

Traffic Signs Authorisation

The Department for Regional Development(a), gives the following authorisation in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 28(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997(b) and now vested in it(c).

Interpretation

1. In this authorisation—
 - “the 1997 Regulations” means the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(d);
 - “hours of darkness” and “retroreflecting material” have the meanings assigned to those terms by regulation 2 of the 1997 Regulations; and
 - “sign” means a traffic sign shown in a diagram in the Schedule.

Control of traffic by signs

2.—(1) The signs shown in the diagrams in the Schedule are authorised for erection for the purpose of indicating to road traffic the direction along Saint Patrick’s Trail and places of interest associated with it.

(2) The information indicated and conveyed by the signs shown in the diagrams in the Schedule shall be that specified in or under the diagrams.

Signs to be of the size, colour and type shown in the diagrams

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this authorisation, a sign for conveying to traffic on roads information of the description specified under a diagram in the Schedule shall be of the size, colour and type shown in the diagram.

(2) Dimensions indicated in the diagrams in the Schedule are expressed in millimetres.

Variations of dimensions

4. Any dimension specified in a diagram in the Schedule may be varied in accordance with the following Table, subject to the Note to that Table.

**TABLE
Height of letters or numbers**

Item (1)	Dimensions shown in diagram (2)	Permitted variations (3)
1.	100 millimetres or more	Up to 5% of the dimension
2.	Less than 100 millimetres	Up to 7.5% of the dimension

(a) S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) Article 3(1)
 (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

Note: Where the height of letters or numbers is expressed as a range within maximum and minimum dimensions the permitted variations indicated in this Table shall apply to those dimensions shown as the maximum and minimum.

Proportions and form of letters, numerals, symbols and other characters

5 All letters, numerals and other characters incorporated in any sign shown in a diagram in the Schedule shall have the proportions and form as prescribed in Part I of Schedule 13 to the 1997 Regulations.

Permitted variants

6.—(1) Where the circumstances in which a sign is to be placed so require or where appropriate in those circumstances, the form of the sign may be varied in the following manner—

- (a) the relative positions of the symbol and legend may be reversed;
- (b) the words “Saint Patrick’s Trail” may be varied to those of an attraction associated with the trail;
- (c) in diagram A the direction in which the arrow points may be varied as follows –
 - (i) when indicating the ahead direction, the arrow may be placed on either the left or right-hand side of the sign;
 - (ii) when indicating a direction to the left, the arrow shall be placed on the left hand side of the sign;
- (d) in diagram B, the direction in which the sign points may be reversed.

(2) Where the form of a sign is varied in accordance with this authorisation, the information conveyed to traffic by the sign is varied to accord with the form of the sign as varied.

Illumination requirements

7.—(1) A sign may be illuminated by means of internal or external lighting but if not so illuminated throughout the hours of darkness it shall be illuminated by the use of retroreflecting material in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) Where retroreflecting material is used on any part of a sign all other parts of that sign shall also be illuminated by means of retroreflecting material.

(3) Where the sign is illuminated by means of external lighting, then that means of lighting shall be fitted to the structure on which the sign is mounted or which is otherwise specially provided, except that if the sign is mounted on a bridge, tunnel or similar structure over a road the means of lighting may alternatively be mounted separately in a manner such as to illuminate the sign effectively.

Authorised Officer: H H Hamilton
Date: 28 August 2007



Schedule



Diagram A

Junction ahead leading to or along the Saint Patrick's Trail passing through places of interest



Diagram B

Direction to or along the Saint Patrick's Trail passing through places of interest



Diagram C

Panel to be placed on direction signs indicating route the of Saint Patrick's Trail passing through places of interest