



THE ROAD TRANSPORT ACT 2001

**THE PUBLIC PASSENGER VEHICLES (CONDUCT OF DRIVERS, INSPECTORS
AND CONDUCTORS) REGULATIONS 2002**

Approved by Tynwald

19th February 2002

Coming into operation

1st April 2002

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Transport by sections 44, 47 and 62(1) of the Road Transport Act 2001¹, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Road Transport Licensing Committee and such representative bodies as the Department thinks fit, the following Regulations are hereby made: —

1. Citation, commencement and interpretation

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Public Passenger Vehicles (Conduct of Drivers, Inspectors and Conductors) Regulations 2002 and, subject to section 62(6) of the Act, shall come into operation on the 1st April 2002.

(2) In these Regulations —

“the Act” means the Road Transport Act 2001;

“the Committee” means the Road Transport Licensing Committee;

“the Department” means the Department of Transport; and

“vehicle” means a public passenger vehicle.

(3) Any reference in these Regulations to a section by number is to the section so numbered of the Act.

2. General Conduct

Any driver, conductor or inspector of a public passenger vehicle shall —

(a) not smoke in or on a vehicle —

¹ 2001 c.27

- (i) during a journey, or
- (ii) when it has passengers on board;
- (b) be decently dressed; and
- (c) behave in a civil and orderly manner.

3. Conduct of drivers

A driver of a public passenger vehicle, when acting in such a capacity shall —

- (a) at all times wear, or display the licence badge issued to him by the Committee in a visible position;
- (b) at all times take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of passengers;
- c) not wilfully deceive or refuse to inform any passenger or intending passenger as to the —
 - (i) availability of the vehicle for boarding or for hire,
 - (ii) destination or route of any vehicle operating under a section 25 (regular service) licence, or
 - (iii) fare for any journey;
- (d) subject to section 37, not unreasonably refuse any individual entitled to board, access to a vehicle;
- (e) not speak to a conductor or any other person unless it is necessary to do so on grounds of safety or on operational grounds when driving a vehicle of more than eight passenger seats, while the vehicle is in motion;
- (f) stop the vehicle as close as may be to the left or near side of the road when picking up or setting down passengers other than on a one-way street;
- (g) not cause the vehicle to remain stationary on a road longer than is reasonably necessary to pick up or set down passengers except at a —
 - (i) stand,
 - (ii) rank, or
 - (iii) any other place

where such vehicles are permitted to stop for a longer time than is necessary for that purpose; and

- (h) take all reasonable precautions to ensure that —
 - (i) signs on a vehicle plying for hire (under a section 29 licence), or
 - (ii) the means provided for indicating the route and destination of a vehicle operating under a section 25 (regular service) licence,are clearly and correctly displayed.

4. Conduct of Conductors

(1) Any conductor of a public passenger vehicle, when acting in such a capacity shall —

- (a) unless wearing a distinctive uniform or badge indicating his status, carry and produce if requested, a written authorisation from the registered or licensed operator of the vehicle to so act;
- (b) at all times take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of passengers;
- (c) not wilfully deceive or refuse to inform any passenger or intending passenger as to the destination or route of a vehicle operating under a section 25 licence; or

(2) When the vehicle is in motion, a conductor shall not —

- (a) distract the driver's attention without reasonable cause, or
- (b) speak to him unless —
 - (i) it is necessary to do so, or
 - (ii) in order to give directions as to the stopping of the vehicle.

5. Inspectors

Any inspector, when acting as such shall unless wearing a distinctive uniform or badge indicating his status, carry and produce if requested, a written authorisation from the registered or licensed operator of the vehicle or vehicles on which he is acting as inspector.

6. Obligation to Carry Passengers

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), any individual shall be entitled to be carried on a public passenger vehicle used under a section 25 (regular service) or a service 29 (plying for hire) service licence in accordance with the provisions of section 37 of the Act.

(2) Any driver, conductor or inspector may deny an individual his right to carriage on a public passenger vehicle —

- (a) if the passenger or intending passenger is in breach of any of the provisions of the Public Passenger Vehicles (Conduct of Passengers) Regulations 2002², or
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of section 37.

7. Carriage of Luggage

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the driver of a vehicle operating under a section 25 (regular service) or section 29 (plying for hire) service licence shall be obliged to carry a reasonable amount of luggage, provided that —

- (a) accommodation for it is available, and
 - (b) the passenger agrees to pay the appropriate rate indicated on the fare table or meter.
- (2) The driver is not obliged to carry luggage that —
- (a) he regards as excessive in dimensions or weight;
 - (b) would impair the safety of the vehicle, or
 - (c) is obnoxious in any way.

8. Furnishing of Particulars and Assisting Authorised Examiners or Officers

- (1) A driver, conductor or inspector when acting as such shall, if requested by any —
 - (a) police constable;
 - (b) authorised officer, or
 - (c) other person having reasonable cause,

give particulars of his name, operator or licence number, and the name and address of the person by whom he is employed.

- (2) A driver, conductor or inspector shall not obstruct or neglect to give all reasonable information and assistance to any authorised examiner requiring to examine a vehicle.

9. Penalties

² SD 45/02

Contravention of any prescribed requirements of these regulations shall be an offence punishable on summary conviction by a fine not exceeding £1000.

MADE 23rd JANUARY 2002

J. P. SHIMMIN

Minister for Transport

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision for the standard of conduct expected of all drivers, conductors and inspectors of public passenger vehicles in the course of their employment. All authorised personnel are required to refrain from smoking, be decently dressed and to conduct themselves in a suitable manner whilst at work (reg.2).

In addition to the requirements in regulation 2, a driver of a public passenger vehicle is required during the course of his working hours to clearly display the licence badge issued to him by the Committee, ensure the safety of his passengers at all times and to comply with the marking requirements for his vehicle (reg.3). Drivers are also prohibited under regulation 3 to refuse to carry any individual entitled to board without just cause, intentionally deceive or misinform passengers as to the fare or destination of any journey or to cause his vehicle to remain stationary in a non-designated place for longer than is necessary.

Similarly, a conductor of a public passenger vehicle in addition to his general conduct obligations under regulation 2 is required by regulation 4 to ensure the safety of his passengers at all times. A conductor unless he is wearing a distinctive uniform or badge also has to carry and produce upon request, written authorisation from the licensed or registered operator, indicating his status.

There is an obligation on authorised personnel to carry passengers under regulation 6(1), so long as the passenger or intending passenger as the case may be is not in breach of any of the provisions in the Public Passenger Vehicles (Conduct of Passengers) Regulations 2002.

Providing that the passenger agrees to pay the appropriate rate and there is sufficient room, a driver is under an obligation to carry a reasonable amount of luggage in his vehicle. However, he is not required to carry anything that he regards as excessive either in weight or dimension that may impair the safety of his vehicle, or is disagreeable in any way.

If requested by a police constable, authorised officer or any other person having reasonable cause, a driver, conductor or inspector shall give details of his name or licence

number together with the name and address of his employer. Authorised personnel are also obliged to fully co-operate with any examiner authorised to examine a vehicle (reg.8).

Any breach of these Regulations will be an offence under regulation 9 and will be punishable by a fine of up to £1000.