1970. No. 83 [C]

ROAD TRAFFIC

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH APRIL 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 25 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

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The Ministry of Home Affairs in exercise of the powers vested in it by Section 25 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the 'Pelican' Pedestrian Crossings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1970 and shall come into operation on 1st May 1970.

Revocation

2. The Pedestrian Crossings ("Cross Ways") Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) are hereby revoked as from 10th July 1971.

Interpretation

3.—(1) In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

(a) 1970, c. 2 (N.I.). (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 41.

"carriageway" does not include that part of any road which consists of a street refuge or central reservation, whether within the limits of a crossing or not;

"central reservation" means any provision, not consisting of a street refuge, made in a road for separating one part of the carriageway of that road from another part of that carriageway for the safety or guidance of vehicular traffic using that road;

"crossing" means a crossing for foot passengers:

"one-way street" means any road on which the driving of vehicles otherwise than in one direction is prohibited at all times;

"'Pelican' crossing" means a crossing—

(*a*) at which there are traffic signs of the size, colour and type prescribed by Regulation 4(1) and Schedule 1, and

(*b*) the presence and limits of which are indicated in accordance with Regulation 4(2) and Schedule 2;

"stop line" in relation to the driver of a motor vehicle approaching a 'Pelican' crossing means the white line indicating the approach to the crossing in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 2, which is parallel to the limits of the crossing and on the same side of the crossing as the driver;

"stud" means any mark or device on the carriageway, whether or not projecting above the surface thereof;

"vehicular traffic light signal", "pedestrian light signal" and "indicator for pedestrians" mean respectively the traffic signals of those descriptions prescribed by Regulation 4(1) and Schedule 1.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to a light shown by a signal or indicator is a reference to a light of constant intensity unless the contrary intention appears.

'Pelican' crossings

4.—(1) The provisions of Schedule 1 shall have effect as respects the size, colour and type of the traffic signs which are to be placed at or near a crossing for the purpose of constituting it a 'Pelican' crossing.

(2) The provisions of Schedule 2 shall have effect for regulating the manner in which the presence and limits of a crossing are to be indicated for the purpose of constituting it a 'Pelican' crossing.

Variations in dimensions

5.—(1) Any variation in a dimension (other than as to the height of a letter) specified in any of the diagrams in Parts II and III of Schedule 1 shall be treated as permitted by these Regulations if the variation—

(*a*) in the case of a dimension of less than 50 millimetres, does not exceed 10% of that dimension;

(*b*) in the case of a dimension of 50 millimetres or more but less than 300 millimetres, does not exceed 5% of that dimension; or

(*c*) in the case of a dimension of 300 millimetres or more, does not exceed 2½% of that dimension.

(2) Any variation in a dimension as to the height of a letter specified in either of the diagrams in Part III of Schedule 1 shall be treated as permitted by these Regulations if the variation does not exceed 5% of that dimension.

(3) Any variation in a dimension of a white line or gap specified in Schedule 2 shall be treated as permitted by these Regulations if the variation—

(*a*) in the case of a dimension of 3 metres or more, does not exceed 15% of that dimension;

(*b*) in the case of a dimension of 300 millimetres or more but less than 3 metres, does not exceed 20% of that dimension; or

(*c*) in the case of a dimension of less than 300 millimetres, where the actual dimension exceeds the dimension so specified, does not exceed 20% of the dimension so specified, and where the actual dimension is less than the dimension so specified, does not exceed 10% of the dimension so specified.

(4) Any variation in the angle between a row of studs and the edge of a carriageway or longitudinal broken line specified in Schedule 2 shall be treated as permitted by these Regulations if the variation does not exceed 20 degrees.

Significance of the vehicular traffic light signals

6.—(1) The vehicular traffic light signal at a 'Pelican' crossing shall convey the following information, requirements and prohibitions:—

(*a*) the green light shall convey the information that vehicular traffic may proceed across the crossing;

(*b*) the amber light shall convey the prohibition that vehicular traffic shall not proceed beyond the stop line, or, if the stop line is not for the time being visible, beyond the vehicular traffic light signal facing such traffic on the side of the carriageway on which vehicles approach the crossing, except in the case of any vehicle which when the amber light is first shown is so close to the said line or signal that it cannot safely be stopped before passing the line or signal;

(*c*) the red light shall convey the prohibition that vehicular traffic shall not proceed beyond the stop line, or, if the stop line is not for the time being visible, beyond the vehicular traffic light signal facing such traffic on the side of the carriageway on which vehicles approach the crossing; and

(*d*) the flashing amber light shall convey the information that vehicular traffic may proceed across the crossing but that every foot passenger, if the foot passenger is on the carriageway within the limits of that crossing before any part of a vehicle has entered those limits, has the right of precedence within those limits over that vehicle, and the requirement that the driver of a vehicle shall accord such precedence to any such foot passenger.

(2) Vehicular traffic passing the vehicular traffic light signal in accordance with the foregoing provisions shall proceed with due regard to the safety of other users of the road and subject to the direction of any constable in uniform who may be engaged in the regulation of traffic.

Significance of the traffic signs for pedestrians

7.—(1) The traffic signs for pedestrians at a 'Pelican' crossing shall convey to foot passengers the warnings and information mentioned in the following paragraphs.

(2) The pedestrian light signal shall convey to foot passengers the following warnings and information—

(*a*) the red light shown by the pedestrian light signal shall convey to a foot passenger the warning that he should not in the interests of safety use the crossing;

(*b*) the green light shown by the pedestrian light signal shall convey to a foot passenger the information that he may use the crossing and drivers of vehicles may not cause their vehicles to enter the limits of the crossing; and

(*c*) the flashing green light shown by the pedestrian light signal shall convey—

(i) to a foot passenger who is already on the crossing when the flashing green light is first shown the information that he may continue to use the crossing, that vehicular traffic may proceed across the crossing, and that if he is on the carriageway within the limits of the crossing before any part of a vehicle has entered those limits he has the right of precedence within those limits over that vehicle, and

(ii) to a foot passenger who is not already on the crossing when the flashing green light is first shown the warning that he should not in the interests of safety start to cross the carriageway.

(3) When the word "WAIT" shown by the indicator for pedestrians is illuminated it shall convey to a foot passenger the same warning as that conveyed by the red light shown by the pedestrian light signal.

(4) Any audible signal emitted by any device for emitting audible signals provided in conjunction with the indicator for pedestrians shall convey to a foot passenger the information that he may use the crossing and drivers of vehicles may not cause their vehicle to enter the limits of the crossing.

Requirements with respect to the stopping of vehicles on the approach to a 'Pelican' crossing

8.—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), the driver of a vehicle shall not cause the vehicle or any part thereof to stop on the carriageway between—

(*a*) a 'Pelican' crossing, the approach to which is indicated by a pattern of studs as provided in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2, and

(*b*) the line of studs in that pattern situated furthest from the crossing, on the side of the road on which the pattern of studs is placed, or, if the road is a one-way street, on either side of the road.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) shall apply—

(*a*) so as to prevent a vehicle stopping on any length of road or any side thereof so long as may be necessary to enable the vehicle, if it cannot be used for such purpose without stopping on that length of road or side thereof, to be used in connection with any building operation or demolition, the removal of any obstruction to traffic, the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of that length of road or side thereof, or the laying, erection, alteration or repair in or near to that length of road of any sewer or of any main, pipe or apparatus for the supply of gas, water or electricity, or of any telegraphic line as defined in the Telegraph Act 1878(c).

(c) 41 & 42 Vict. c. 76.

(*b*) so as to prevent a vehicle stopping on any length of road or any side thereof to enable the vehicle, if it cannot be used for such purpose without stopping on that length of road or side thereof to be used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;

(*c*) to a pedal bicycle not having a side-car attached thereto, whether additional means of propulsion by mechanical power are attached to the bicycle or not; or

(*d*) to a vehicle stopping for the purpose of complying with a requirement or prohibition indicated by the vehicular traffic light signals at the crossing, or where the driver of the vehicle is obliged to stop in order to avoid an accident, or is prevented from proceeding by circumstances beyond his control.

Prohibitions against the waiting of vehicles and pedestrians on a 'Pelican' crossing

9.—(1) The driver of a vehicle shall not cause the vehicle or any part thereof to stop within the limits of a 'Pelican' crossing unless either he is prevented from proceeding by circumstances beyond his control or it is necessary for him to stop in order to avoid an accident.

(2) No foot passenger shall remain on the carriageway within the limits of a 'Pelican' crossing longer than is necessary for the purpose of passing over the crossing with reasonable despatch.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 27th day of April 1970.

(L.S.)

W. G. Robinson,
Assistant Secretary.