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**1980 No. 1183**

**ROAD TRAFFIC**

**The Vehicle Licences (Duration and Rate of Duty)  
Order 1980**

*Made* - - - - - *6th August 1980*

*Laid before Parliament*      *21st August 1980*

*Coming into Operation*      *17th September 1980*

The Minister of Transport in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2A of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971(a), and now vested in him(b), and of all other enabling powers, hereby makes the following Order:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Vehicle Licences (Duration and Rate of Duty) Order 1980 and shall come into operation on 17th September 1980.

*Interpretation and application*

2.—(1) In this Order “the Act of 1971” means the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971.

(2) This Order shall, save in the case of licences for periods of seven consecutive days, apply only to vehicle licences issued to run from 1st October 1980 or from the beginning of any subsequent month.

*Commencement and duration of licences*

3. Vehicle licences (other than licences for one calendar year) may be taken out—

- (a) in the case of any vehicle licence, for any period of twelve months running from the beginning of the month in which the licence first has effect;
- (b) in the case of any vehicle the annual rate of duty applicable to which exceeds £18, for any period of six months running from the beginning of the month in which the licence first has effect;
- (c) in the case of a goods vehicle which is authorised to be used on roads by virtue of an order made under section 42(1) of the Road Traffic Act

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(a) 1971 c. 10; as modified by section 39(1) of, and Part I of Schedule 7 to that Act, amended by section 5 of the Finance Act 1977 (c. 36) and extended by section 4 of the Finance Act 1980 (c. 48).

(b) S.I. 1979/571.

1972(a), and the unladen weight of which exceeds eleven tons, for any period of seven consecutive days.

*Rate of duty*

4. The duty payable on a vehicle licence for a vehicle of any description shall—

- (a) if the licence is taken out for a period of twelve months, be paid at the annual rate of duty applicable to vehicles of that description under section 1 of the Act of 1971;
- (b) if the licence is taken out for a period of six months, be paid at a rate equal to one half of the said annual rate plus ten per cent. of that amount;
- (c) if the licence is taken out for a period of seven consecutive days, be paid at a rate equal to one fifty-second of the said annual rate plus ten per cent. of that amount;

and in computing the rate of duty in accordance with paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) above, any fraction of 5p shall be treated as 5p if it exceeds 2.5p and shall otherwise be disregarded.

*Amendment of section 2 of the Act of 1971*

5. In section 2 (Commencement and duration of licences, and rate of duty) of the Act of 1971—

- (a) in subsection (1), in paragraph (b) for the words “four months” there shall be substituted the words “six months”; and
- (b) in subsection (4), in paragraph (b) for the words from “four months” to the end there shall be substituted the words “six months, be paid at a rate equal to one half of the said annual rate plus ten per cent of that amount”.

6th August 1980.

*Norman Fowler,*  
Minister of Transport.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order is made under section 2A of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971 (c. 10), as modified by section 39(1) of, and paragraph 5 in Part I of Schedule 7 to, that Act and as extended by section 4(5) of the Finance Act 1980. It makes provision in pursuance of that section for the periods for which vehicle excise licences may be issued under the Act of 1971. The effects of the Order are—

- (a) to introduce a licence for a period of six months, in lieu of a period of four months, running from the beginning of any month; and
- (b) to specify as the rate of duty to be paid on the taking out of such a licence, one half of the annual rate under section 1 of the Act of 1971 plus ten per cent. of that amount.

The Order makes no change as to licences issued for periods of twelve months running from the beginning of any month or licences for periods of seven consecutive days.

Save in the case of licences for periods of seven consecutive days, the Order applies only to licences issued to run from 1st October 1980 or from the beginning of any subsequent month.

