

Hampshire Act 1983 - Section 22

Tolls

22.—(1) The county council may demand, take and recover in Tolls. respect of all or any class of traffic passing over or on the bridge, other than pedestrians, tolls not exceeding those specified in any order made under this Part (or under Part III of the Southampton Corporation Act 1973) and for the time being in force; and for any other services rendered by the county council in connection with the bridge, such reasonable charges as they think fit. 1973 c. xix.

(2) Subject to subsection (4) below, the power to make an order under this section includes power to make an order amending or revoking any earlier order made hereunder (or under section 15 of the Southampton Corporation Act 1973), including power to make an order whereby the council cease to demand, take and recover tolls or tolls in respect of any specified class of traffic, or resume demanding, taking and recovering tolls.

(3) In exercising their powers under this section the county council shall have regard to—

first, the financial position and future prospects of the bridge; secondly, the need to control the composition and flow of traffic over the bridge so as to avoid causing traffic congestion in areas adjacent to the bridge and so as to preserve the character and amenities of those areas; and thirdly, whether to allow any class of traffic to use the bridge without payment of tolls or on payment of tolls at a reduced rate either generally or during specified hours or on specified occasions—

(a) where the grant of any such concession would assist the disabled or aged;

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Hampshire Act 1983

PART V
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(b) where, in the opinion of the county council the grant of any such concession for a limited period would be desirable in the interests of assisting the establishment of industry or commerce in the city;

(c) where the traffic is of a local character.

(4) If an order for the time being in force has been made by the Secretary of State in pursuance of section 23 (Revision of tolls by Secretary of State) of this Act, the county council may not make a further order revising all or any of the tolls or any classification of traffic specified in any such order unless—

(a) a period of not less than 12 months has elapsed since the making of the order by the Secretary of State; and

(b) the county council have notified the Secretary of State of their intention to make such an order and considered any observations of the Secretary of State; and

(c) in the opinion of the county council there has been, since the date of the making of the order by the Secretary of State, a material change in any of the circumstances relating to any of the matters referred to in subsection (2) above.

(5) Before making an order under this section the county council shall give notice by advertisement in one or more local newspapers circulating in the city stating the contents of the proposed order and shall take into consideration any objections or representations in respect of the proposed order made within 28 days of the first publication of the notice.