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First published in the *Government Gazette*, Electronic Edition, on 30 July 2020 at 5 pm.

**No. 1538 – ACTIVE MOBILITY ACT 2017 (ACT 3 OF 2017)**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR USERS OF PUBLIC PATHS 2020**

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#### **Name of Code and definitions**

**1.**—(1) This is the Code of Conduct for Users of Public Paths 2020.

(2) In this Code, unless the context otherwise requires —

“bicycle crossing” has the same meaning as in rule 2 of the Road Traffic (Bicycle Crossing) Rules (Cap. 276, R 36);

“footpath” and “shared path” have the meanings given by the Active Mobility Act 2017;

“motorised PMD” means a personal mobility device other than a personal mobility device that is designed to be propelled by human power only;

“pedestrian” means —

- (a) an individual walking, with or without animals;
- (b) an individual in a non-motorised wheelchair;
- (c) an individual driving a motorised wheelchair or riding a mobility scooter;
- (d) an individual travelling on inline skates, roller-skates or a wheeled toy;
- (e) an individual pushing a pram, stroller or trolley, or a motorised or non-motorised wheelchair; or
- (f) an individual walking beside and pushing any other vehicle, like a bicycle or PMD;

“pedestrian crossing” has the same meaning as in rule 2 of the Road Traffic (Pedestrian Crossings) Rules;

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“personal mobility device” or “PMD” has the meaning given by the Active Mobility Act 2017;

“power-assisted bicycle” or “PAB” has the meaning given by the Active Mobility Act 2017;

“rider” means an individual who is riding a bicycle or personal mobility device, but does not include an individual walking beside and pushing any of these vehicles;

“under-aged rider” means an individual riding a motorised PMD on a shared path when below the legally prescribed minimum riding age for riding the motorised PMD on a shared path.

## PART 1

### PEDESTRIANS

#### **Footpath to be preferred by pedestrian**

2. A pedestrian should travel on a footpath if he or she has a choice between travelling on a footpath or shared path.

#### **Pedestrian crossing to be preferred by pedestrian**

3. A pedestrian should cross a road using the pedestrian crossing if he or she has a choice between using a bicycle crossing or pedestrian crossing.

#### **Pedestrian to keep left**

4. A pedestrian travelling on a footpath or shared path should keep as far to the left as is practicable except when overtaking another pedestrian on the footpath or shared path travelling in the same direction.

#### **Staying alert**

5. A pedestrian travelling on a footpath or shared path should —
- (a) stay alert when using the footpath or shared path; and
  - (b) refrain from using a mobile communication device or operating any of its communication or other functions (such

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as listening to music) in a manner as will prevent the pedestrian from detecting danger or oncoming obstacles moving or on the footpath or shared path.

## PART 2

### RIDERS OF BICYCLES, PMD AND PABS

#### **Shared path to be preferred**

6. A rider of a bicycle or non-motorised PMD should ride on a shared path if the rider has a choice between riding on a footpath or shared path.

#### **Before setting off**

7.—(1) Before setting off riding on any footpath or shared path a vehicle allowed to be ridden on the footpath or shared path, the rider should check that the vehicle is in good working condition. This includes checking the lights (front and back), brakes, chain (if applicable) and tyres of the vehicle.

(2) If riding a bicycle or PAB, the rider should check the height of the handlebars and seat on the bicycle or PAB. If the rider cannot touch the ground with his or her foot on either side of the bicycle or PAB, then the seat is too high and the rider will not have full control of the bicycle or PAB when coming to a sudden stop in an emergency.

#### **Hands on handlebars**

8. When riding a bicycle, PMD or PAB, the rider should keep both hands on the handlebars of the bicycle, PMD or PAB unless the rider needs to signal with his or her hand to change direction, make a turn or stop.

#### **Give way to pedestrians**

9. A rider of —

- (a) a bicycle or non-motorised PMD travelling on a footpath; or
- (b) a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a shared path

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should keep out of the path of, and should always give way to, any pedestrian on the same footpath or shared path or at an intersection with the footpath or shared path.

### **Keeping left**

**10.** A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should keep as far to the left as is practicable except when overtaking a pedestrian or another rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB on the footpath or shared path.

### **Keep safe distance**

**11.** A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should keep a safe distance from other users of the footpath or shared path (especially when overtaking) so as to avoid collisions.

### **Use of lights**

**12.** When riding on a footpath or shared path, a rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB should not use the lights on his or her bicycle, PMD or PAB in a way that the main beam of light is projected directly into the face of any of the following who are travelling on the same footpath or shared path in front in the same direction or in the oncoming direction:

- (a) the rider of another bicycle, PMD or PAB;
- (b) a pedestrian.

### **Use of bell or similar warning device**

**13.** A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should use the bell or similar warning device on the bicycle, PMD or PAB that he or she is riding, to warn other users of the footpath or shared path of the approach or position of the bicycle, PMD or PAB, such as when passing or overtaking other users of the footpath or shared path.

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**Crowded areas**

**14.**—(1) A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should slow down and be prepared to stop when approaching crowded areas, such as bus stops located on or near footpaths and shared paths.

(2) When approaching crowded areas, a rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB should slow down and be prepared to dismount and either push or walk alongside the bicycle, PMD or PAB.

**Slow down at intersections**

**15.** A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should slow down when approaching intersections of any of these public paths, especially intersections with any bend that limits a rider's view.

**Bicycle crossing or pedestrian crossing**

**17.** A rider of a bicycle, PMD or PAB travelling on a footpath or shared path should, if he or she has a choice between riding across a bicycle crossing or pedestrian crossing when approaching from a footpath or shared path, choose the bicycle crossing.

**PART 3****SUPERVISORS OF UNDER-AGED PMD RIDERS****Supervise properly**

**18.** Do not be a supervisor of an under-aged rider of a motorised PMD, or more than one such rider, unless confident of being able to do so effectively.

**In-person supervision**

**19.** A supervisor of an under-aged rider of a motorised PMD need not be riding a bicycle, PMD or PAB at the same time when supervising, but he or she has —

- (a) to remain in the vicinity of where the under-aged rider is riding the motorised PMD; and

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- (b) to maintain a substantially clear and unobstructed visual line of sight at all times when the under-aged rider is riding the motorised PMD.

**Before under-aged rider sets off riding**

**20.** A supervisor of an under-aged rider of a motorised PMD should, before allowing the rider to set off riding the motorised PMD on any shared path —

- (a) be aware of the performance specifications and operating limitations of the motorised PMD and be satisfied that the motorised PMD is not beyond the under-aged rider's ability to control when riding it;
- (b) be satisfied that the motorised PMD is in good working condition; and
- (c) communicate to or remind the under-aged rider about —
- (i) the need to avoid riding in a manner that is dangerous to people or property;
  - (ii) the duties and requirements in Parts 3 and 3A of the Active Mobility Act 2017 and regulations made under that Act, applicable to a rider when on the shared path;
  - (iii) Part 2 of this Code; and
  - (iv) the safe use of the motorised PMD having regard to the performance specifications and operating limitations of the motorised PMD.