

Island of  Guernsey

Ordinance of the States **XXIX**
1955

Made 30th November, 1955.
Coming into Operation .. 5th December, 1955.

**The Road Traffic (Speed Limits and
General Provisions) Ordinance, 1955.**

THE STATES, in pursuance of their Resolutions of the twenty-second day of June, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, and the fourteenth day of September, nineteen hundred and fifty-five, hereby order:—

PART I

Interpretation

1. (1) In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:—

“the Committee” means the Island Police Committee;

Interpretation.

“motor vehicle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle intended or adapted for use on a public highway;

“omnibus” includes a motor-coach;

“public highway” includes any road, street, lane or public place;

“unladen weight” in relation to any vehicle means the weight of the vehicle inclusive of the body and all parts (the heavier being taken where alternative bodies or parts are used) which are necessary to or ordinarily used with the vehicle when working on a road, but exclusive of the weight of water, fuel or accumulators used for the purpose of the supply of power for the propulsion of the vehicle and of loose tools and loose equipment;

“vehicle” includes a motor vehicle, an animal-drawn vehicle, a bicycle and a tricycle.

(2) Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Ordinance to any other enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended, extended or applied by or under any enactment, including this Ordinance.

PART II

Speed limits

**General
speed limit.**

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, a person shall not drive or ride a vehicle on any public highway at a speed exceeding thirty-five miles per hour.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to the driver or rider of any motor vehicle while such driver or rider is taking

part in any race or trial of speed between motor vehicles which has been approved by the Committee under the provisions of section eight of this Ordinance.

3. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, a person shall not drive or ride a vehicle at a speed exceeding twenty miles per hour— Particular speed limits.

(a) on any of the following public highways in the parish of Saint Peter Port or on any public highway situate within the area bounded by those public highways—

Saint Julian's Avenue;

Candie Road;

Elm Grove;

Gibauderie;

Rocquettes Road;

De Beauvoir;

Les Gravées;

Queen's Road;

Prince Albert's Road;

Colborne Road;

George Road;

Hauteville;

Cornet Street;

(b) on any of the following public highways—

Havelet;

La Grande Rue in the parish of Saint Martin between the Queen's Hotel and the Old Forge junction of La Rue Cauchée;

the public highway in the parish of the Castel from Les Delisles Chapel, via

the King's Mills, to the junction of La Hurette Road with the King's Mills Road.

(2) A person shall not, during the period commencing on the first day of June and ending on the thirtieth day of September, both days inclusive, in every year, drive or ride a vehicle at a speed exceeding twenty miles per hour on the Coast Road, Castel, between the slipway opposite La Route de Carteret, Cobo, and the Martello Tower, Vazon.

(3) A person shall not drive or ride a vehicle at a speed exceeding fifteen miles per hour on the public highway of La Vallette in the parish of Saint Peter Port between the entrance at the north end thereof opposite the premises owned by the Guernsey Brewery Company (1920) Limited and the tunnel at the south end thereof.

(4) A person shall not drive or ride a vehicle at a speed exceeding twelve miles per hour on any of the following public highways in the parish of Saint Peter Port:—

Le Val des Terres
 (when proceeding downwards);
 The Bordage;
 Fountain Street;
 Market Street;
 Market Place;
 Mill Street;
 Mansell Street;
 Church Square;
 High Street;
 Smith Street;
 The Pollet;
 Pedvin Street.

4. Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance a person shall not drive an omnibus on any public highway at a speed exceeding twenty miles per hour. **Omnibus speed limit.**

5. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a person shall not on any public highway— **Particular speed limits for certain vehicles.**

(a) drive a motor vehicle exceeding three and a half tons unladen weight at a speed exceeding eight miles per hour;

(b) drive a motor vehicle fitted with a tyre or tyres not being a pneumatic tyre or tyres and of three and a half tons or less unladen weight at a speed exceeding fifteen miles per hour;

(c) drive a motor van or a motor lorry fitted with pneumatic tyres and of thirty hundred-weights or more but not exceeding three and a half tons unladen weight at a speed exceeding twenty miles per hour.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to an omnibus.

(3) The unladen weight and speed limit of any vehicle to which subsection (1) of this section applies shall be painted in legible figures not less than two inches in height in a prominent position on the left-hand side of the vehicle.

6. (1) The provisions of this Ordinance or of any regulations made by the Committee or any Ordinance for the time being in force which impose a speed limit on vehicles shall not apply to any vehicle when it is being used for police purposes— **Exemption of vehicles used for police, ambulance or fire brigade purposes.**

(a) in an emergency; or

- (b) in the pursuit of the driver or rider of any vehicle who is or is suspected of exceeding any speed limit;

if the observance of those provisions would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being so used.

(2) The provisions, other than section two, of this Ordinance or of any regulations made by the Committee or any Ordinance for the time being in force which impose a speed limit on vehicles shall not apply to any vehicle when it is being used in an emergency for fire brigade or ambulance purposes if the observance of those provisions would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being so used.

Saving for speed limit Ordinances and regulations.

7. Nothing in this Part of this Ordinance contained shall prejudice the operation of the provisions of any regulations made by the Committee or any Ordinance for the time being in force imposing—

- (a) a maximum speed limit for any particular class of vehicle; or
- (b) a maximum speed limit for any vehicle in relation to any particular public highway.

PART III

General Provisions

Hill-climbing contests.

8. (1) A person shall not promote or take part in any race or trial of speed between motor vehicles on a public highway other than a race or trial of speed which is a hill-climbing contest—

- (a) in which there is an interval of time between the finish of the performance or attempted performance of the contest by any one of such motor vehicles and the start of the performance or attempted performance of the contest by any other of such motor vehicles;
- (b) held—
 - (i) at such place, on such day and within such hours on that day as shall be approved by the Committee; and
 - (ii) under such conditions, whether with regard to the safeguarding of the persons taking part in the contest, the spectators of the contest and others, or otherwise, as the Committee shall prescribe.

(2) The expression “some special occasion” in section one of the Ordinance entitled “Ordonnance par rapport à la Clôture de Routes aux Occasions Spéciales” of the first day of May, nineteen hundred and thirty-seven, shall be deemed to include a hill-climbing contest approved by the Committee and the provisions of that section shall have effect accordingly.

(3) If any person concerned with the promotion of, or the arrangements in connection with, a hill-climbing contest, or taking part therein whether as a competitor or otherwise, contravenes or fails to comply with any of the conditions prescribed with regard thereto by the Committee, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance.

9. (1) A person shall not, without the permission in writing of the Committee, use on a public highway a motor vehicle the total weight of which, including the load, exceeds nine tons. Use of particular vehicles.

(2) A person shall not, without the permission in writing of the Committee, use on a public highway a vehicle the total weight of which, including the load, exceeds seven tons unless the vehicle is fitted with effectively operating twin tyred rear wheels on each side.

(3) The Committee shall, when granting any permission under the foregoing provisions of this section, specify the maximum speed at which the vehicle in respect of which such permit is granted may be driven on any public highway and the vehicle shall not be driven at a speed greater than that so specified.

Maintenance of vehicles and conditions of loading.

10. A motor vehicle and any trailer drawn thereby and all parts and accessories of such vehicle and trailer shall at all times be in such condition and the weight, distribution, packing and adjustment of the load of such vehicle or trailer shall at all times be such that no danger is or is likely to be caused to any person on the vehicle or trailer or on the public highway.

Weighing of motor vehicles.

11. It shall be lawful for any police officer in uniform, and any person for the time being appointed by the Committee as an examiner of vehicles, on production of his authority if required, to require the person in charge of any motor vehicle to allow the vehicle or any trailer drawn thereby to be weighed, either laden or unladen, and the weight transmitted to the road by any parts of the vehicle or trailer in contact with the road to be tested, and for that purpose to proceed to a weighbridge or other machine for weighing vehicles, and if any person in charge of a motor vehicle refuses or neglects to comply with any such requirement, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance:

PROVIDED that it shall not be lawful for any police officer or any person appointed as aforesaid to require

the person in charge of the motor vehicle to unload the vehicle or trailer, or to cause it to be unloaded, for the purpose of being weighed unladen.

PART IV

Offences and penalties

12. A person who contravenes or causes or permits another to contravene any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance. Offences.

13. A person guilty of an offence under this Ordinance shall be liable, on conviction, in the case of a first offence to a fine not exceeding five pounds, and in the case of a second or subsequent offence to a fine not exceeding ten pounds. Penalties.

PART V

Repeals, application, citation and commencement

14. The Ordinances set out in the first column of the Schedule to this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the second column of that Schedule. Repeals.

15. (1) This Ordinance shall have effect in the Island of Guernsey. Application, citation and commencement.

(2) This Ordinance may be cited as the Road Traffic (Speed Limits and General Provisions) Ordinance, 1955, and shall come into force on the fifth day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

SCHEDULE Section fourteen

Ordinances Repealed

<i>Ordinance</i>	<i>Extent of Repeal</i>
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 21st day of January, 1929.	Regulations F and J.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance relative au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 2nd day of March, 1929.	Section (6) of Article VIII.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 7th day of June, 1930.	So much as relates to Regulation K.2.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance relative au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 30th day of May, 1936.	The whole Ordinance.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 30th day of January, 1937.	So much as relates to Regulation K.6.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance supplémentaire ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire" of the 29th day of October, 1938.	The whole Ordinance.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile" of the 9th day of June, 1945.	The whole Ordinance.
The Ordinance entitled "Ordonnance ayant rapport au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile (1946)" of the 14th day of September, 1946.	The whole Ordinance.

<i>Ordinance</i>	<i>Extent of Repeal</i>
The Omnibuses and Excursion Cars Speed Limit Amendment Ordinance, 1949.	The whole Ordinance.
The Road Traffic (Island Maximum Speed Limit) Ordinance, 1950.	The whole Ordinance.
The Traffic (Approval of Regulations) (Miscellaneous) Ordinance, 1950.	The whole Ordinance.

JAMES E. LE PAGE,

Her Majesty's Greffier.