

Civil Enforcement of Parking, Bus Lane, and Moving Traffic Contraventions

<u>All</u> English enforcement authorities currently undertaking civil enforcement of parking and bus lane contraventions need to read the following as this may affect you from 00:00 on 31st May 2022. Regulations, due to come into force on that date will result in some or all of the below changes needing to be made. While the regulations remain subject to Parliamentary approval you will need to be ready.

This note also applies to those outside London intending to take up moving traffic enforcement powers.

Background and Context

The Government has committed to make the moving traffic enforcement powers under Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 available to local authorities outside London. The regulations giving effect to these powers were laid in Parliament on 27th January. In making these powers available, the legislative opportunity has also been taken to consolidate, under the 2004 Act, the existing civil enforcement regimes for bus lane contraventions (outside London currently under 2005 regulations made under the Transport Act 2000) together with parking contraventions (England-wide currently under 2007 regulations made under the 2004 Act). Creating a cohesive civil enforcement regime will remove numerous inconsistencies which inherently arose due to the disparate enabling legislation, enabling more efficient regime administration.

The purpose of this note is to notify you that the above changeover will require some urgent updates to local authorities' stationery, notices and systems as, while not a current or future requirement in regulations, it has come to light that the vast majority of English local authorities refer to the enabling regulations in their parking and bus lane Penalty Charge Notice, Notice to Owner, Notice of Rejection of Representations, Charge Certificates, Order of Recovery, Bailiff letters and associated correspondence, as well as possibly their TROs.

Although Ministers agreed to exclude London authorities' bus lane and moving traffic regimes from the above-mentioned consolidation, IT changes will still be necessary if regulations are cited in their parking notices. Outside London changes will be required to parking and bus lane notices irrespective of whether councils intend to take up moving traffic enforcement powers.

Parking Enforcement

Any PCN issued up to and including 30th May 2022 will be subject to the current regulatory regime for parking enforcement. This includes any statutory notices and associated correspondence relating to subsequent representations, appeals and debt recovery procedures. If the enabling regulations have been referenced, then statutory notices must still refer to the current regulations throughout the life of the case.

<u>Any PCN issued on 31st May 2022 and thereafter</u> will be subject to the 2022 regulations. As such, if authorities are seeking to replace current references to the regulations as shown in Column 1 in the table below, they will need to be replaced as shown in Column 2:

(1) Existing regulations:	(2) To be replaced with:
The Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England)	The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic
General Regulations 2007	Contraventions (Approved Devices,
The Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (Guidelines	Charging Guidelines and General
on Levels of Charges) (England) Order 2007	Provisions) (England) Regulations 2022
The Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (Approved	
Devices) (England) Order 2007	
The Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England)	The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic
Representations and Appeals Regulations 2007	Contraventions (Representations and
	Appeals) (England) Regulations 2022
The Civil Enforcement Officers (Wearing of Uniforms)	Any such reference must remain
(England) Regulations 2007	unchanged

Bus Lane Enforcement

Any PCN issued up to and including 31 May 2022 will be subject to the current regulatory regime for bus lane enforcement. This includes any statutory notices and associated correspondence relating to subsequent representations, appeals and debt recovery procedures. If the enabling regulations have been referenced, then statutory notices must still refer to the current regulations throughout the life of the case.

<u>Any PCN issued from 31 May 2022 onwards</u>, will be subject to the 2022 regulations. As such, if authorities are seeking to replace current references to the regulations as shown in Column 1 in the table below, they will need to be replaced as shown in Column 2:

(1) Existing regulations:	(2) To be replaced with:
The Bus Lane Contraventions (Penalty Charges,	The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic
Adjudication and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2005	Contraventions (Approved Devices,
The Bus Lanes (Approved Devices) (England) Order 2005	Charging Guidelines and General
	Provisions) (England) Regulations 2022
The Tribunals and Inquiries (Bus Lane Adjudicators)	The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic
(England) Order 2005	Contraventions (Representations and
	Appeals) (England) Regulations 2022

For a contravention of using a bus lane, unless to stop or load where permitted, local authorities outside London can currently charge £40 (Band 1), £50 (Band 2) or £60 (Band 3). To achieve consistency overall, bus lane penalties, and discount and surcharge periods, are being aligned with those for higher level parking offences as below.

Band	Penalty charge		Penalty charge paid after service of a charge certificate
1.	£60	£30	£90
2.	£70	£35	£105

It should be noted that the current 50% discount period for early payment of bus lane PCNs will increase from 14 days to 21 days, in line with other PCNs issued based on evidence captured by CCTV camera for parking or moving traffic contraventions. This change will also need to be updated in IT systems.

Moving Traffic Enforcement

Though not critical for the transition to the 2022 regulations, those local authorities intending to acquire moving traffic enforcement powers will also need to ensure that their IT systems are ready to reflect the requirement in the forthcoming statutory guidance that, for a period of six months following implementation of moving traffic enforcement in practice, at each particular camera location, local authorities outside London should issue warning notices for first-time moving traffic contraventions. This also applies to <u>any</u> new camera location in the future. The warning notice should set out the six-month period and advise that any further moving traffic contravention at the same camera location would result in the issue of a PCN.

Although outside the scope of statutory guidance, within London where moving traffic contraventions have been enforced for many years, enforcement authorities are expected to issue warning notices in the same way as set out above for first-time contraventions of the new cycle lane, cycle route and 'buses prohibited' contraventions (civilly enforceable in London for the first time).

Applying for Designation of Civil Enforcement Area for Moving Traffic Contraventions

Under Schedule 8 to the TMA, local authorities with existing civil parking enforcement powers may be granted moving traffic enforcement powers. The area covered by a moving traffic Designation Order may only be within, or co-extensive with, the geographic area already designated as a civil enforcement area for parking contraventions. Before making any such Designation Order, the Secretary of State must consult the relevant Chief Officer of Police.

Applications may be made for the whole, or part of, a local authority area by a county council, a unitary authority or an individual metropolitan district council. Applications may also be made by two or more metropolitan district councils acting jointly, in which case the moving traffic enforcement powers will apply to the whole of their administrative areas.

It is sufficient to formally apply for designation of the moving traffic enforcement powers by means of a letter to the Secretary of State, signed by the Chief Executive or other senior officer as the local authority deems appropriate. A suggested template application letter, linked below, has been developed which we encourage applicant authorities to use:



Any letter the applicant authority chooses to use will need to state:

- The full name of the authority applying and the type of authority (a county council, a unitary authority, a metropolitan district council or two or more metropolitan district councils acting jointly);
- The area to be designated; and
- Any roads to be excluded.

The letter will also need to confirm that it has been sent with the authority of the Council, and that the Council has already:

- a) Consulted the appropriate Chief Officer of Police;
- b) Carried out a minimum six-week public consultation on the detail of planned civil enforcement of moving traffic contraventions (rather than whether people agree with the principle of moving traffic enforcement), including the types of restrictions to be enforced and the location(s) in question. This is intended to communicate the rationale for, and benefits of, moving traffic enforcement to residents and businesses, and allow them the opportunity to raise any concerns. There is no requirement for newspaper advertising. Local authorities should consider the full range of media available to them when communicating with the public. They should consider telling every household in the CEA when they propose changes for example, to the operation of a scheme.
- c) Considered all objections raised and has taken such steps the Council considers reasonable to resolve any disputes;
- d) Carried out effective public communication and engagement as the Council considers appropriate, for example using local press and social media, and that this will continue up to the start of enforcement and for a reasonable period thereafter;
- e) Ensured all moving traffic restrictions to be enforced will be underpinned by accurate TROs, where applicable, and indicated by lawful traffic signs and road markings. Local authorities are not required to audit all their TROs and traffic signs; but instead those that are directly related to the moving traffic restrictions to be enforced;
- f) Ensured all the relevant equipment has been certified by the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA) specifically for moving traffic contraventions.

When applying for designation of the moving traffic enforcement powers, Chief Executives (or other appropriate senior officer) will also be required to undertake to carry out all of the steps set out in **a-f above** in respect of any new camera locations in the future. However, it will not be necessary to seek further approval from the Secretary of State for additional enforcement locations in cases where the whole area has already been so designated.

As part of ensuring that TROs and traffic signs are accurate and lawful, applicant local authorities are encouraged to take the opportunity to identify and remove any traffic signs at the enforcement site that are either obsolete or no longer necessary, whether or not relating directly to the restriction being enforced. This will reduce sign clutter, and aid effective enforcement by ensuring drivers are presented with clear information in an uncluttered environment.

Applicant local authorities are encouraged to confer with neighbouring authorities and, where relevant, combined authorities as it is important that road users benefit from a consistent approach to moving traffic enforcement.

The 2004 Act does not prescribe the list of traffic signs and road markings subject to moving traffic enforcements on a selective basis, therefore all the prescribed traffic signs and road markings will apply under the Designation Order. These are listed at **Annex**.

Local authorities are not required to enforce every sign or marking; instead, enforcement should only be used to target problem locations. At any location where it is considered that contraventions could be avoided by reasonable improvements to the highway or to traffic signing, such improvements should be made, and appropriate monitoring carried out before enforcement action is considered.

Improvements to signing may include removal of redundant or poorly maintained signs and posts, which have the potential to confuse drivers. Local authorities are therefore encouraged to review their traffic signing at the camera enforcement locations in accordance with the 'Golden Rules' as set out in **Chapter One** of the Traffic Signs Manual.

To help the certification process, early engagement with the Vehicle Certification Agency is also encouraged, at: civil-enforcement@vca.gov.uk. An updated edition of the

We request that applications are sent to Parking.queries@dft.gov.uk.

The Department must be satisfied in relation to the above matters before a Designation Order can be made. Delays in confirming the above requirements fully at the outset may result in delays. The Department is open to receiving applications from February. Depending on uptake, we expect it will be necessary to make Designation Orders in tranches. We will aim to lay the first Designation Order in Parliament as soon as practicable after the regulations come into force on 31st May 2022, although this will be subject to the Parliamentary timetable.

To be included in the first tranche, applications meeting the above requirements must reach the Department by 20th May at the latest.

Subsequent applications will be considered as they are submitted. We expect to lay the second tranche Designation Order in late-2022. Decisions will be taken on the frequency of subsequent Order-making based on demand.

Traffic & Technology Division Department for Transport 3rd February 2022

Annex

Traffic Signs Subject to Moving Traffic Enforcement

Under TMA Schedule 7, restrictions indicated by the below traffic signs, as prescribed in the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 (as amended: 'TSRGD') are civilly enforceable as moving traffic contraventions. This applies to any permitted variant under TSRGD; for example, diagram 606 when varied to point ahead or to the right.

It should be noted that the Government committed only to introduce moving traffic enforcement powers in respect of those signs listed. Therefore, any traffic sign or road marking not listed will remain enforceable only by the police.

Description	TSRGD diagram number & location	
Vehicular traffic must proceed in the direction indicated by the arrow	606 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 1 and Schedule 14, Part 2, item 42)	
		©
Vehicular traffic must turn ahead in the direction indicated by the arrow	609 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 2)	
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Vehicular traffic must keep to the left/right of the sign indicated by the arrow	610 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 3)	
		Ø
No right turn for vehicular traffic	612 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item7 and Schedule 14, Part 2, item 43)	
		Ø
No left turn for vehicular traffic	613 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 8 and Schedule 14, Part 2, item 43)	6
No U-turns for vehicular traffic	614 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 6 and	y
140 G tame for vernound traine	Schedule 14, Part 2, item 43)	
		®
Priority must be given to vehicles from the opposite direction	615 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 9)	
		1
No entry for vehicular traffic (when the restriction or prohibition is one that may be indicated by another traffic sign subject to civil enforcement)	616 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 10 and Schedule 14, Part 2, item 44)	•
All vehicles prohibited except non- mechanically propelled vehicles being pushed by pedestrians	617 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 11)	
2, possession		0

Description	TSRGD diagram number & location	
Entry to and waiting in a pedestrian zone restricted	618.3B (Schedule 8, Part 2, item 1)	No vehicles Mon - Sat 10 am - 4 pm Except and for loading by At any time
Entry to and waiting in a pedestrian and cycle zone restricted	618.3C (Schedule 8, Part 2, item 2)	PEDESTRIAN and CYCLE ZONE Mon-Sat 10 am - 4 pm Except and for loading by At any time
Motor vehicles prohibited	619 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 12)	
Motor vehicles except solo motorcycles prohibited	619.1 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 18)	•
Solo motorcycles prohibited	619.2 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 20)	<u>©</u>
Goods vehicles exceeding the maximum gross weight indicated on the goods vehicle symbol prohibited	622.1A (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 13)	⊕
One-way traffic	652 (Schedule 9, Part 4, item 5)	0
Buses prohibited	952 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 17)	Θ
Route for use by buses, pedal cycles and taxis only	953 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 33)	•

Description	TSRGD diagram number & location	
Route for use by tramcars only	953.1 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 36)	
		(-)
Route for use by pedal cycles only	955 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 28)	
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Route for use by pedal cycles and by pedestrians only	956 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 29)	
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Route comprising two ways, for use by pedal cycles only and by pedestrians only	957 (Schedule 3, Part 2, item 32)	
		•
With-flow cycle lane	959.1 (Schedule 9, Part 4, item 9)	Mon - Fri 7 - 10 am 4.00 - 6.30 pm
Contra-flow cycle lane	960.1 (Schedule 9, Part 4, item 6)	대용
Part of the carriageway outside an entrance	1027.1 (Schedule 7, Part 4, item 10)	
where vehicles must not stop when the		
marking is placed in conjunction with the prescribed upright sign which includes the symbol at Schedule 4, Part 3, item 10	Edge of carriageway SSPECIAL RESP SUBME	
Box junction markings	1043 (Schedule 9, Part 6, item 25)	