STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1997 No. 305

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

The Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997

Made - - - -	*20th June 1997*
Coming into operation	*1st September 1997*

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Articles 55(1), (2) and (6), and 110(2) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(**1**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1997.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995(**2**).

Amendments to regulation 3 (Interpretation)

2. In regulation 3(1) of the principal Regulations—

(a) after the definition of "dual-purpose vehicle" there shall be inserted the following definition—

> ""Education and Library Board" has the same meaning as in Article 3(1) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(**3**);"

(b) after the definition of "pedestrian-controlled vehicle" there shall be inserted the following definition—

> ""prescribed sign" means a sign which is of a type shown in Schedule 21A and complies with the requirements of that Schedule."

(**1**) S.I. 1995/2994 (N.I. 18)
(**2**) S.R. 1995 No. 449
(**3**) S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3)

Colour of light shown by lamps and reflectors (including reflectors on rear markings and signs on buses carrying children)

3. Regulation 14 of the principal Regulations shall be amended as follows—

(a) in paragraph (2) after sub-paragraph (*u*) there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraphs—

"(v) reflected light from yellow retro reflective material incorporated in a prescribed sign and fitted to the rear of a bus; or

(w) reflected light from yellow retro reflective material incorporated in a sign fitted to the rear of a bus in accordance with paragraph (4)."

(b) after paragraph (3) there shall be inserted the following—

"(4) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(*w*), a sign ("the secondary sign") is fitted to the rear of a bus in accordance with this paragraph if—

(a) a prescribed sign is also fitted to the rear of the bus;

(b) the total area of the retro reflective material incorporated in the secondary sign is no greater than the area of the prescribed sign; and

(c) the secondary sign satisfies the requirements specified—

(i) in the case of a bus which is owned or hired by an Education and Library Board or any person managing an education establishment attended by children under the age of 16 years, in paragraph (5) or (6); or

(ii) in any other case, in paragraph (6).

(5) The requirements referred to in paragraph (4)(*c*)(i) are that the secondary sign contains no words or other markings apart from words or markings identifying the Education and Library Board or the educational establishment.

(6) The requirements referred to in paragraph (4)(*c*)(ii) are that the secondary sign contains no words or other markings apart from words or other markings which—

(a) indicate that children are on board the bus when it is in motion or likely to be on board the bus or in its vicinity when it is stationary; and

(b) are calculated to reduce the risk of road accidents involving such children."

4. After regulation 17 of the principal Regulations, there shall be inserted—

"**Signs on buses carrying children**

17A.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a person shall not use or cause or permit to be used on a road a bus when it is carrying a child to or from his school unless—

(a) a prescribed sign is fitted to the front of the bus and is plainly visible to road users ahead of the bus; and

(b) a prescribed sign is fitted to the rear of the bus and is plainly visible to road users behind the bus.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply—

(a) where a bus is on a bus service of a description specified in paragraph 2 of Schedule 11A (bus services specified for the purposes of regulation 48A(5))(**4**) of the Construction and Use Regulations; or

(**4**) Regulation 48A and Schedule 11A were inserted into the Construction and Use Regulations by Regulations 5 and 6 of S.R. 1996 No. 275