



Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

1984 CHAPTER 27

PART VI

SPEED LIMITS

81 General speed limit for restricted roads.

- (1) It shall not be lawful for a person to drive a motor vehicle on a restricted road at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour.
- (2) The [^{F1}national authority] may by order ^{F2}... increase or reduce the rate of speed fixed by subsection (1) above, either as originally enacted or as varied under this subsection.
- [^{F3}(3) An order under subsection (2)—
 - (a) if made by the Secretary of State, is to be made by statutory instrument and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament;
 - [if made by the Welsh Ministers, is to be made by statutory instrument and ^{F4}(aa) approved by a resolution of the National Assembly for Wales;]
 - (b) if made by the Scottish Ministers, is subject to the affirmative procedure.
- (4) Before making an order under subsection (2) the Secretary of State must consult with [^{F5} the Welsh Ministers and] the Scottish Ministers.
- (5) Before [^{F6}the Welsh Ministers or the Scottish Ministers make an order under subsection (2) they] must consult with the Secretary of State.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 81(2) substituted (23.5.2016) by [Scotland Act 2016 \(c. 11\), ss. 42\(3\)\(a\), 72\(7\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 paras. 34\(2\), 35\(2\)](#))
- F2** Words in s. 81(2) omitted (23.5.2016) by virtue of [Scotland Act 2016 \(c. 11\), ss. 42\(3\)\(b\), 72\(7\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 paras. 34\(2\), 35\(2\)](#))
- F3** S. 81(3)-(5) inserted (23.5.2016) by [Scotland Act 2016 \(c. 11\), ss. 42\(4\), 72\(7\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 paras. 34\(2\), 35\(2\)](#))

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 81. (See end of Document for details)

- F4** S. 81(3)(aa) inserted (1.4.2018) by Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), **Sch. 6 para. 39(2)** (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6, 9); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(r)
- F5** Words in s. 81(4) inserted (1.4.2018) by Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), **Sch. 6 para. 39(3)** (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6, 9); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(r)
- F6** Words in s. 81(5) substituted (1.4.2018) by Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), **Sch. 6 para. 39(4)** (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6, 9); S.I. 2017/1179, reg. 3(r)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 81 modified (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 5, **Sch. 2**
- C2** S. 81(1) excluded by 1988 c. 52, s. 12E (as inserted (10.3.2017) by Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), **ss. 73(3), 115(7)**; S.I. 2017/273, art. 2(a))
- C3** S. 81(1) excluded (S.) (17.4.2019) by The Motor Sport on Public Roads (Scotland) Regulations 2019 (S.S.I. 2019/138), regs. 1, 6, **sch. 2**
- C4** S. 81(1) modified (W.) (17.9.2023) by The Restricted Roads (20 mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 (S.I. 2022/800), arts. 1(3), **2**
- C5** S. 81(2) amended (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/1750, art. 4, **Sch. 3**; S.I. 1998/3178, **art. 3**
S. 81(2): transfer of functions (27.12.1999) by S.I. 1999/3143, **art. 2(1)**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 81.