicle which has a seating capacity not exceeding 32 passengers and which is provided with only one emergency exit, if that exit and the entrance to the vehicle are both placed at the front of the vehicle and are readily visible to the driver from his seat and means are provided for the driver to be aware if any person outside the vehicle has been trapped by the closure of any door provided at that entrance, or

(ii) in the case of any other vehicle, if the Commissioners have certified that in their opinion a conductor is not required to be carried thereby on the particular service upon which, or in the particular circumstances in which, the vehicle is being used.

*Carriage of inflammable or dangerous substances*

**50.—(1)** No person shall use or cause or permit to be used any vehicle by which any highly inflammable or otherwise dangerous substance is carried unless that substance is carried in containers so designed and constructed, or unless the substance is so packed, that, notwithstanding an accident to the vehicle, it is unlikely that damage to the vehicle or injury to passengers carried by the vehicle will be caused.

(2) The requirements of this Regulation are in addition to and not in derogation of the requirements of regulations made under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928(a) or under any other Act.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State.

10th May 1972.

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

## SCHEDULE 1

## REGULATIONS REVOKED BY REGULATION 2

Title	Year and Number
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) Regulations 1958	S.I. 1958/473 (1958 II, p. 2014)
The Public Service Vehicles (Equipment and Use) Regulations 1958	S.I. 1958/926 (1958 II, p. 2036)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1959	S.I. 1959/382 (1959 II, p. 2236)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1963	S.I. 1963/1665 (1963 III, p. 3179)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1966	S.I. 1966/675 (1966 II, p. 1516)
The Public Service Vehicles (Equipment and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1966	S.I. 1966/676 (1966 II, p. 1517)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1967	S.I. 1967/1269 (1967 II, p. 3697)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1968	S.I. 1968/824 (1968 II, p. 2216)
The Public Service Vehicles (Equipment and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1968	S.I. 1968/826 (1968 II, p. 2226)
The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1968	S.I. 1968/1526 (1968 III, p. 4295)

## SCHEDULE 2

## EXCEPTIONS FROM THE CONDITIONS PRESCRIBED IN PART II AS APPLICABLE TO VEHICLES REGISTERED BEFORE CERTAIN DATES

1. Regulation 6 (stability) shall not apply—
  - (a) in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st July 1931; or
  - (b) in the case of a single-decked vehicle registered after 1st July 1931 and before 1st October 1936 if the stability of the vehicle is such that the point at which overturning occurs would not be passed if, when the vehicle is complete, fully equipped for service and loaded with weights placed in the correct relative positions to represent the driver, and a full complement of passengers and a conductor (if carried), the surface on which the vehicle stands were tilted to either side to an angle of 28 degrees from the horizontal.
2. Regulation 7(2) (suspension) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959.
3. Regulation 8 (turning circle) shall not apply—
  - (a) in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932; or
  - (b) in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st April 1959 if—

- (i) it is not reasonably practicable for the vehicle to satisfy the requirements of the said Regulation 8,
  - (ii) in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st June 1950, it is so constructed as to be capable of turning in either direction in a circle which, traced at ground level by the extreme outer edges of the wheel track, does not exceed in diameter 60 feet in the case of a vehicle not exceeding 26 feet in overall length and 66 feet in the case of a vehicle exceeding 26 feet in overall length, and
  - (iii) in the case of a vehicle registered on or after 1st June 1950 and before 1st April 1959, it is capable of complying with the requirements of subparagraph (b)(ii) above with the substitution of references to 27 feet for the references to 26 feet.
4. Regulation 10 (side overhang) shall not apply—
- (a) in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st December 1932; or
  - (b) in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st December 1932 and before 1st April 1959, if it is not used as a stage carriage.
5. Paragraph (1) of Regulation 11 (brakes) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st January 1933 and paragraphs (1) and (2) of that Regulation shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st January 1955.
6. Regulation 14 (hub projection) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932.
- 7.—(1) Paragraph (1) of Regulation 15 (fuel tanks, carburettors etc.) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if, in the case of a single-decked vehicle or a half-decked vehicle, no fuel tank is placed under any part of any gangway which is within 2 feet of any entrance or exit and, in the case of a double-decked vehicle, no such tank is placed under any part of the lower deck.
- (2) Paragraph (2) of the said Regulation 15 shall not apply in the case of a single-decked vehicle registered before 28th October 1964 which has a seating capacity not exceeding 12 passengers if no fuel tank is placed immediately under any entrance or exit and no filling point for such a tank is situated under or immediately adjacent to any entrance or exit.
- (3) Paragraph (3) of the said Regulation 15 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959.
- (4) Paragraph (6) of the said Regulation 15 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if—
- (a) the vehicle is fitted with an engine having a fuel injection system; or
  - (b) the vehicle is not so fitted, a cock is fitted by means of which the supply of fuel to any carburettor can be immediately cut off and the “off” position of the means of operation is clearly marked on the outside of the vehicle.
8. Paragraph (b) of Regulation 18 (artificial lighting) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 and the requirements as to lighting circuits in that Regulation shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 28th October 1964.
9. Paragraph (2) of Regulation 19 (electrical equipment) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 19th June 1968 if one or more electrical circuits in which the voltage exceeds 100 volts has been installed in the vehicle on or after that date.
10. Regulation 21 (height of sides of body) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle not being a single-decked vehicle, if it otherwise complies with the requirements of that Regulation with the substitution of a reference to 3 feet 3 inches for the reference therein to 4 feet; and
- (b) in the case of a single-decked vehicle, if the height of the body sides from the deck measured at the sides of the vehicle is not less than 2 feet 4 inches.

11. Paragraph (1) and condition (c) of paragraph (2) of Regulation 22 (steps, platforms and stairs) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932, and condition (d) of the said paragraph (2) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if it otherwise complies with the requirements of the said condition (d) with the substitution of a reference to 3 feet 3 inches for the reference therein to 4 feet.

12.—(1) Paragraphs (1) to (8) of Regulation 23 (number and position of entrances and exits) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932 if one exit is provided behind the rear wheels of the vehicle and the width of the clear opening of that exit is not less than 1 foot 6 inches.

(2) Paragraphs (3) and (5) of the said Regulation 23 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st April 1959 if it is provided with two exits so placed as not to be on the same side of the vehicle.

(3) Paragraph (8) of the said Regulation 23 shall not apply—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st April 1959 (not being a vehicle used as a stage carriage or a single-decked vehicle having a permanent top), if it is provided with two exits so placed as not to be on the same side of the vehicle; or
- (b) in the case of a vehicle which—
  - (i) is provided with a rear platform such as is mentioned in proviso (i) to paragraph (3) of the said Regulation 23, or
  - (ii) has a seating capacity not exceeding 14 passengers, if one means of exit and entrance is provided and is placed behind the rear wheels.

(4) Paragraph 5(c) of the said Regulation 23 shall apply in the case of a vehicle registered after 28th October 1964 and before 19th June 1968, with the substitution of a reference to 15 feet for the reference to 10 feet.

13.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) below, Regulation 24 (clear height and width of entrances and exits (other than emergency exits)) shall not apply—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932, if one exit is placed behind the rear wheels of the vehicle and if the width of the clear opening of that exit is not less than 1 foot 6 inches; and
- (b) in the case of a double-decked vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 18th June 1969 where the same entrance is used for both the upper and the lower deck, if no part of the entrance measured along the nearside of the vehicle (disregarding any stanchion) is less than 3 feet in width.

(2) Paragraph (1) of Regulation 24 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959.

14.—(1) Regulation 25 (doors), except condition (j) of paragraph (1) of that Regulation, shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 19th June 1968 if—

- (a) every entrance door and (except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st October 1936 as respects any exit door other than the door of an emergency exit) every exit door can be readily opened from inside and outside the vehicle by one operation of the locking mechanism:

Provided that a vehicle shall not be deemed to fail to comply with this subparagraph by reason only of the fact that, for the purpose of securing the vehicle when unattended, any entrance or exit door has been fitted with a

supplementary lock with or without an actuating mechanism if the lock is so designed and constructed that the door can at all times be opened by a person inside the vehicle by one operation of the ordinary locking mechanism;

- (b) except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959, the device provided outside the vehicle for operating the locking mechanism of the door (not being a device provided in relation to an emergency exit on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle or in the roof of a half-decked vehicle) is readily accessible to persons of normal height standing at ground level outside the vehicle;
- (c) except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959, means are provided for holding every entrance and exit door securely in the closed position;
- (d) except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959, all locks and fastenings fitted to entrance and exit doors are so designed and fitted that they are not likely to become dislodged or be operated accidentally, and, in the said excepted case, door handles or levers to door catches are so designed and fitted that they are not likely to become dislodged or be operated accidentally;
- (e) where any entrances are provided with doors which are designed to remain open when the vehicle is in motion, suitable fastenings are provided to hold such doors securely in the opened position;
- (f) except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959, every sliding door and every folding door fitted to an entrance or exit is provided with suitable fastenings to prevent it from being closed by any movement of the vehicle;
- (g) all doors can open so as not to obstruct clear access to any entrance or exit from inside or outside the vehicle; and
- (h) except in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959, the means by which a power-operated door may be opened are provided inside the vehicle on or adjacent to the door and its position is clearly indicated and, on and after 1st October 1971, there is also an indication that the said means may be used by passengers only in an emergency; and the storage and transmission system of the power for operating the door is such that operation of the doors does not adversely affect the efficient operation of the braking system of the vehicle and the apparatus is so designed and constructed that in the event of the system becoming inoperative the door can be operated manually from inside and outside the vehicle.

(2) Condition (j) of paragraph (1) of the said Regulation 25 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st August 1968.

15.—(1) Conditions (b) and (d) of Regulation 26 (marking, positioning and operation of emergency exits) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932 if the vehicle is provided with one exit placed behind the rear wheels of the vehicle the width of the clear opening of that exit being not less than 1 foot 6 inches.

(2) Sub-paragraph (iv) of the said condition (b) shall not apply—

- (a) in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st October 1936; or
- (b) in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st April 1959, being a vehicle which is provided with a rear platform, if an emergency exit (of which the clear height at the centre line is not less than 5 feet and of which the width is not less than 1 foot 6 inches) is provided from that platform to the rear of the vehicle and is enclosed by means of a door placed on the near-side of that platform.

16. Regulation 27 (access to exits) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st October 1936 if it is not used as a stage carriage.



17.—(1) Without prejudice to sub-paragraphs (4) to (7) below, the condition in paragraph (1) of Regulation 28 (width of gangways) and paragraphs (2) to (4) of that Regulation shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932.

(2) Paragraph (2) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st January 1932 and before 1st October 1936.

(3) Paragraph (3) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or after 1st October 1936 and before 19th June 1968.

(4) Condition (d) of paragraph (1) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a double-decked vehicle registered after 1st October 1936 and before 19th June 1969 if no part of any gangway which serves as a joint means of access from any entrance to the upper and lower decks is less than 3 feet in width.

(5) Condition (b) of paragraph (1) and sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (5) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st October 1938.

(6) Conditions (a) and (c) of paragraph (1) and sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (5) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if the width of every gangway is not less than 1 foot up to a height of 2 feet 6 inches above the level of the deck and not less than 1 foot 2 inches above that height.

(7) Condition (c) of paragraph (1) of the said Regulation 28 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st April 1959 and before 19th June 1968 if no part of any gangway which is within 3 feet of an exit (other than an emergency exit) to which it leads is less than 1 foot 9 inches in width.

18.—(1) Without prejudice to paragraph (2) below, Regulation 29 (height of gangways) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932 or a half-decked vehicle registered before 8th August 1950.

(2) Condition (b) of paragraph (1) of the said Regulation 29 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st October 1936 and condition (d) of that paragraph shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st January 1947.

19.—(1) Condition (d) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 30 (seats) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st March 1937 being a vehicle in respect of which no alteration has been made to its seating accommodation at any time after that date, if it complies in all respects with the requirements of the provisions of regulations corresponding to the said condition (d) in force immediately before 8th June 1937.

(2) The said condition (d) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered after 1st March 1937 and before 1st April 1959 if all the passengers' seats in the vehicle are so fitted—

- (a) that no part of the back rest of any seat placed lengthwise is less than 4 feet 6 inches from the corresponding part of the back rest of the seat facing it; and
- (b) there is in relation to every transverse seat in the vehicle a clear space of at least 2 feet 2 inches in front of the whole length of the top of the back rest of that seat measured from the centre of each complete length of the seat allowed for the accommodation of a seated passenger in accordance with condition (b) of the said paragraph (1) but disregarding any handles or grips which do not project more than 4 inches from the back rest.

In this sub-paragraph, the expression “back rest” has the same meaning as in the said Regulation 30.

(3) Conditions (f) and (g) of the said paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if no seat placed over the arch of a wheel of the vehicle is in such a position as to cause discomfort to passengers.

(4) Condition (h) of the said paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle

registered before 1st April 1959 if, as respects any transverse seat in the vehicle which is so placed that a passenger seated upon it is liable to be thrown through any entrance to or exit from the vehicle or down a stairway in the vehicle, an effective screen or guard is placed so as to afford adequate protection against that occurrence to a passenger occupying that seat.

(5) Condition (i) of the said paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st October 1936.

20. Regulation 31 (guarding of transverse windows) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 if all glass windows or panels which face any transverse seat in the vehicle are adequately protected against the likelihood of breakage in the event of passengers being thrown against them.

21.—(1) Without prejudice to the following provisions of this paragraph, Regulation 34 (driver's accommodation) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered on or before 1st January 1932.

(2) Regulation 34 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st January 1936 but adequate provision shall be made to enable the driver to give traffic signals by electrical or mechanical means or by hand from the offside of the vehicle.

(3) Conditions (b) and (e) of the said Regulation 34 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959 and condition (d) of that Regulation shall not apply in the case of such a vehicle if means are provided (where necessary) to prevent light from the interior of the vehicle from incommoding the driver.

(4) Conditions (g) and (h) of the said Regulation 34 shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959.

22. Regulation 37 (wireless apparatus) shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before 1st April 1959.

### SCHEDULE 3

(See Regulation 42)

#### FIRST AID EQUIPMENT

2 oz. bottle Sal Volatile (with an amount of dose, method of administration and a warning "NOT TO BE ADMINISTERED IN CASE OF HAEMORRHAGE" printed on the label).

Antiseptic cream which embodies acriflavine or aminoacridine.

One constrictive bandage.

One large sterilised dressing suitable for burns and wounds (not less than 3 inches x 3 inches).

Three medium sterilised wound dressings (gauze and wool or lint and wool not less than 2 inches x 2 inches).

Sterilised cotton wool (not less than 2 oz.).

Three roller bandages (3 inches x 6 yards).

Two triangular bandages.

One roll of surgical strapping (not less than 1 inch x 3 yards or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch x 5 yards).

One pair rustless scissors.

One box large strong safety pins.

All materials for dressings and bandages including cotton wool shall be those designated in, and of a grade or quality not lower than the standards prescribed by, the current British Pharmaceutical Codex, and all instruments and appliances shall be of reliable quality and suitable design and construction.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations consolidate with amendment the Regulations specified in Schedule I to these Regulations, being Regulations which prescribe the conditions to be satisfied by a public service vehicle before a certificate of fitness can be granted in respect of the vehicle. The principal changes relate to:—

- (a) the required position of the outlet of the exhaust pipe (Regulation 16);
- (b) the number and position of entrances and exits (Regulation 23);
- (c) the requirements as to the devices for operating entrance and exit doors (Regulation 25); and
- (d) the requirements as to the fire extinguishing apparatus to be carried (Regulation 41).

SI 1972/751  
ISBN 0-11-020751-3

