

1974/302



## THE SEAT BELTS EXEMPTION NOTICE 1974

PURSUANT to regulation 51B of the Traffic Regulations 1956\* (as substituted by regulation 2 of the Traffic Regulations 1956, Amendment No. 28), the Secretary for Transport hereby gives the following notice.

### NOTICE

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This notice may be cited as the Seat Belts Exemption Notice 1974.

(2) This notice shall come into force on the 1st day of January 1975.

**2. Exemption of vehicles from requirements as to seat belts**—The following vehicles are hereby exempted from the requirements of regulation 51B (1) of the Traffic Regulations 1956 (which relates to the fitting of seat belts in certain motor vehicles):

(a) All motor vehicles (not being secondhand vehicles) for the time being operated with trade plates:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall apply with respect to any motor vehicle being operated over a distance exceeding 30 kilometres:

- (b) All motor vehicles specifically exempted by the Secretary for Transport, or by any employee of the Ministry of Transport to whom the Secretary has delegated this power of exemption pursuant to section 9 of the Ministry of Transport Act 1968:
- (c) All motor vehicles of the type known as "Benford 1200 Dumpers":
- (d) All Wessex lightweight motor trucks models numbers 252s, 255, 259, 332, and 333:
- (e) All motor vehicles of a tare weight of more than 2,000 kg, first registered on or after the 1st day of January 1965 and before the 1st day of July 1972:
- (f) All motor vehicles of the types known as Aveling-Barford 100 Dumper and Wrigley Dumper.

**3. Exemption of persons from requirements as to seat belts**—The following classes of persons are hereby exempted from the requirements of regulation 51B (2) of the Traffic Regulations 1956 (which requires persons occupying seats fitted with seat belts to wear them):

\*S.R. 1956/217 (Reprinted with Amendments Nos. 1 to 16: S.R. 1968/32)  
 Amendment No. 17: S.R. 1969/54  
 Amendment No. 18: S.R. 1969/115  
 Amendment No. 19: S.R. 1970/157  
 Amendment No. 20: S.R. 1970/272  
 Amendment No. 21: S.R. 1971/117  
 Amendment No. 22: S.R. 1972/83  
 Amendment No. 23: S.R. 1972/252  
 Amendment No. 24: S.R. 1973/95  
 Amendment No. 25: (Revoked by S.R. 1973/316)  
 Amendment No. 26: S.R. 1973/316  
 Amendment No. 27: S.R. 1974/251  
 Amendment No. 28: S.R. 1974/273

- (a) Any person who, when required to do so by a constable or traffic officer, produces to that constable or traffic officer a certificate from a registered medical practitioner stating that the wearing of a seat belt by that person is impracticable or undesirable for medical reasons. It shall be a sufficient compliance with this paragraph if the person concerned produces such a medical certificate, within 7 days after having been so required to produce it, at a place specified by the constable or traffic officer:
- (b) The driver of any taxicab while plying for hire:
- (c) The driver of and any passenger in any Post Office vehicle engaged for the time being in any area that is subject to a 30 miles per hour or a 50 kilometres per hour speed limit in street posting-box clearances, parcel deliveries, or postman's deliveries by motor vehicle, provided in each case the motor vehicle is not travelling at a speed in excess of 30 kilometres per hour:
- (d) The driver of and any passenger in any Post Office or other vehicle engaged for the time being in rural mail deliveries or any Post Office or other vehicle engaged for the time being in newspaper deliveries to individual subscribers in rural areas, provided the motor vehicle is not travelling at a speed in excess of 70 kilometres per hour:
- (e) The driver of and any passenger in a vehicle engaged for the time being in parcel deliveries, courier services, or household deliveries or collections, provided the driver is employed for that purpose and the motor vehicle is not travelling at a speed in excess of 30 kilometres per hour:
- (f) The driver of any motor vehicle who, being a person employed or self-employed in servicing or repairing motor vehicles, is for the time being engaged in the servicing or repair of the vehicle in the course of his employment and is driving that vehicle in an area within a radius of 30 kilometres of the garage, workshop, or other premises where the vehicle is being serviced or repaired, and is driving it only for the purpose of road testing the vehicle or delivering it to another garage, workshop, or other premises for further servicing or repair:
- (g) The driver of any motor vehicle who if wearing an approved seat belt could not reasonably operate effectively any of the following items of vehicle equipment:
  - (i) Foot brake or hand brake:
  - (ii) Headlight dipping switch:
  - (iii) Direction-indicator control:
  - (iv) Horn:
  - (v) Windscreen-wiper control:
  - (vi) Choke:
  - (vii) Driver's sun visor:
- (h) The driver of and any passenger in a motor vehicle used for the time being in the chemical spraying of footpaths, banks, or road shoulders or verges, providing the vehicle is not travelling at a speed exceeding 30 kilometres per hour:

- (i) The driver of and any passenger in a motor vehicle for the time being used in transporting meter readers engaged in their employment as such, provided the vehicle is not travelling at a speed exceeding—
- (i) 30 kilometres per hour if in an area that is subject to a speed limit of 30 miles an hour or 50 kilometres per hour:
  - (ii) 70 kilometres per hour in any other area.

**4. Revocations**—The following notices are hereby revoked:

- (a) The Seat Belts Exemption Notice 1972\*:
- (b) The Seat Belts Exemption Notice 1972, Amendment No. 1†:
- (c) The notice by the Secretary for Transport dated the 13th day of November 1973‡ exempting certain vehicles from seat belts.

Dated at Wellington this 11th day of December 1974.

R. J. POLASCHEK,  
Secretary for Transport.

\*S.R. 1972/87

†S.R. 1972/153

‡*Gazette*, 22 November 1973, p. 2440

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 19 December 1974.  
This notice is administered in the Ministry of Transport.