STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2020 No. 64

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

The Taxi Licensing (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020

Made - - - -	*8th April 2020*
Coming into operation	*10th April 2020*

The Department for Infrastructure(**1**) makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(**2**) and sections 13(3) and (5), 20, 56(1) and (2) and 57(1) of the Taxis Act (Northern Ireland) 2008(**3**) and now vested in it(**4**).

The Department for Infrastructure is designated(**5**) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 in relation to the testing of the roadworthiness of motor vehicles and measures relating to the carriage of passengers and goods by road.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Taxi Licensing (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 and come into operation on 10th April 2020.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**6**) applies to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Amendment of the Taxi Licensing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

2.—(1) The Taxi Licensing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015(**7**) are amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) After regulation 3 (application for a taxi licence) insert—

(**1**) 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.)). Pursuant to section 1(9) of that Act, the Department of the Environment is dissolved

(**2**) 1972 c. 68. The European Communities Act 1972 was repealed by section 1 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (c. 16) with effect from exit day, but saved with modifications until IP completion day by section 1A of that Act (as inserted by section 1 of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020 (c. 1)). Section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 was amended by section 27(1) of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 (c. 51) and by section 3(3) of, and Part 1 of the Schedule to, the European Union (Amendment) Act 2008 (c. 7).

(**3**) 2008 c. 4 (N.I.)

(**4**) See Article 8(1)(b) of, and Part 2 of Schedule 5 to, the Departments (Transfer of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 (S.R. 2016 No. 76)

(**5**) S.I. 1977/1718 and S.I. 1996/266

(**6**) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

(**7**) S.R. 2015 No. 393 as amended by S.R. 2016 No. 140, S.R. 2017 No. 141 and S.R. 2018 No. 90

"**Automatic renewal of licences**

3A.—(1) Paragraph (2) applies where a taxi licence granted in respect of a taxi before 10th April 2020 has expired in the 31 days ending with 9th April 2020 or expires in the 6 months beginning with 10th April 2020.

(2) The Department may grant a taxi licence in respect of the taxi (an "automatic renewal licence") as if—

(a) an application had been made for a taxi licence in respect of the taxi;

(b) the licence applied for were of the same Class as the licence mentioned in paragraph (1); and

(c) the Department were satisfied as required by section 13(3)(b) of the Act and regulation 7(1) or (2).

(3) An automatic renewal licence granted in respect of a taxi has effect for the purposes of the Act (and these Regulations) as if it had been granted on an application and after inspection of the taxi.

(4) An automatic renewal licence is subject to the conditions specified in Schedule 1A in addition to the conditions specified in regulation 11.".

(3) After Schedule 1 insert the Schedule set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Infrastructure on 8th April 2020

L.S.

Chris Hughes
A senior officer of the
Department for Infrastructure