

TSRGD 2016: Cycling and Walking Changes (Draft)

Technical Information Note 41

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1. Introduction

This note summarises the key changes in the revised Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016¹ that affect cycling and walking. It has been compiled from an initial reading of the document but at this early stage it is likely that there are some omissions and it should be regarded as work in progress; we invite comments, suggestions, questions, insights and feedback².

In addition, DfT have indicated that they will be providing some accompanying advice and there will be an update of the Traffic Signs Manual in due course.

The note will therefore be updated as required to provide a more complete picture of these changes.

The main body of this note summarises the key changes, whilst the Appendix lists the detailed changes including the relevant sections of TSRGD 2016.



2. Structure of document

TSRGD 2016 has a very different structure to previously. At the outset of the Traffic Signs Review (which started in 2009) a key aim was to make the TSRGD document easier for the non-technical reader to navigate, in order to support local communities in discussions relating to signing. It has therefore undergone a substantial change in its approach.

As with previous versions, the reader can be expected to start at the diagram that they want to use and then be navigated to the relevant notes. Where there are notes that relate to a particular sign the table containing the diagram should list these notes so that the reader knows to locate and read them. This is the case with the previous TSRGD, where each diagram is followed by a table referencing relevant regulations and directions and permitted variants. However, in some instances navigation within the new structure is slightly different.

To take an example from the new structure: Zebra crossing Diag 1001.4 is Item 52 in Part 2 of Schedule 14. It is now permitted to use this across a cycle track without zig-zags or Belisha beacons, ref paragraph 25 of Part 1; however, this is not referenced from the diagram and so may be less easy to locate.



¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/362/made>

² Please send feedback to designandconstruction@sustrans.org.uk

3. General comments

These regulations extend to the whole of Great Britain. Provision about the school crossing patrol sign extends only to England and Wales.

The ordering of the signs has changed, though the numbering system is largely retained, so they are not in numerical order.

Some changes were already covered by amendments made since 2002, as well as some special directions that applied only in England. The detailed notes in the Appendix compare the 2016 version with the 2002 version, so some are amendments that have been incorporated already.

Pelican crossings have been removed from TSRGD, although there is a transition period during which the existing regulations apply.



4. Key measures included

This section lists the highlights of the changes. They were included in earlier consultation drafts and in some cases have already been implemented on a trial basis with special authorisation:

- Parallel pedestrian / cycle crossing
- Zebra crossing of cycle track
- Zig-zag markings can be up to 2m from kerb, to accommodate cycle lane
- Low level cycle signals / red cycle signal / early start for cyclists
- No entry except cyclists (and buses) allowed
- Mandatory with flow cycle lane no longer needs Traffic Order
- Surface markings on cycle routes: local highway authorities can make free use of route numbers, cycle logos and arrows
- More flexibility when designing 20mph Zones
- ASLs: more design options; cyclists allowed to cross first stop line; can use ASLs at signalled crossings as well as junctions



- Elephant footprints at signals
- Countdown timers for pedestrians at signals
- More flexible system for direction signing for cyclists, including use of times, symbols, number patch colours, multiple route numbers
- More flexible system for direction signing for pedestrians and equestrians, including use of times, sign colours, route name, symbols, numbering equestrian routes
- Map type signs for cyclists permitted



5. Key measures not included

A number of measures were included in earlier consultation drafts or presentations by DfT but do not appear to have made it into the final version:

- No reference to Cycle Streets; these were referred to in general terms in the original consultation but it has always been unclear as to whether anything specific was proposed.
- There is no reference to part width ASLs, which can be useful in various situations.
- There has been rather less change in the need for Traffic Orders than was proposed in the consultation draft; it would appear that this has only been relaxed with regard to with flow mandatory cycle lanes. This was anticipated in the Government response to this proposal (in November 2014) which stated that; “it has come to light during the consultation that there are some technical difficulties in removing the TOs for these regulatory signs. We are working within the tight programme to deliver the revised TSRGD to resolve these issues.”

APPENDIX: Detailed changes

Sign	Diagram Number	Schedule	Part	Item	Key changes
No Entry except cycles	616	3	2	10	Plate options include: “cycles”, “buses and cycles”, “local buses and cycles”
	954.4	3	3	11	
Cycles prohibited	951	3	2	21	Smaller sign size - 150 min (was 270)
Pedestrians prohibited	625.1	3	2	22	Smaller sign size - 150 min (was 300)
Cycles only	955	3	2	28	Smaller sign size - 100 min (was 150)
Cycle tracks and adjacent / shared use paths	955, 956, 957	3	2	28	Removed illumination requirement for sign other than where it is mounted on a bollard fitted with a means of internal lighting.
		3	4	4(5)	
Routes used by cycles, pedestrians, horses / horse drawn vehicles	956.1	3	2	30	New signs
	956.2	3	2	31	
Pedestrian and cycle zone	618.3C	8	2	2	New sign
Contraflow cycling without segregation	960.2	9	4	7	New sign
Contra-flow bus and cycle lane	960	9	4	8	Cycle symbol is now shown on standard diagram, although with option of omitting it; which may encourage LHAs to permit cycles more often.
Mandatory cycle lane	1049B	9	6	7	Wider cycle lane markings – mandatory cycle lane marking may be 250 wide (was 150)
Mandatory cycle lane	1049B	9	6	7	TO no longer needed for a with flow mandatory cycle lane. However, it would appear that a TO is still needed for contraflow cycling and for ‘except cycles’ exemptions on other signs.
		9	7	12	
		9	8	1	
‘Play Street’ marking	1046.1	9	6	18	Marking now appears in its own right, rather than as a variant of 1046
20mph zones	674	10	2	5	20mph repeater signs of carriageway roundels are counted as traffic calming features
		10	4	1	
Shared space sign	886	11	2	29	New advisory sign: road ahead where motorists, cyclists and pedestrians should expect to share the same space
Numbered route for pedal cycles	2602.2	11	2	39	Identification numbers of routes may include capital letters If not a national or regional route, route number and patch may be in

Sign	Diagram Number	Schedule	Part	Item	Key changes
					any contrasting colour
Cyclists Dismount and cyclists rejoin carriageway	966	11	2	46	Smaller x-height allowed – 30 (was 40)
Half width centre lines	1004	11	4	2	Width of 50mm permitted on cycle track
Cycle lanes through junctions	1010	11	4	10	May be used to designate the division between the main carriageway and a cycle lane through a junction
Cycle lane, track or route	1057	11	4	28	No requirement any associated signing / lining to go with it
Number of cycle route, surface marking	1057.1	11	4	29	New surface marking; may include letters as well as numbers No requirement any associated signing / lining to go with it
Direction arrow for cyclists	1059	11	4	32	No requirement any associated signing / lining to go with it
Cyclist direction signs – but may also include pedestrian and equestrian symbols	Various	12	2	8	Min x height now 25 (was 30) New system for sign layouts Identification numbers of routes may include capital letters If not a national or regional route, route number and patch may be in any contrasting colour May include a symbol of any appropriate design and colour with a height not exceeding that of the pedal cycle symbol Permits use of times on signs Additional route numbers in separate patches may be shown alongside the route number patch Part 11/3 Equestrian routes may now be numbered, so potential to have signage with both cycle route numbers and equestrian route numbers! Part 11/5
Pedestrians / equestrians direction signs	Various	12	2	9	Min x height now 25 (was 30) New system for sign layouts The background, border and any chevron, legend, symbol or logo may be in any contrasting colours The name or description of a route for pedestrians or horse riders and an identifying symbol of a route in any combination may be used Permits use of times on signs Equestrian routes may now be numbered Part 11/5
Indication of a route for cyclists through a road	2601.2	12	28	20	Whilst the sign diagrams illustrate a slip road crossing, the notes state that the symbols indicating the road layout and the route for cyclists

Sign	Diagram Number	Schedule	Part	Item	Key changes
junction ahead					may be varied as appropriate except the individual symbol widths, effectively enabling creation of a map type sign for any junction
Zebra crossing of cycle track	1001.4	14	1	25	A Zebra across a cycle track does not need the zig-zag markings or the Belisha beacons
Mirror at traffic signals warning of the presence of cyclists		14	1	27	New
At ASL cyclists can cross 1st stop line anywhere	1001.2	14	1	30	Cyclists do not need to stop at the first stop line.
Red cycle aspect on cycle signals	3000.2	14	2	3	Now permitted
Low-level mini cycle signals	3000.2A	14	2	4	Does not appear to include option of filter arrows for cyclists on mini signals, but appears to be allowed on full size cycle signals
Pelican crossings	4002.1	14 14	2 1	9 9(2a)	Flashing green pedestrian is no longer permitted.
Pedestrian countdown unit indicating to pedestrians the time remaining to cross the road	4002.1A	14	2	10	New
Depth of ASLs	1001.2+	14	2	48	Max depth now 7.5m (was 5m)
ASL with no gate or lead in lane	1001.2B	14	2	49	
ASL gate marking	1001.2A	14	2	50	
Location of zig-zag markings	1001.3 1001.4 1001.5	14	2	51 52 53	The zig-zag lines may to be placed up to 2 metres from the edge of the carriageway to allow cyclists to ride on the nearside of the lines
Parallel pedestrian / cycle crossing	1001.5	14 14	2 1	53 22	New However, Part 1/22 only requires drivers to give way to cyclists (and pedestrians) who are already on the crossing; whilst that works well for slower moving pedestrians it is less appropriate for cyclists.
Elephant footprints	1055.3	14	2	57	To indicate route for vehicular traffic consisting solely of pedal cyclists across a signal controlled junction, or route for vehicular traffic consisting solely of pedal cyclists across a Parallel crossing

Sign	Diagram Number	Schedule	Part	Item	Key changes
Green cycle signal for inclusion in traffic light signals	3001.4	14 14	3 1	8 13	Allows 'early start' signals
ASLs at stand-alone crossings	1001.2+	14	6	33	No reference to the need for the ASL to be placed at a junction, so looks like it can be used at signalled crossings as well

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