

2023 No. 1433 (W. 255)

ROAD TRAFFIC, WALES

**The M4 Motorway (Junction 34
(Llantrisant), Rhondda Cynon Taf
to Junction 49 (Pont Abraham),
Carmarthenshire) (Temporary
Speed Limits) Order 2023**

Made 22 December 2023

Coming into force 1 January 2024

The Welsh Ministers, as traffic authority for the relevant length of the M4 motorway, are satisfied that traffic on specified lengths of the motorway should be restricted because of works proposed on or near the motorway.

The Welsh Ministers, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 14(1), (4) and (7) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984⁽¹⁾, make this Order.

Title and commencement

1. The title of this Order is the M4 Motorway (Junction 34 (Llantrisant), Rhondda Cynon Taf to Junction 49 (Pont Abraham), Carmarthenshire) (Temporary Speed Limits) Order 2023 and this Order comes into force on 1 January 2024.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

“exempted vehicle” (“*cerbyd esempt*”) means—

(1) 1984 c. 27; section 14 was substituted by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991 (c. 26), section 1(1) and Schedule 1. By virtue of S.I. 1999/672, and section 162 of, and paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c. 32), these functions are now exercisable by the Welsh Ministers in relation to Wales.

- (a) any vehicle being used for the purposes described in section 87 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984⁽¹⁾;
- (b) any vehicle being used for naval, military or air force purposes and being driven by a person for the time being subject to the orders of a member of the armed forces of the Crown, who is a member of the special forces—
 - (i) in response, or for practice in responding, to a national security emergency by a person who has been trained in driving at high speeds; or
 - (ii) for the purpose of training a person in driving vehicles at high speeds;

“the motorway” (“*y draffordd*”) means the length of the M4 London to South Wales motorway that extends from the centre-point of Junction 34 (Llantrisant), Rhondda Cynon Taf to Junction 49 (Pont Abraham), Carmarthenshire, including all exit and entry slip roads between these junctions;

“special forces” (“*lluoedd arbennig*”) means those units of the armed forces the maintenance of whose capabilities is the responsibility of the Director of Special Forces or which are for the time being subject to the operational command of that Director;

“works period” (“*cyfnod y gwaith*”) means intermittent periods commencing at 06:00 hours on 1 January 2024 and ending when the temporary traffic signs for each period of works are removed.

Restriction

3. No person may drive any motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, at a speed exceeding 30 mph on the lengths of the motorway specified in article 2 of this Order.

4. No person may drive any motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, at a speed exceeding 40 mph on the lengths of the motorway specified in article 2 of this Order.

5. No person may drive any motor vehicle, other than an exempted vehicle, at a speed exceeding 50 mph on the lengths of the motorway specified in article 2 of this Order.

(1) Section 87 was amended by the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 (c. 21), Schedule 1, paragraph 55, the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (c. 15), Schedule 4, paragraph 42, the Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), Schedule 8, paragraph 29(2) and the Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), section 50(4) and (5).

Application

6. The restrictions in articles 3, 4 and 5 apply only during such times and to such extent as indicated by traffic signs.

Suspension

7. Any statutory provisions regulating the speed of motor vehicles on the lengths of the motorway specified in article 2 of this Order are suspended during such times as the restrictions specified in articles 3, 4 and 5 of this Order apply.

Duration of this Order

8. The maximum duration of this Order is 18 months.

Signed on behalf of the Deputy Minister for Climate Change, acting under the authority of the Minister for Climate Change, one of the Welsh Ministers.

Dated

22 December 2023

Nicci Hunter
Business Team Leader
Welsh Government