STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2017 No. 94

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

The Bus Lanes (Albertbridge Road, Belfast – between Castlereagh Street and Newtownards Road) Order (Northern Ireland) 2017

Made - - - -	*1st June 2017*
Coming into operation -	*26th June 2017*

The Department for Infrastructure(**a**) makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 4(1), (2) and (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997(**b**) and now vested in it(**c**).

The Department has consulted such persons as it considered appropriate in compliance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 to that Order.

The Department has published a notice in compliance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of that Schedule.

Three objections have been received and duly considered and no other representations were received.

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as The Bus Lanes (Albertbridge Road, Belfast – between Castlereagh Street and Newtownards Road) Order (Northern Ireland) 2017 and shall come into operation on 26th June 2017.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

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

"bus lane" means the lengths of Albertbridge Road, Belfast specified in the Schedule;

"cycle" has the same meaning as in the Order of 1995;

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

"motor cycle" has the same meaning as in the Order of 1995; and

(**a**) 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**) 1983 c. 54

"permitted taxi" means a taxi which is either—

(i) licensed to stand or ply for hire on a road or public place and subject to Bye-Laws made in respect of Motor Hackney Carriages standing or plying for hire made by the Council of the County Borough of Belfast on 4th June 1951 and which meets the specifications prescribed by regulation 41 of the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness, Equipment and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995(**a**); or

(ii) licensed to operate carriage services under the road service licence provision of Part II of the Transport Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(**b**).

Prohibitions on traffic

3. Subject to Article 4 and save as provided in Article 5, a person shall not, during the hours 7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on the days Monday to Friday inclusive, except upon the direction or with the permission of a constable in uniform, cause or permit any vehicle other than a bus, cycle, motor cycle or permitted taxi to enter, proceed or wait in a bus lane.

Restriction of waiting

4. A bus, cycle, motor cycle or permitted taxi may only wait in a bus lane to enable a person to board or alight from the vehicle and the period of waiting shall not exceed two minutes.

Exceptions

5. The prohibition in Article 3 shall not render it unlawful for any person to cause or permit any vehicle to enter, proceed or wait in a bus lane so far as such entry, proceeding or waiting is reasonably necessary for the avoidance of an accident or to enable the vehicle to be used —

(a) in an emergency by a medical practitioner, or for police, military, fire and rescue or ambulance purposes; or

(b) in the services of the Department in pursuance of statutory powers or duties; or

(c) for any of the following operations provided that such activities can be conveniently carried out only from the bus lane—

(i) in connection with the laying, erection, alteration or repair of any telecommunication apparatus as defined in Schedule 2 to the Telecommunications Act 1984(**c**); or

(ii) by or on behalf of the holder of a licence granted under Article 10 of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992(**d**) or a licence granted under Article 8 of the Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996(**e**) in connection with the discharge of the holder's functions within the bus lane or an area accessible only from the bus lane; or

(iii) by or on behalf of a sewerage undertaker or a water undertaker in connection with the discharge of that undertaker's functions within the bus lane or an area accessible only from the bus lane;

(d) for access to or from premises adjacent to or accessible only from a bus lane; or

(e) for access to or from a lay-by adjacent to or accessible only from a bus lane; or

(f) for the removal of any obstruction to traffic.

(**a**) S.R. 1995 No. 447
(**b**) 1967 c. 37 (N.I.) to which there are no relevant amendments
(**c**) 1984 c. 12 as amended by 2003 c. 21 Sch. 3 para. 2(2)
(**d**) 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
(**e**) 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