This is an informal consolidated copy of the text of the Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997, including amendments made as at 23 September 2020. It is not an official document, does not replace the Regulations and amendments, and is provided for reference only. It does not include introductory text, signature provisions, footnotes, explanatory notes, or the date amendments came into force. For definitive versions of the Regulations and amendments please go to www.legislation.gov.uk

Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997 (informal consolidated copy, as at 23 September 2020)

Citation commencement and interpretation

1.--(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997 and shall come into force on 1st October 1997.

(2) In these Regulations:-

"constable" includes a park constable within the meaning of section 3 of the Parks Regulation Act 1872 as amended by the Parks Regulation (Amendment) Act 1974

"Palace" means Buckingham Palace, Hampton Court Palace or St James's Palace:

"Park" means an area of land described in Schedule 1 to these Regulations:

"Park road" means a road, which is for the time being open to vehicular traffic. in a Park

"private hire vehicle" means a vehicle licensed under section 7 of the Private Hire Vehicles (London) Act 1998;

"taxi" means a vehicle licensed under section 6 of the Metropolitan Carriage Act 1869:

"the public speaking area" means that part of Hyde Park bounded by Cumberland Gate and North Carriage Drive on the north, Stanhope Walk on the west, Grosvenor Walk on the south, and the Broad Walk on the east, including the area known as Speakers' Corner

"the riding ways" means-

(a) in relation to Hyde Park, the Park roads therein and the horse rides known as the Dorchester Ride, the Ladies' Mile the New Ride the North Ride, Rotten Row and the Serpentine Ride, and

(b) in relation to St James's and The Green Parks, the Park roads therein and the horse rides known as Constitution Hill Ride and the Mall Ride

Restriction on use of a Park

2 No person, without the written permission of the Secretary of State, shall___

(1) be in a Park, or any part thereof, at a time when that Park or part thereof is not open to the public:

(2) except in an emergency, land a helicopter or other aircraft in a Park or enter a Park therefrom; or

(3) permit any animal of which he is in charge to be in any Park or part thereof in contravention of a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State.

Acts prohibited in a Park

3 Subject to the provisions of regulation 6, no person using a Park shall-

(1) intentionally or recklessly interfere with the safety, comfort or convenience of any person using a Park in accordance with these Regulations

(2) deposit waste litter or any other article into, or do any act which pollutes or is likely to pollute water in, any fountain, lake, pond or river;

(4) unless he is a child of 10 years of

(b) any roller skate, roller blade, skate

board or other foot-propelled device

except on a Park road or in an area

purpose by the Secretary of State

(b) in contravention of a notice

exhibited by order of the Secretary of

(6) unless the person is a registered

excuse, fail to remove immediately any

faeces deposited by any animal (other

than a horse) of which he is in charge

provided always that it shall not be a

reasonable excuse that a person in

charge of an animal did not have with

(7) permit any animal of which he is in

charge to be tethered or to graze;

him any means of removal of the faeces:

(8) fail to remove any animal of which he

is in charge from a Park or place in that

Park after having been required by a

(9) fail to comply with any direction for

(b) roller skates roller blades skate

given by a constable or by a notice

the regulation or control of-

(a) horses or pedal cycles, or

constable to do so:

State:

blind person, without reasonable

age or under use-

(a) any pedal cycle, or

constable to do so, or

State:

vehicle in a place reserved for that (3) drop or leave litter or refuse except in purpose by the Secretary of State. a receptacle provided for the purpose (b) an invalid carriage or

> (c) a vehicle in use for the purpose of transacting business with any person either residing in a Palace or Park or using land therein under licence from

(a) for the purpose of parking that

provided in the case of sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) above that the said vehicle is designated and marked as being for that not driven at a speed exceeding 15 mph.

(5) fail to keep any animal of which he is (13) in contravention of a notice in charge under control or on a leadexhibited by order of the Secretary of State, or after having been required by a (a) after having been required by a constable not to do so-

the Secretary of State

(a) play any game or engage in any form of sport or exercise

(b) use any kite or model aircraft or any mechanically propelled or operated model or

(c) skate or otherwise go on any ice; (14) fail, when in the public speaking area in Hyde Park, to comply with a direction given by a constable to move from some place in that area or to leave

(15) fail to move any chair, stand or platform in the public speaking area in Hyde Park in accordance with a direction given by a constable: (16) fail to comply with a reasonable

direction given by a constable to leave a Park or any part thereof. Acts prohibited in designated parks

the area:

3A.--(1) A constable who has reasonable grounds for believing that a person is doing, or is about to do, a

(b) (as the case may be) not to start

"prohibited activity" is any of the

(a) operating any amplified noise

equipment in a designated park;

(b) erecting or keeping erected in a

(ii) any other structure that is

(c) using any tent or other such

designed, or adapted, (solely or

structure in a designated park for the

purpose of sleeping or staying in that

(d) placing or keeping in place in a

designated park any sleeping

equipment with a view to its use

mainly) for the purpose of facilitating

boards or other foot-propelled devices prohibited activity may direct the nerson___ (a) to cease doing that activity; or

doing that activity

designated park-

(i) any tent: or

period:

area:

. following_

exhibited by order of the Secretary of (10)(a) ride any animal,

(b) drive or ride any vehicle, or (c) use any pedal cycle, roller skate, roller blade, skate board or other

foot-propelled device in any manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any person

(11)(a) use a pedal cycle (other than when it is parked), or

(b) drive or ride a vehicle

between sunset and sunrise or in seriously reduced visibility between sunrise and sunset, unless it is lit in accordance with the Road Vehicles (Lighting) Regulations 1989, and for the purposes of this regulation references in the Road Vehicles (Lighting) Regulations 1989 to a road shall be deemed to be references to a Park road or any other area designated and marked as being an area in which a pedal cycle may be used:

(12) drive or ride any vehicle off a Park sleeping overnight in that area: and road except-

(e) using any sleeping equipment in a designated park for the purpose of sleeping overnight in that area (3) But an activity is not to be treated as

a "prohibited activity" within paragraph (2) if it is done-(a) for police, fire and rescue authority

or ambulance purposes: (b) by or on behalf of a relevant

authority: or (c) by a person so far as that person

has the prior written permission of the Secretary of State. (4) In paragraph (2)(a) "amplified noise

equipment" means any device that is designed or adapted for amplifying sound, including (but not limited to)-

(a) loudspeakers; and

(b) loudhailers

(5) In paragraph (3)(b) "relevant authority" means any of the following-

(a) a Minister of the Crown or a government department;

(b) the Greater London Authority; or

(c) Westminster City Counci

(6) In this regulation "sleeping equipment" means any sleeping bag, mattress or other similar item designed, or adapted (solely or mainly) for the purpose of facilitating sleeping in a place

(7) No person may without reasonable excuse fail to comply with a direction under paragraph (1).

(8) For the purposes of the prohibited activities in paragraph 2(a) to (e), a "designated park" is any Park listed in paragraphs 1, 3A and 20 of Schedule 1

Directions under regulation 3A: further provision

3B.-(1) A direction requiring a person to cease doing a prohibited activity may include a direction that the person does not start doing that activity again after (2) For the purposes of this regulation a having ceased it

> (2) A direction requiring a person not to start doing a prohibited activity continues in force until-

(a) the end of such period beginning with the day on which the direction is given as may be specified by the constable giving the direction: or

(b) if no such period is specified, the end of the period of 90 days beginning with the day on which the direction is sleeping or staving in a place for any aiven

> (3) A period specified under paragraph (2)(a) may not be longer than 90 days.

(4) A direction may be given to a person to cease operating, or not to start operating, any amplified noise equipment only if it appears to the constable giving the direction that the following condition is met. (whether or not by the person placing it

(5) The condition is that the person is or keeping it in place) for the purpose of operating or is about to operate the equipment in such a manner as to

hear or are likely to be able to hear. (6) A direction-(a) may be given orally; (b) may be given to any person individually or to two or more persons together: and (c) may be withdrawn or varied by the person who gave it.

"amplified noise equipment" has the meaning given by regulation 3A(4); "designated park" has the meaning

(7) In this regulation-

given by regulation 3A(8); and "direction" means a direction given under regulation 3A(1)

Seizure, retention, disposal and forfeiture of property

3C Sections 4, 5 and 6 of the Roval Parks (Trading) Act 2000 apply in relation to an offence under the Parks Regulation (Amendment) Act 1926 relating to a breach of regulation 3A(7) as if that offence were a park trading offence under the Royal Parks (Trading) Act 2000

Acts in a Park for which written permission is required

4 Unless the Secretary of State's written permission has first been obtained, no person using a Park shall-

(1) interfere with any plant or fungus;

(2) go on any flower bed or shrubbery. or on any area of a Park access to

which is prohibited by a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State; (3) use or operate a metal or mineral

detector or any device for locating objects below around level:

(4) attach any article to, climb or interfere with any tree, railing, fence, statue, seat, building or structure;

(5) interfere with any notice or sign; (6) carry on any trade or business in a Park, offer anything for sale or hire or

expose or have in his possession anything for the purpose of sale or hire therein:

(7) use language which publicly intimates that any article, commodity, facility or service can be obtained in a Park or elsewhere

(8) exhibit any notice or advertisement or any other written or pictorial matter (other than a notice or advertisement approved by Transport for London and

exhibited on a taxi or private hire vehicle). (9) play or cause to be played a musica

instrument:

(10) use any apparatus for the transmission, reception, reproduction or amplification of sound, speech or images, except apparatus designed and

used as an aid to defective hearing, or apparatus used in a vehicle so as not to produce sound audible to a person

outside that vehicle, or apparatus used produce sound that other persons in or in the vicinity of the designated park can where the sound is received through headphones: (11) discharge any weapon which is a

LAND TO WHICH THE REGULATIONS

APPLY

The garden surrounding the Jewel Tower

and the lawn surrounding the King George V

Memorial, on Abingdon Street, London

3A Canning Green, being the lawn on the

Parliament Square, Broad Sanctuary and

4 The Longford River and those parts of its

banks which are for the time being under the

control or management of the Secretary of

5 Greenwich Park, being those parts of the

Park which are for the time being under the

12 The Natural History Museum Gardens;

17 St James's and The Green Parks:

SCHEDULE 2

THE DRIVING AND RIDING OF VEHICLES

ON A PARK ROAD

Vehicles constructed, adapted or in

use for the purpose of a trade or

business which may be driven or

ridden on a Park road

is broken down in a Park.

1 A taxi or a private hire vehicle

2 A vehicle in use for the purpose of

transacting business with any person either

residing in a Palace or Park or using land

therein under licence from the Secretary of

repair or removal of any other vehicle which

Speeds at which a vehicle may be

1 On a Park road in Bushy Park, The Green

than the Serpentine Road), St James's Park,

The Regent's Park or Richmond Park, at a

3 On the Sementine Road in Hyde Park

leading to the Home Park Golf Club in

in paragraphs 1 or 3), at a speed not

and on the Park road from Kingston Gate

4 On a Park road (other than one mentioned

speed not exceeding 20 mph.

exceeding 15 mph

exceeding 10 mph.

Park, Greenwich Park, Hyde Park (other

driven or ridden on a Park road

3 A vehicle in use for the purpose of the

Regulation 4(27)

Regulation 4(28)

land bounded by Great George Street,

Little George Street London SW1

6 Grosvenor Square Garden:

7 Hampton Court Gardens;

8 Hampton Court Green;

11 Kensington Gardens:

15 The Regent's Park:

20 Victoria Tower Gardens.

9 Hampton Court Park

10 Hyde Park;

14 Primrose Hill:

16 Richmond Park:

18 Tower Gardens

2 Brompton Cemetery;

3 Bushy Park;

S\A/1

State:

unattended, in a place other than one for control or management of the Secretary of

13

19

Part I

State.

2

1952 and the Royal and other Parks and Hampton Court Park, at a speed not

Part II

Regulation 1(2)

(26) cause or permit any animal to be in

a place for the time being marked by

buoys or other means as reserved for

(27) drive or ride any vehicle which is

constructed, adapted or in use for the

purpose of a trade or business except

as specified in Part I of Schedule 2 to

(28) drive or ride any vehicle on a Park

relation to that road in Part II of

(29) tow or leave any caravan

Schedule 2 to these Regulations:

road in excess of the speed specified in

(30) unless in an emergency, cause any

the time being appointed for the parking State;

vehicle to wait, or leave any vehicle

of a vehicle of that description by the

(31) cause or permit any fire to be lit or

to place throw or let fall a lighted match

similar object or any other thing so as to

5 Where a constable has reasonable

contravened any one or more of these

Regulations that person shall give on

demand his name and address to that

6.--(1) The provisions of this regulation

(a) where an officer, servant or agent of

the Secretary of State is acting in the

performance of his duty to secure the

proper management of a Park or the

preservation of order and prevention of

(b) where a constable or a member of

the armed forces or of any fire brigade

or ambulance service is acting in the

reference to a member of a fire brigade

employee of a fire and rescue authority.

reason of any failure to comply with any

regulation 3(5) (9) or (13)(c) above and

is for the purpose of regulations 2 and 4

above hereby granted permission to do

any act mentioned in those regulations.

trading regulation within the meaning of

section 1 of the Royal Parks (Trading)

Act 2000 (designation of regulations as

7 The Trafalgar Square Regulations

Gardens Regulations 1977 are hereby

SCHEDULE 1

GROUNDS, OPEN SPACES AND OTHER

PARKS, GARDENS, RECREATION

6A Regulation 4(6) above is a park

park trading regulations).

Revocation

revoked

in paragraph (1) is a reference to an

(2) Any such person mentioned in

paragraph (1) above does not, by

notice exhibited by order of the

Secretary of State, contravene

ground for belief that a person has

bathing or to be in any boat on any

water in a Park

these Regulations;

Secretary of State

be likely to cause a fire.

General

constable

shall have effect-

, abuses therein, or

performance of his duty.

(1A) In relation to England the

firearm within the meaning of section 57 of the Firearms Act 1968, or project any missile manually or by artificial means; (12) camp or erect or cause to be erected any tent or enclosure;

(13) wash or dry any piece of clothing or linen

(14) collect or solicit money or any other gift; (15) make or give a public speech or

address except in the public speaking area in Hvde Park:

(16) unless for the purpose for which it is provided, interfere with or remove any lifebelt, lifeline or lifesaving aid or fixture;

(17) organise or take part in any assembly, display, performance, representation, parade, procession, review or theatrical event

(18) take photographs of still or moving subjects for the purpose of or in connection with a business trade profession or employment or any activity carried on by a body of persons whether corporate or unincorporate:

(19) intentionally obstruct or otherwise nterfere with free passage on any road, riding way or path:

(20) fish, take any egg, or intentionally iniure or worry any animal or bird:

(21) cause or permit any animal or bird of which he is in charge to chase, worry or injure any other animal or bird:

(22) hoat or bathe or otherwise enter any fountain, lake, pond or river. unless-

(a) in a place for the time being marked by buoys or other means as appointed for that purpose, and

(b) in accordance with any direction for the control of such activities given by a constable, or by a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State:

(23) sail any model except on Adam's Pond in Richmond Park, on the Model Boating Pond in Bushy Park, on the Rick Pond in Hampton Court Park, or on the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens:

(24) feed or touch any deer or pelican;

(b) on the road between Blackheath

Gate and St Mary's Gate in Greenwich

(c) on the riding ways in Hyde Park or

(d) on the road between Queen's Gate

and Coalbrookdale Gate in Kensington

(e) on the roads in The Regent's Park,

St James's and The Green Parks

(25) ride any animal except-

(a) in Bushy Park,

Park

Gardens.

(f) in Richmond Park;