STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2027 No.

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

The Footways and Carriageways (Prohibition of Waiting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2027

Made - - - -	*2027*
Coming into operation	*2027*

The Department for Infrastructure(**a**) makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 8(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997(**b**) and now vested in it(**c**).

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Footways and Carriageways (Prohibition of Waiting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2027 and shall come into operation on 2027.

(2) In these Regulations—

"bus" means a motor vehicle constructed or adapted to carry more than 8 passengers (exclusive of the driver);

"bus lane" has the same meaning as in Regulation 21(2) of the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**d**);

"bus stand" means an area delineated by markings on the carriageway or lay-by for use by a bus or coach at any time or at such times as may be indicated by traffic signs, in order to wait or pick up passengers;

"bus stop" means an area delineated by markings on the carriageway or lay-by for use by a bus providing a scheduled service or a school bus in order to pick up or set down passengers;

"central reservation" means—

(a) in relation to a road comprising a single carriageway, any provision (including a pedestrian refuge) which separates one part of the carriageway from another part; and

(b) in relation to a road which comprises two or more carriageways any land or permanent work which separates those carriageways from another;

"clearway" means the carriageway of any road or part of a road on which traffic signs of the type shown in diagram 642 or in diagram 646 in Schedule 2 to the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**e**) have been erected on one or both sides;

(**a**) Formerly the Department for Regional Development; see section 1(6) and (11) of, and Schedule 1 to, the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (2016 c. 5 (N.I.))
(**b**) S.I. 1997/276 (N.I. 2)
(**c**) S.R. 1999 No. 481 Article 6(d) and Schedule 4 Part IV
(**d**) S.R. 1997 No. 386 as amended by S.R. 2002 No. 143 and S.R. 2003 No. 214
(**e**) S.R. 1997 No. 386

"controlled area" means the same as defined in the Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006(**a**);

"cycle track" means any part of the road which is not a carriageway, over which the public have a right of way for the passage of pedal cycles as indicated by the sign shown in diagram 957 in Schedule 5 to Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(c);

"designated parking bay" means an area of carriageway indicated by traffic signs or road markings as a place where vehicles may wait;

"driveway" means a private, paved or unpaved, off road area connecting a road to a residential or commercial property;

"dropped kerb" means a lowered section of the footway where the kerbstones are flush with the carriageway;

"footpath" means a way over which the public have a right of way on foot only, not being a footway or part of a road;

"footway" means any part of a road over which the public have a right of way on foot only;

"hard shoulder" means a surfaced strip alongside a carriageway;

"lay-by" means a surfaced area adjacent to a carriageway intended for the waiting of vehicles;

"mandatory cycle lane" means part of the carriageway of a road which may not be used by vehicles other than pedal cycles and is separated by the marking shown in diagram 1049 in Schedule 6 to Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**b**) or by physical means;

"mandatory school keep clear" means part of the carriageway outside the entrance to a school which should be kept clear of stationary vehicles and is indicated by the marking shown in diagram 1027.1 in Schedule 6 and the sign shown in diagram 642.2 in Schedule 2 to the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997;

"medical practitioner" means a registered person within the meaning of the Medical Act 1983(**c**);

"pedal cycle" has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(**d**);

"postal packet" has the same meaning as in section 65(1) of the Postal Services Act 2011(**e**);

"road" means a public road;

"shared use footway" means a way comprised in a road which also comprises a carriageway and which would, but for its being designated for use by persons riding cycles as indicated by the sign shown in diagram 956 in Schedule 5 to Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(c), be a footway;

"universal service provider" has the same meaning as in section 65(1) of the Postal Services Act 2011;

"verge" means any part of a road which is not a carriageway, footpath or footway, cycle track, central reservation, hard shoulder or lay-by.

Prohibition of waiting (footways and other parts of a road)

2.—(1) Save as provided in regulation 4, a person shall not cause or permit a motor vehicle to wait wholly on a footway or shared use footway.

(2) Save as provided in regulation 4, a person shall not cause or permit a motor vehicle to wait, wholly or partly—

(a) on a central reservation adjacent to a clearway;

(b) on a cycle track;

(**a**) S.R. 2006 No. 164
(**b**) S.R. 1997 No. 386: last amending Order S.R. 2013 No. 257
(**c**) 1983 c. 54
(**d**) S.I. 1995/ No. 2994 (N.I. 18)
(**e**) 2011 c. 5

(c) on a verge adjacent to a controlled area at Zebra, Pelican and Puffin crossings;

(d) on any footpath or footway adjacent to—

(i) a clearway or a controlled area at Zebra, Pelican and Puffin crossings;

(ii) a bus lane;

(iii) the limits of any bus stop in a lay-by or any bus stop as delineated by markings on the carriageway;

(iv) the limits of any mandatory cycle lane as delineated by markings on the carriageway;

(v) the limits of any mandatory school keep clear as delineated by markings on the carriageway, at times when the restriction is indicated as being in force by the associated traffic signs.

Prohibition of waiting (carriageways)

3. Save as provided in regulations 4, 5 and 6, a person shall not cause or permit a motor vehicle to wait—

(a) on a carriageway adjacent to another motor vehicle;

(b) on a carriageway adjacent to a footway where, for the purpose of assisting pedestrians or cyclists to cross the carriageway—

(i) the footway has been lowered to meet the level of the carriageway; or

(ii) the carriageway has been raised to meet the level of the footway.

Exceptions

4. The prohibitions in regulations 2 and 3 shall not apply to a motor vehicle—

(a) being used in an emergency by a medical practitioner, or for fire and rescue, ambulance, police or customs purposes or for the purposes of the security forces;

(b) being used by or on behalf of a universal service provider for the purposes of delivery to, or collection from, premises situated adjacent to the length of road of postal packets;

(c) where the driver of a vehicle is acting upon the direction or with the permission of a constable in uniform;

(d) if it cannot conveniently be used for such purposes outside that length of road, to be used—

(i) in connection with any building, repair or demolition operations;

(ii) in connection with the removal of any obstruction to traffic;

(iii) by or on behalf of a district council or government department in pursuance of statutory powers or duties;

(iv) by or on behalf of a sewerage undertaker or a water undertaker in connection with the discharge of that undertaker's functions;

(v) in connection with the discharge of the functions of the holder of a licence granted under Article 10 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(**a**) or of a licence granted under Article 8 of the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996(**b**); or

(vi) in connection with the laying, erection, alteration or repair of any electronic communications apparatus as defined in Schedule 3A to the Telecommunications Act 2003(**c**).

(**a**) S.I. 1992/231 (N.I. 1) as amended by S.I. 2003/419 (N.I. 6), S.R. 2007 No. 283, S.R. 2007 No. 284, S.R. 2007 No. 303, S.R. 2007 No. 320, S.R. 2007 No. 321, S.I. 2007/913 (N.I. 7) and S.R. 2011 No. 155

(**b**) S.I. 1996/275 (N.I. 2) as amended by S.R. 2006 No. 358, S.R. 2011 No. 155 and S.R. 2013 No. 92

(**c**) 2003 c. 21 Schedule 3A was inserted by section 4 of, and Schedule 1 to, the Digital Economy Act 2017 (2017 c. 20)

5. The prohibition in regulation 3(a) shall not apply to a motor vehicle being used for the conveyance of goods to and from premises, where the goods, by reason of their size and weight, could not reasonably be conveyed to or from such premises otherwise than by means of a vehicle, and provided that the vehicle is not used for any longer than may be necessary to enable goods to be loaded on to or unloaded from the vehicle.

6. The prohibition in regulation 3(b)(i) shall not apply to a motor vehicle within a designated parking bay.

Revocation

7. The Footways (Prohibition of Waiting) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023(**a**) is revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Infrastructure on 2027

(L.S.)

A senior officer of the Department for Infrastructure

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

These Regulations prohibit motor vehicles from waiting wholly on a footway or shared use footway, and from waiting wholly or partly on other specified parts of a road.

The Regulations also prohibit motor vehicles from waiting on a carriageway as specified in Article 3.

Vehicles are excepted from the prohibitions in certain circumstances.

A penalty charge (£90) is payable with respect to a vehicle involved in a contravention of these Regulations in accordance with the Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and the Penalty Charges (Prescribed Amounts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

Traffic signs indicating the effect of these Regulations will in due course be placed on the roads.

(**a**) S.R. 2023 No. 173