

PUBLIC PASSENGER TRANSPORT

The Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) (Prescribed Operator Exemptions and Modifications) (Unplanned Rail Replacement) Regulations 2026

Made - - - -

16th July 2026

Coming into force - -

1st August 2026

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 181B(3)(b), (4) and (5) of the Equality Act 2010(a) (“the 2010 Act”).

In accordance with section 181B(8) of the 2010 Act, the Secretary of State has consulted with the Welsh Ministers and the Scottish Ministers.

Citation, commencement, extent and expiry

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) (Prescribed Operator Exemptions and Modifications) (Unplanned Rail Replacement) Regulations 2026 and come into force on 1st August 2026.

(2) These Regulations extend to England and Wales and Scotland.

(3) These Regulations cease to have effect on 1st February 2027.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“the 2023 Regulations” means the Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) Regulations 2023(b);

“local service” has the meaning given in section 2 of the Transport Act 1985(c);

“prescribed operators” are those operators whose operator licence numbers are listed in the Schedule;

“railway day” means a period of 24 hours beginning with 4:00 a.m. and ending at 3:59 a.m. on the following day;

“unplanned rail replacement” has the meaning provided in regulation 3(2).

(a) 2010 c. 15; section 181B was inserted by the Bus Services Act 2017 (c. 21), section 17(1). Section 181B(7) provides that regulations made under section 181B that apply only to public service vehicles of a prescribed operator are not required to be made by statutory instrument. See section 181D(1) for the definition of “public service vehicle” and section 212(1) for the definition of “prescribed”.

(b) S.I. 2023/715.

(c) 1985 c. 67.

Application

3.—(1) These Regulations apply to the prescribed operators.

(2) In these Regulations “unplanned rail replacement” means alternative road transport provided in response to an incident which temporarily disrupts or prevents the operation of a railway service, where the need for that transport—

- (a) could not reasonably have been identified earlier, and
- (b) first became known to the operator—
 - (i) on the railway day in which the service is provided, or
 - (ii) no earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the railway day immediately preceding that railway day,

and that transport is treated as unplanned rail replacement until the end of the railway day immediately following the railway day on which the need first became known.

(3) In this regulation a transport service is treated as “provided” at the time it departs from the first location on its route.

Change of operator licence number

4. These Regulations apply to a prescribed operator whose operator licence number has changed from a number listed in the Schedule to a number not listed in the Schedule, if that prescribed operator—

- (a) continues to satisfy the conditions set out in regulation 5(2), and
- (b) has notified the Secretary of State of the change of operator licence number by email and the Secretary of State has issued confirmation in writing, including by email, of receipt of that notification.

Exemptions from the 2023 Regulations

5.—(1) The provisions of the 2023 Regulations listed in paragraph (3) do not apply to the public vehicle service of a prescribed operator where each of the conditions in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The conditions are met if—

- (a) the public service vehicle is—
 - (i) a vehicle designed and constructed for the carriage of seated passengers only which is of category M2 or M3, as defined in Article 4 of Regulation 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles^(a), and
 - (ii) in use for a local service provided under an agreement entered into with the person who usually provides the railway service, or with a person acting on their behalf, where that service is an unplanned rail replacement service, and
- (b) the prescribed operator is not in receipt of a grant under the Bus Operator Accessible Information Regulation Support Grant^(b).

(3) The provisions of the 2023 Regulations referred to in paragraph (1) are—

(a) EUR 2018/858, amended by S.I. 2022/1273; there are other amending instruments but none is relevant.
(b) The Bus Operator Accessible Information Regulation Support Grant supported smaller operators to provide audible and visible information consistent with the 2023 Regulations, and administered on behalf of the Department for Transport by RTIG Inform Ltd; see the guidance available at: <https://www.rtig.org.uk/aig> as it had effect on 15 June 2026.

- (a) regulation 8(2) (route termination information: preceding alert);
- (b) regulation 10(2)(b) (diversion information: preceding alert);
- (c) regulation 11(2)(b) and (5)(b) (information about hail and ride services: preceding alert);
- (d) regulation 13(1) to (5) (requirements regarding audio information);
- (e) regulation 14 (requirements regarding visual information).

Modifications to the 2023 Regulations

6. Where the conditions in regulation 5(2) are met, the 2023 Regulations apply to the public service vehicle of a prescribed operator with the following modifications—

- (a) regulation 6(2) is to be read as if the reference to “regulations 12 to 14” were a reference to “regulation 12”;
- (b) regulation 9(2) is to be read as if sub-paragraph (b) were substituted with the following—
 - “(b) in sufficient time to enable passengers to leave the vehicle at the scheduled stopping place referred to in paragraph (1).”;
- (c) regulation 11(5)(a) is to be read as if paragraph (ii) were substituted with the following—
 - “(ii) in sufficient time to enable passengers to leave the vehicle at the first scheduled stopping place following the end of the hail and ride service.”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

16th July 2026

Simon Lightwood
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Transport

SCHEDULE

Regulation 3

Prescribed operators

	Operator licence number
1	PB0000387
2	PB0000595
3	PB0001398
4	PB0001701
5	PB0001727
6	PB0001932
7	PB0002035
8	PB0002301
9	PB0002379
10	PB0002381
11	PB0002425
12	PB0002454
13	PB0002613
14	PB0002632
15	PB0002633
16	PB0003072
17	PB0003076
18	PB0003590
19	PB0003707
20	PB0003710
21	PB0004169
22	PB0004202
23	PB0004318
24	PB0004329
25	PB1026789
26	PB1049268
27	PB1053163
28	PB1069542

	Operator licence number
29	PB1075166
30	PB1081341
31	PB1084997
32	PB1087973
33	PB1091804
34	PB1092058
35	PB1093518
36	PB1104137
37	PB1105461
38	PB1107575
39	PB1110587
40	PB1120595
41	PB1121731
42	PB1123315
43	PB1123601
44	PB1123667
45	PB1125487
46	PB1129926
47	PB1133147
48	PB1136140
49	PB1137278
50	PB1140706
51	PB1141510
52	PB1142876
53	PB1143052
54	PB1144547
55	PB1144958
56	PB2008999
57	PB2009025
58	PB2013495
59	PB2017365
60	PB2020200
61	PB2022798

	Operator licence number
62	PB2024186
63	PB2024660
64	PB2025366
65	PB2025388
66	PB2025629
67	PB2028577
68	PB2042419
69	PB2045898
70	PB2055190
71	PB2058752
72	PB2059773
73	PB2060918
74	PB2062043
75	PB2062823
76	PB2070655
77	PB2073200
78	PB2075334
79	PC0000109
80	PC0001086
81	PC0001439
82	PC0001866
83	PC0001870
84	PC0002922
85	PC0003422
86	PC0003522
87	PC0004217
88	PC0004218
89	PC0004875
90	PC0005338
91	PC1007771
92	PC1008487
93	PC1016644
94	PC1021803

	Operator licence number
95	PC1023780
96	PC1034075
97	PC1039614
98	PC1058788
99	PC1079559
100	PC1084897
101	PC1087377
102	PC1087927
103	PC1088617
104	PC1090231
105	PC1092340
106	PC1094191
107	PC1098787
108	PC1120654
109	PC1124528
110	PC1128921
111	PC1133454
112	PC1134699
113	PC1137244
114	PC1143935
115	PC1144041
116	PC1145939
117	PC1146551
118	PC1147153
119	PC1147641
120	PC2000788
121	PC2001962
122	PC2003506
123	PC2011897
124	PC2012003
125	PC2013544
126	PC2014932
127	PC2015928

	Operator licence number
128	PC2018827
129	PC2023602
130	PC2024724
131	PC2026365
132	PC2026592
133	PC2029014
134	PC2032474
135	PC2037891
136	PC2049209
137	PC2050693
138	PC2050891
139	PC2058042
140	PC2061489
141	PC2064263
142	PC2066996
143	PC2069531
144	PC2069579
145	PC2070017
146	PC2071326
147	PC2071456
148	PC2071612
149	PC2072264
150	PC2073379
151	PD0000059
152	PD0000184
153	PD0000226
154	PD0000419
155	PD0000479
156	PD0001255
157	PD0001619
158	PD0001719
159	PD0001888
160	PD1007019

	Operator licence number
161	PD1015642
162	PD1020869
163	PD1028393
164	PD1036769
165	PD1064508
166	PD1081913
167	PD1092093
168	PD1093425
169	PD1115593
170	PD1117482
171	PD1118175
172	PD1121321
173	PD1126532
174	PD1128125
175	PD1129826
176	PD1131743
177	PD1135593
178	PD1138369
179	PD1142703
180	PD1147704
181	PD2000825
182	PD2002054
183	PD2002527
184	PD2004024
185	PD2008915
186	PD2009939
187	PD2009999
188	PD2012100
189	PD2015567
190	PD2016974
191	PD2018595
192	PD2019596
193	PD2021404

	Operator licence number
194	PD2029010
195	PD2035192
196	PD2039304
197	PD2044286
198	PD2045936
199	PD2054300
200	PD2055956
201	PD2065802
202	PD2067117
203	PD2070615
204	PD2071773
205	PF0000035
206	PF0000087
207	PF0000089
208	PF0000097
209	PF0000152
210	PF0000205
211	PF0000458
212	PF0000508
213	PF0000705
214	PF0001223
215	PF0001353
216	PF0001553
217	PF0001633
218	PF0001947
219	PF0001961
220	PF0002053
221	PF0002158
222	PF0002280
223	PF0002454
224	PF0005046
225	PF0006095
226	PF0006132

	Operator licence number
227	PF0007024
228	PF0007028
229	PF0007048
230	PF0007062
231	PF0007080
232	PF0007085
233	PF0007089
234	PF1003444
235	PF1013559
236	PF1018256
237	PF1022133
238	PF1024617
239	PF1030687
240	PF1036148
241	PF1037815
242	PF1049326
243	PF1056524
244	PF1057829
245	PF1058979
246	PF1066137
247	PF1077694
248	PF1080941
249	PF1088540
250	PF1090194
251	PF1094649
252	PF1098485
253	PF1102351
254	PF1103487
255	PF1105231
256	PF1111885
257	PF1118394
258	PF1118503
259	PF1119867

	Operator licence number
260	PF1121128
261	PF1122675
262	PF1122792
263	PF1123454
264	PF1123987
265	PF1124678
266	PF1125458
267	PF1126730
268	PF1128546
269	PF1129235
270	PF1129415
271	PF1130637
272	PF1133667
273	PF1136854
274	PF1140258
275	PF1142840
276	PF2000853
277	PF2004826
278	PF2005120
279	PF2006033
280	PF2006130
281	PF2008285
282	PF2008827
283	PF2009436
284	PF2009488
285	PF2009728
286	PF2012481
287	PF2014523
288	PF2017521
289	PF2019582
290	PF2020134
291	PF2023719
292	PF2024545

	Operator licence number
293	PF2027123
294	PF2027208
295	PF2035520
296	PF2036315
297	PF2039354
298	PF2040302
299	PF2041375
300	PF2044627
301	PF2046482
302	PF2046711
303	PF2050550
304	PF2053250
305	PF2057170
306	PF2057538
307	PF2059213
308	PF2065765
309	PF2066718
310	PF2068007
311	PF2070732
312	PF2072074
313	PF2077566
314	PG0001374
315	PG0004765
316	PG0005881
317	PG0006630
318	PG0007044
319	PG0007208
320	PG0007414
321	PG0007573
322	PG1036688
323	PG1043352
324	PG1047060
325	PG1057567

	Operator licence number
326	PG1059685
327	PG1060966
328	PG1079161
329	PG1079413
330	PG1089880
331	PG1099080
332	PG1101572
333	PG1102028
334	PG1123459
335	PG1127013
336	PG1141350
337	PG1144009
338	PG2004715
339	PG2005041
340	PG2008778
341	PG2015440
342	PG2018283
343	PG2046897
344	PG2048483
345	PG2061881
346	PG2066999
347	PG2070477
348	PG2071745
349	PH0000153
350	PH0001955
351	PH0003933
352	PH0004727
353	PH0004893
354	PH0004983
355	PH0005305
356	PH0005421
357	PH0005571
358	PH0005784

	Operator licence number
359	PH0005948
360	PH0006159
361	PH0006364
362	PH0006457
363	PH0006793
364	PH0006999
365	PH0007007
366	PH0007049
367	PH0007101
368	PH0007112
369	PH0007122
370	PH0007279
371	PH1010097
372	PH1011572
373	PH1015848
374	PH1026770
375	PH1044398
376	PH1056534
377	PH1065314
378	PH1067388
379	PH1068084
380	PH1073984
381	PH1077645
382	PH1081198
383	PH1084449
384	PH1085974
385	PH1088109
386	PH1091335
387	PH1094020
388	PH1095537
389	PH1098224
390	PH1098723
391	PH1100658

	Operator licence number
392	PH1100975
393	PH1108688
394	PH1109011
395	PH1111952
396	PH1117492
397	PH1117946
398	PH1121126
399	PH1123889
400	PH1124631
401	PH1131292
402	PH1133638
403	PH1136708
404	PH1144187
405	PH1145423
406	PH1145484
407	PH2010327
408	PH2010556
409	PH2012437
410	PH2013344
411	PH2013809
412	PH2015826
413	PH2025442
414	PH2026471
415	PH2029546
416	PH2032565
417	PH2042686
418	PH2042969
419	PH2042972
420	PH2049927
421	PH2051855
422	PH2056607
423	PH2058637
424	PH2058842

	Operator licence number
425	PH2061419
426	PH2063564
427	PH2065423
428	PH2070371
429	PK0000115
430	PK0001670
431	PK0001815
432	PK0001922
433	PK0002377
434	PK0002389
435	PK0002703
436	PK0003138
437	PK0003344
438	PK0003436
439	PK0003556
440	PK0003587
441	PK1020685
442	PK1029219
443	PK1030620
444	PK1047563
445	PK1055079
446	PK1057749
447	PK1064859
448	PK1102275
449	PK1102936
450	PK1104712
451	PK1109969
452	PK1111749
453	PK1118946
454	PK1119618
455	PK1121222
456	PK1131577
457	PK1135862

	Operator licence number
458	PK1135965
459	PK1137937
460	PK1142053
461	PK1145709
462	PK1147727
463	PK1148558
464	PK2000354
465	PK2002847
466	PK2006090
467	PK2006248
468	PK2009234
469	PK2010461
470	PK2013508
471	PK2013729
472	PK2015487
473	PK2015692
474	PK2016622
475	PK2017447
476	PK2031995
477	PK2038704
478	PK2039529
479	PK2040609
480	PK2047858
481	PK2059994
482	PK2061471
483	PK2062800
484	PK2069573
485	PK2071481
486	PK2072075
487	PM0000133
488	PM0000985
489	PM0001586
490	PM0002277

	Operator licence number
491	PM0002724
492	PM0003019
493	PM0003023
494	PM1000007
495	PM1001506
496	PM1008058
497	PM1012789
498	PM1022975
499	PM1032689
500	PM1033727
501	PM1036025
502	PM1038898
503	PM1039980
504	PM1040390
505	PM1055247
506	PM1057313
507	PM1060979
508	PM1065355
509	PM1066160
510	PM1067311
511	PM1086347
512	PM1094718
513	PM1100341
514	PM1103348
515	PM1105431
516	PM1107228
517	PM1107358
518	PM1112451
519	PM1119494
520	PM1126342
521	PM1126921
522	PM1128330
523	PM1135750

	Operator licence number
524	PM1138307
525	PM1140428
526	PM1140809
527	PM1145335
528	PM1146115
529	PM2001440
530	PM2005061
531	PM2009898
532	PM2014327
533	PM2014737
534	PM2016873
535	PM2017509
536	PM2019353
537	PM2024694
538	PM2026172
539	PM2026607
540	PM2033412
541	PM2037743
542	PM2062728
543	PM2064907
544	PM2065552
545	PM2071163
546	PM2074771

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations create an exemption from specific provisions of the Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) Regulations 2023 (S.I 2023/715) (“the 2023 Regulations”) for the public service vehicle of a prescribed operator when certain conditions are met. These Regulations also modify other provisions of the 2023 Regulations for those within scope of these Regulations.

Regulation 2 makes provision for interpretation.

Regulation 3 makes provision for the application of these Regulations and for the meaning of “unplanned rail replacement”.

Regulation 4 provides that a prescribed operator whose licence number has changed will continue to be exempt from the 2023 Regulations if they continue to meet the conditions in regulation 5(2) of the Regulations and they have notified the Secretary of State and the Secretary of State issues written confirmation.

Regulation 5 sets out the conditions which must be met in order for the public service vehicle of a prescribed operator to be exempt from the provisions of the 2023 Regulations which are set out in this regulation. These are that the public service vehicle is a coach, which is in use to provide unplanned rail replacement services and that the operator is not in receipt of a grant under the Bus Operator Accessible Information Regulation Support Grant scheme.

Regulation 6 provides modifications to the 2023 Regulations to ensure that the provisions of the 2023 Regulations which still apply can operate correctly.

The Schedule lists the prescribed operators by reference to their operator licence number. The operators’ name and other information can be found by searching the operator licence number at: <https://www.vehicle-operator-licensing.service.gov.uk/search/find-lorry-bus-operators>.

A hard copy of these Regulations can be obtained free of charge on request from the Department for Transport, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR, email: AIRExemptions@dft.gov.uk or telephone: (+44)300 330 3000.