

Island of  Guernsey

Ordinance of the States **XXV**

1963

Made 30th October, 1963.
Coming into Operation .. 1st January, 1964.

**The Vehicular Traffic (Lighting)
Ordinance, 1963**

THE STATES, in pursuance of their Resolution of the thirty-first day of July, nineteen hundred and sixty-three, hereby order:—

1. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance every vehicle on a public highway during the hours of darkness shall, unless stationary in a parking place, carry properly lighted and in a clean and efficient condition:—
- Lights and reflectors to be carried by vehicles at night.
- (a) two lamps each showing to the front a white light visible from a reasonable distance;
 - (b) two lamps each showing to the rear a red light visible from a reasonable distance;
 - (c) in the case of motor vehicles a lamp so contrived as to illuminate and render easily distinguishable every letter or figure of the registration number exhibited at the back of the vehicle.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance every vehicle on a public highway shall, during the hours of darkness, carry, unobscured and in a clean and efficient condition, two red reflectors each facing to the rear.

Restriction
on the
nature and
movement
of lamps.

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance no vehicle on a public highway shall show:—

- (a) a red light to the front, or
- (b) any light to the rear other than a red light, the light shown by a direction indicator or a white light for the purpose of reversing.

(2) Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of this section shall not prevent the use of a lamp for:—

- (a) the internal illumination of a vehicle;
- (b) the illumination of the registration number of a vehicle; or
- (c) in the case of a public vehicle the illumination of a board, plate or device indicating the type, destination, route or other particulars of the vehicle.

(3) No lamp emitting a beam of light to the front shall be more than five feet from the ground and every such lamp shall be so constructed, fitted and maintained that the beam:

- (a) is permanently deflected downwards, or
- (b) can be deflected downwards and to the left by mechanical means at the will of the driver of the vehicle,

to such an extent that it is incapable of dazzling any person standing on the same horizontal plane as the vehicle at a greater distance than twenty-five feet from the lamp whose eye-level is not less than three feet six inches above that plane.

(4) No light shown by a vehicle shall, while the vehicle is in motion, be moved by swivelling, deflect-

ing or otherwise, other than a dipping headlight or a direction indicator operated by mechanical means and, except when in use as a direction indicator no flashing or intermittent light shall be shown by any vehicle.

(5) Nothing in this section shall prevent the carrying of reflectors attached to or incorporated in or forming part of the pedals of a bicycle or tricycle.

(6) Nothing in this section shall restrict the use for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes of any light or lamp approved by the Island Police Committee, nor the use of any light or lamp necessary for the efficient operation of a breakdown vehicle.

3. Nothing in this Ordinance shall require the carrying of separate lamps for different purposes if there are carried in one or more units lamps or a combination of lamps satisfying the requirements of this Ordinance and where a lamp at the rear of a vehicle is so constructed that when not showing a light it is an efficient red reflector such lamp shall be regarded as a reflector whether or not it is showing a light. Multi-purpose lamps.

4. (1) Lamps and reflectors required by this Ordinance to be carried by a vehicle shall, where two are required showing lights in the same direction, be at the same height from the ground, at opposite sides of the vehicle, and so placed that no part of the vehicle projects laterally more than twelve inches beyond the centre point of a lamp showing a white light to the front and of a reflector and a lamp showing a red light to the rear. Positions of lamps and reflectors.

(2) Lamps and reflectors required by this Ordinance to be carried at the back of a vehicle shall be not more than five feet from the ground and so

placed that no part of the vehicle projects rearwards more than three feet six inches behind a reflector and a lamp showing a red light to the rear.

Bicycles,
tricycles
and invalid
carriages.

5. In the application of the foregoing provisions of this Ordinance to bicycles, tricycles and invalid carriages the following modifications shall apply:—

- (a) in the case of a bicycle not having a sidecar attached thereto, whether propelled by mechanical power or not, or of a tricycle not propelled by mechanical power, or of an invalid carriage, only a single lamp showing a white light to the front need be carried instead of two such lamps;
- (b) in the case of a bicycle, tricycle or invalid carriage not propelled by mechanical power, or of a bicycle propelled by mechanical power and not having a side-car attached thereto only a single lamp showing a red light to the rear and only a single red reflector need be carried instead of two such lamps and reflectors;
- (c) no part of the vehicle shall project rearwards more than twenty inches behind a reflector and lamp showing a red light to the rear;
- (d) in the case of a bicycle not having a side-car attached thereto, whether propelled by mechanical power or not, or of a tricycle not propelled by mechanical power, no lamp need be carried if the bicycle or tricycle is being wheeled by a person on foot as near as possible to the edge of the carriage-way;
- (e) in the case of a bicycle or tricycle not propelled by mechanical power, no light required by this Ordinance need be shown, if the bicycle or tricycle is stationary owing

to the exigencies of the traffic or in order to comply with any traffic signal or direction, and the bicycle or tricycle is as near as possible to the near or left-hand edge of the carriage-way.

6. (1) In the application of the foregoing provisions of this Ordinance in the case of a vehicle drawing one or more vehicles, provided the distance between the vehicles does not exceed five feet, the following modifications shall apply:—

Vehicles towing and being towed.

- (a) lamps showing lights to the front need not be carried on any vehicle being drawn; and
- (b) red reflectors and lamps showing red lights to the rear need not be carried on any of the vehicles except the rearmost vehicle.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the distance between two vehicles shall be measured between the nearest points of those vehicles, disregarding the drawbar and any fitting for its attachment.

7. Where a vehicle on a public highway, during the hours of darkness, carries a load overhanging laterally on either side more than twelve inches beyond the centre point of a lamp showing a white light to the front, whether carried on that vehicle or on a vehicle towing that vehicle, or a load projecting rearwards more than three feet six inches behind a lamp showing a red light to the rear, the vehicle shall carry an additional lamp, or lamps, showing a white light to the front and a red light to the rear so positioned as to indicate clearly such overhang or projection.

Vehicles carrying over-hanging or projecting loads.

8. No lamp need be carried by a vehicle drawn or propelled by a person on foot provided the vehicle is as near as possible to the near or left-hand edge of

Vehicles drawn or propelled by pedestrians.

the carriage way and, together with any load, is not more than six feet in length, two feet six inches in width or four feet six inches in height.

Exemption
by Police
Committee.

9. The Island Police Committee may from time to time, for such period or for such occasion and subject to such conditions as they think fit, exempt any particular vehicle or particular type of vehicle from all or any of the requirements of the foregoing provisions of this Ordinance.

Offences.

10. If any person uses, causes or permits to be used, any vehicle in contravention of any of the provisions of this Ordinance he shall be liable on summary conviction in the case of a first offence to a fine not exceeding ten pounds and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

Interpreta-
tion.

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

“hours of darkness” means the time between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise;

“invalid carriage” means a mechanically propelled vehicle the weight of which unladen does not exceed seven hundredweight and which is specially designed and constructed, and not merely adapted, for the use of persons suffering from some physical defect or disability and is used solely by such persons;

“parking place” means any area or part of a public highway designated by the Island Police Committee under the provisions of paragraph

(a) or paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1 of the Road Traffic (Parking Places) Ordinance, 1963 (i);

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

“public vehicle” means a vehicle used or intended to be used for the carriage of fare-paying passengers.

12. There are hereby repealed the following:— Repeals.

(a) Section one of the Ordinance relating to vehicles on public highways at night passed at the Chief Pleas after Michaelmas on the sixth day of October, eighteen hundred and eighty-four(ii).

(b) The Ordinance entitled “Ordonnance relative aux Lampes ou Lanternes pour les Voitures”(iii) of the eighteenth day of January, nineteen hundred and nine.

(c) Article XI of the Ordinance entitled “Ordonnance relative au Trafic Véhiculaire en cette Ile”(iv) of the second day of March, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine, as amended.

13. This Ordinance may be cited as the Vehicular Traffic (Lighting) Ordinance, 1963, and shall come into force on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and sixty-four. Citation and commencement.

R. H. VIDELO,

Her Majesty's Greffier.

(i) No. XX of 1963.
 (ii) Recueil d'Ordonnances, Tome IV, p. 288.
 (iii) Recueil d'Ordonnances, Tome V, p. 183.
 (iv) Recueil d'Ordonnances, Tome VIII, p. 189.