

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE DARTFORD – THURROCK CROSSING (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS
2008**

2008 No. 2171

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Transport and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

These Regulations amend the Dartford – Thurrock Crossing Regulations 1998 (SI 1998/1908) by updating the reference to the 13th Edition of the booklet entitled “Dangerous Traffic”, issued in July 2005 to the 14th Edition of that booklet, issued in 2007.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

None.

4. Legislative background

Regulation 5 of the Dartford – Thurrock Crossing Regulations 1998 provides that the permission of the crossing operator has to be obtained before dangerous goods are taken into the tunnels at the crossing. Dangerous goods are any article or substance listed in the table headed “List of Restrictions on Dangerous Goods” set out in the booklet entitled “Dangerous Traffic” issued by and on behalf of the Mersey, Tyne and Dartford tunnel authorities.

The 1998 Regulations originally referred to the 9th Edition of that booklet issued in 1997. The booklet has since been updated and reissued, and the reference in the 1998 Regulations has been amended accordingly. These Regulations refer to the latest edition of that booklet (Edition 14).

5. Territorial Extent and Application

These Regulations apply to England and Wales.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

As the Regulations are subject to negative resolution procedure and do not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

Part III of the Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Act is aimed at providing for the effective and safe management of traffic using the Dartford-Thurrock Crossing. The change introduced by these Regulations ensures that the list of dangerous goods, which are subject to control if they are carried through the Crossing, is kept up to date.

The basis for this list is the restructured European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road as amended by the Report of the Committee of Experts, and applicable from 1st January 2007 (ADR 2007). Following a consultation process the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use Of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 / 1573) was incorporated into British legislation. The list was then published in the 14th edition of the booklet entitled “Dangerous Traffic” issued by and on behalf of the Mersey, Tyne and Dartford tunnel authorities

There has been no consultation on these Regulations because a full consultation on the changes made to the list was carried out prior to the making of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2007.

8. Impact

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been produced for these Regulations, as they have no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

There is no impact on the public sector.

9. Contact

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