

Subsidiary Legislation made under ss.15 and 58.

Traffic (Licensing and Registration)(Private Numbers) Regulations, 1985

LN.1985/062

Commencement **16.5.1985**

Amending enactments	Relevant current provisions	Commencement date
LN. 1997/096	rr. 2, 4, 6(1)-(2), (4).	2.10.1997
2003/085	r. 1.	14.8.2003
2005/052	rr. 5(1), (5), 6(2)	1.4.2005
2013/125	r. 3(c)	29.8.2013
2013/152	rr. 3(c), 5(1)-(2), (4)-(5), 8-9, Schs.1-3	31.10.2013
2024/212	rr. 1, 3(a)-(e), 4-5, 5A-5D, 6-9, Schs.1, 3	28.11.2024
2025/204	rr. 5B(1), 5D(2)	1.8.2025
2025/217	rr. 5(2), 5C(2)	7.8.2025
2025/272	rr. 3, 5(2), (2A)-(2C), (6)	11.12.2025
2026/287	rr. 5(2), (2B), 5B(2), 5C(2), 5D(2)	1.8.2026
2026/331	r. 5E	3.9.2026

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SCHEDULE 1

Deleted

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In exercise of the powers conferred on him by Sections 6 and 45 of the Traffic Act, and of all other enabling powers, the Governor has made the following regulations:

Title.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Traffic (Licensing and Registration)(Private Numbers) Regulations, 1985.

Application.

2. These regulations shall apply to all motor vehicles.

Interpretation.

3. (a) “certificate of ownership” means a certificate issued pursuant to regulation 5;

“G-less premium private number”, in relation to a motor vehicle, means a G-less private number that does not follow the same number plate convention as private numbers and which, in the sole discretion of the licensing authority would have a high value due to its exclusivity, rarity, the desirability of specific number combinations, limited availability and popularity of certain sequences;

“G-less private number”, in relation to a motor vehicle means a private registration number issued by the licensing authority, in the series 0 to 99999 inclusive and shall include G-less premium private numbers;

- (b) “owner” in relation to a private number means –

- (a) the person registered from time to time with the licensing authority as the person who is the owner of a private number;
- (b) the person registered from time to time with the licensing authority as the person who is the owner of the vehicle to which the private number relates;
or
- (c) the person who has purchased a private number and paid the relevant retention fee to the licensing authority pursuant to regulation 5B;

“premium private number”, in relation to a motor vehicle, means a private number that does not follow the same number plate convention as private numbers and which, in the sole discretion of the licensing authority would have a high value due to its

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exclusivity, rarity, the desirability of specific number combinations, limited availability and popularity of certain sequences.

- (c) “private number” in relation to a motor vehicle, means a registered number allocated to a vehicle by the licensing authority, in the series G1 to G20000 inclusive as well as G-less private numbers and premium private numbers;

Re-issue of private numbers.

4. The licensing authority is authorised to re-issue any private number-

- (a) which was previously registered in all instances where such number has been surrendered to the licensing authority by the owner;
- (b) by virtue of regulation 5(7), 5A(4), 5B(4) or 5D(5);
- (c) where the owner requests or consents to the re-issue of the private number;
- (d) in respect of which the certificate of ownership has expired and has not been renewed within 48 months of the date of expiry of the certificate of ownership; or
- (e) if the owner of a vehicle to which a private number is registered fails to make an application to the licensing authority for a new roadworthiness certificate for the said vehicle within a period of 7 years from the date of expiry of the previous roadworthiness certificate in respect of the said vehicle. If the owner applies thereafter for a new roadworthiness certificate for the same vehicle, the licensing authority will allocate a new registered number to the said vehicle pursuant to the provisions of section 15 of the Act and any regulations made thereunder and in force for the time being.

Sale of private numbers.

5.(1) The licensing authority may from time to time and in such a manner as it considers appropriate make available, upon request, to the public a list of available private numbers.

(2) The fees payable for the purchase of a private number which is not a G-less private number are-

Number Series	Purchase Price
G0 to G9	£10,557.50
G10 to G99	£3,177.50
G100 to G999	£1,588.50

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G1000 to G9999	£1,076.50
G10000 to G17999	£820
G18000 to G18999	£820
G19000 to G20000	£820
Premium Private Numbers (a maximum of five digits in whatever order)	Price on a case by case basis/auction

(2A) No Premium Private Number shall made available which, in the opinion of the licensing authority, is likely to cause offence or confusion

(2B) The fee payable to the licensing authority for the purchase of a G-less private number is-

Single Digits (2-9)	£51,250
Two Digit Numbers (10-99)	£20,500
Three Digit Numbers (100-999)	£10,250
Four Digit Numbers (1000-9999)	£5,125
Five Digit Numbers (10000 – 99999)	£5,125
G-less Premium Private Numbers (a maximum of five digits in whatever order)	Price on a case by case basis/auction

(2C) No G-less Premium Private Number shall made available which, in the opinion of the licensing authority, is likely to cause offence or confusion.

(3) Notwithstanding the pricing structure set out in sub regulation (2), and subject to sub regulation (4) and (6), a private number may be sold by way of auction and the fees set out in sub regulation (2) shall not apply to such auction.

(4) A private number sold by way of auction may not be sold for less than the minimum fee set out in sub regulation (2).

(5) Upon the purchase of a private number, the licensing authority will issue the owner with a certificate of ownership which will be valid for 48 months from the date of issue.

(6) A person who subsequently sells a G + 1 digit private number, a premium private number or a G-less private number (whether bought at auction or otherwise) shall pay the licensing authority a fee equivalent to 10% of the profit made by that person on the sale of the private number, within 30 days of the profit having been so made or from the insertion of the name of the new owner on the certificate of ownership.

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(7) A person who sells a private number, shall, on request by the licensing authority, produce a bill of sale or any other document to in respect of the sale.

(8) A person in contravention of subregulations (6) or (7) shall be guilty of an offence under the Act.

(9) An owner who is in possession of a private number (whether the private number is assigned to a vehicle or otherwise) without an accompanying certificate of ownership shall apply to the licensing authority for a certificate of ownership within 12 months from the date of being notified of the same to the owner's last known address by the licensing authority.

(10) Failure to make an application pursuant to subregulation (9) will result in the private number being automatically rescinded, with the number becoming available for re-issue in accordance with regulation 4."

Assigning a private number to a vehicle.

5A.(1) Subject to regulation 5B, within 48 months of the date of issue of the certificate of ownership, the owner shall apply to the licensing authority to register a vehicle with the private number.

(2) An application under subregulation (1) shall be accompanied by the certificate of ownership.

(3) The vehicle shall -

- (a) have a valid and unexpired certificate of registration with the licensing authority;
- (b) be able to move under its own power;
- (c) be of a type that requires a roadworthiness certificate as defined in the Motor Vehicles Test Regulations 1987.

(4) Failure to assign a private number to a vehicle, or to make an application pursuant to regulation 5B will result in the sale of the private number being automatically rescinded, with the number becoming available for re-issue in accordance with regulation 4.

Retaining a private number.

5B.(1) The owner can apply to the licensing authority to retain a private number without assigning it to a vehicle for up to 48 months after the deadline set out in regulation 5A(1).

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(2) A retention fee of £105.50 is payable to the licensing authority for an application made under subregulation (1).

(3) A successful application under this regulation will result in a new certificate of ownership being issued to the owner which will be valid for 48 months from the expiry date of any previous certificate of ownership.

(4) The retention fee entitles the owner to retain the private number without assigning it to a vehicle for 48 months, after which time the retention will expire and the licensing authority shall be at liberty to release the number to the public again in accordance with regulation 4 unless the owner makes a further application for retention of the number pursuant to subregulation (1).

(5) The owner may make an indefinite number of applications under subregulation (1).

Transfer of number.

5C.(1) Following the assignment of a private number pursuant to regulation 5A, an owner who wishes to transfer the private number to another vehicle owned by him or her may make an application to the licensing authority under this regulation.

(2) A transfer fee of £107.50 is payable to the licensing authority for an application made under subregulation (1).

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation, no fee shall be payable to the licensing authority for a transfer of a number by a person who has acquired a vehicle with a private number or a certificate of ownership through an express testamentary disposition or any provision or rule of law in intestacy.

Removing a private number from a vehicle.

5D.(1) An owner who wishes to remove a private number already assigned to a vehicle may make an application to the licensing authority to remove the private number from the vehicle.

(2) A removal fee of £105.50 is payable to the licensing authority for an application made under subregulation (1).

(3) Upon payment of the fee referred to in subregulation (2), the licensing authority shall issue the owner with a certificate of ownership.

(4) An owner shall make an application pursuant to subregulation (1) before selling a vehicle with a private number assigned to that vehicle.

(5) Failure to remove a private number from a vehicle before the sale of the vehicle will be treated as a surrender of the private number to the licensing authority pursuant to regulation 4.

Shorter plate format for G-less private numbers.

5E.(1) This regulation applies to a motor vehicle, other than a motor cycle, which is registered with a G-less private number comprising three digits or fewer.

(2) The owner or registered keeper of a motor vehicle to which this regulation applies may elect to exhibit the registration mark assigned to that motor vehicle on the front of the vehicle on a plate conforming with Diagram 1b of Schedule 3G of the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations, in lieu of Diagram 1 of that Schedule.

(3) Where an election is made under subregulation (2)—

- (a) the registration mark on the front of the vehicle shall be exhibited on a flat rectangular plate conforming with the provisions of Diagram 1b of Schedule 3G of the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations; and
- (b) the registration mark on the rear of the vehicle shall continue to be exhibited in accordance with regulation 16AE(2) of the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations and Schedule 3G of those Regulations (excluding Diagram 1b).

(4) An election under subregulation (2) is voluntary and may be reversed at any time by the owner or registered keeper exhibiting the registration mark in accordance with regulation 16AE(2) of the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations and the relevant Schedule of those Regulations.

(5) In the case of a motor vehicle which is an eligible vehicle within the meaning of regulation 16AE of the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations, references in this regulation to Schedule 3G shall be read as references to Schedule 3I of those Regulations.

6. Deleted

Additional fee.

7. Any vehicle to which a private number is registered shall comply with the provisions of the Act and any fees payable to the Licensing Authority under the provisions of these Regulations shall be in addition to any fees due under the provisions of the Act or any other regulations made thereunder.

Excluded numbers.

8. Private numbers set out in Schedule 2 shall be reserved for issue to motor vehicles registered to the Government.

Registration number issued prior to these Regulations.

9. Registration numbers issued to motor vehicles which were registered prior to 16 May 1985 and which are listed in Schedule 3 shall not be private numbers under these Regulations unless the motor vehicle is deregistered and that number becomes available for re-issue.

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SCHEDULE 1

Deleted

SCHEDULE 2

**REGISTRATION NUMBERS RESERVED
FOR GOVERNMENT VEHICLES**

G1
G 5001 to G 5010
G18001 to G18002

SCHEDULE 3

**REGISTRATION NUMBERS NOT CONSIDERED PRIVATE
NUMBERS ON FIRST ISSUE**

G 5209
G 5481
G 5612
G 5739
G 5779
G 5905
G 10565
G 13411
G 13639
G 13756
G 17041
G 18881
G 18887
G 18888
G 19225