

2011 No. 2963

ROAD TRAFFIC

**The M25 Motorway (Bell Common Tunnel) (Temporary
Restriction and Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2011**

Made - - - - *5th December 2011*

Coming into force - - *4th January 2012*

WHEREAS the Secretary of State for Transport, being the traffic authority for the M25 Motorway and connecting roads, is satisfied that traffic should be restricted and prohibited on a length of that motorway and on one of those connecting roads because works are proposed to be executed thereon:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 14(1)(a) and (7) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984(a), hereby makes the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the M25 Motorway (Bell Common Tunnel) (Temporary Restriction and Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2011 and shall come into force on 4th January 2012 and shall apply for a period of twelve months.

2. In this Order:

“the clockwise carriageway” and “the anti-clockwise carriageway” mean, respectively, the clockwise carriageway and the anti-clockwise carriageway of the M25 Motorway between Green Lane overbridge (at marker post 154.3 east of Junction 26 – A121) and Hobbs Cross Road overbridge (at marker post 160.2 at Junction 27 – M11) in the County of Essex;

“the Regulations” means the Motorways Traffic (England and Wales) Regulations 1982(b);

“a hard shoulder” means the hard shoulder within the meaning of regulation 3(1)(e) of the Regulations which is adjacent to the clockwise carriageway or the anti-clockwise carriageway;

“the link road” means the road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M11 to the clockwise carriageway and the anti-clockwise carriageway at Junction 27;

“works” means essential tunnel maintenance work on the M25 Motorway;

“a works period” means a period of –

- (i) 7½ hours starting at 2200 hours on Wednesday 4th January 2012 or on any subsequent day other than a Friday, Saturday or Sunday,
- (ii) 7 hours starting at 2300 hours on Friday 6th January 2012 or on any subsequent Friday,

(a) 1984 c.27; a new section 14 was substituted by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991 (c.26), section 1(1) and Schedule 1.

(b) S.I.1982/1163, amended by S.I. 1983/374, 1984/1479, 1992/1364, 1995/158, 2004/3258.

- (iii) 8 hours starting at 2200 hours on Saturday 7th January 2012 or on any subsequent Saturday, or
- (iv) 7 hours starting at 2230 hours on Sunday 8th January 2012 or on any subsequent Sunday,

until Thursday 3rd January 2013;

and a reference to an article followed by a number is a reference to the article in this Order which bears that number.

3. Subject as mentioned in articles 5, 6 and 7, no person shall, during a works period, cause or permit any vehicle to enter or proceed in the clockwise carriageway, the anti-clockwise carriageway or the link road.

4. Subject as mentioned in articles 5, 7 and 8(a), no person shall, during a works period, drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding -

- (a) 50 miles per hour on the clockwise carriageway, the anti-clockwise carriageway or a hard shoulder when that speed is indicated by a traffic sign;
- (b) 40 miles per hour on the clockwise carriageway, the anti-clockwise carriageway or a hard shoulder when that speed is indicated by a traffic sign; or
- (c) 30 miles per hour on the clockwise carriageway, the anti-clockwise carriageway or a hard shoulder when that speed is indicated by a traffic sign.

5. The provisions of articles 3, 4 and 6 shall apply only at such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.

6.—(1) During such times as, pursuant to article 5, movement of traffic is prohibited in the clockwise carriageway but is not prohibited in the anti-clockwise carriageway, no person shall cause or permit any vehicle –

- (a) to enter or proceed in the offside lane of the anti-clockwise carriageway in any direction other than clockwise; or
- (b) to overtake any other moving vehicle in the anti-clockwise carriageway.

(2) During such times as, pursuant to article 5, movement of traffic is prohibited in the anti-clockwise carriageway but is not prohibited in the clockwise carriageway, no person shall cause or permit any vehicle –

- (a) to enter or proceed in the offside lane of the clockwise carriageway in any direction other than anti-clockwise; or
- (b) to overtake any other moving vehicle in the clockwise carriageway.

(3) When, pursuant to article 5, movement of traffic is prohibited in a length of one carriageway but is not prohibited in the corresponding length of the other carriageway, the provisions of this article with respect to that other carriageway shall apply to that length of that carriageway.

7.—(1) Nothing in article 3 shall apply to –

- (a) a vehicle being used in connection with the said works;
- (b) a vehicle being used for police, ambulance, fire and rescue authority or traffic officer purposes;
- (c) anything done at the direction of, or with the permission of, a constable or traffic officer in uniform; or
- (d) any vehicle being used for winter maintenance purposes.

(2) Nothing in article 4 shall apply to a vehicle being used for police, ambulance or fire and rescue authority purposes and to vehicles falling within regulation 3(4) of the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulation 2011(a) when used in accordance with regulation 3(5) of those Regulations.

(3) Nothing in article 6(1)(b) or 6(2)(b) shall apply to a vehicle being used for police, ambulance or fire and rescue authority purposes.

8. During a works period, the undermentioned provisions of the Regulations are hereby suspended:

- (a) regulations 5 and (insofar as it relates to a vehicle being driven) 9, in respect of a hard shoulder, at such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs; and
- (b) regulation 6(3) in respect of a vehicle being driven clockwise in the anti-clockwise carriageway by virtue of article 6(1)(a), or anti-clockwise in the clockwise carriageway by virtue of article 6(2)(a).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

5th December 2011

P Rix
A Service Delivery Team Leader
in the Highways Agency

(a) S.I. 2011/935.