



Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994

1994 CHAPTER 22

PART IV

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Evidence

51 Admissions.

- (1) This section applies where in any proceedings in England and Wales or Northern Ireland for an offence under section 29 [F¹, 34 or 43A]—
- (a) it is appropriately proved that there has been served on the accused by post a requirement under section 46(1) or (2) to give information as to the identity of—
 - (i) the driver of, or a person who used, a particular vehicle, or
 - (ii) the person who kept a particular vehicle on a road,on the particular occasion on which the offence is alleged to have been committed, and
 - (b) a statement in writing is produced to the court purporting to be signed by the accused that he was—
 - (i) the driver of, or a person who used, that vehicle, or
 - (ii) the person who kept that vehicle on a road,on that occasion.
- (2) Where this section applies, the court may accept the statement as evidence that the accused was—
- (a) the driver of, or a person who used, that vehicle, or
 - (b) the person who kept that vehicle on a road,
- on that occasion.
- (3) In subsection (1) “appropriately proved” means proved to the satisfaction of the court—

Changes to legislation: *Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, Section 51 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 30 December 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (a) on oath, or
- (b) in the manner prescribed—
 - (i) in England and Wales, by [^{F2}Criminal Procedure Rules] , or
 - (ii) in Northern Ireland, by magistrates’ courts rules, as defined by Article 2(3) of the ^{M1}Magistrates’ Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 51(1) substituted (1.4.1998) by 1997 c. 16, s. 18, **Sch. 3 para. 7(2)**; S.I. 1998/560, **art. 2**
- F2** Words in s. 51(3)(b)(i) substituted (1.9.2004) by Courts Act 2003 (c. 39), s. 109(1), **Sch. 8 para. 362(a)**; S.I. 2004/2066, **art. 2(c)(xvi)** (subject to art. 3)

Marginal Citations

- M1** S.I.1981/1675 (N.I.26).

Changes to legislation:

Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, Section 51 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 30 December 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 7(1A) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 47\(2\)](#)
- s. 7(5)(za) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 47\(3\)](#)
- s. 22(1)(aa) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 47\(6\)](#)
- s. 22(1AA) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 47\(9\)](#)
- s. 22(1BA) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 47\(10\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 1N inserted by [2023 c. 1 s. 10\(5\)\(e\)\(7\)](#)
- Sch. 2 para. 20G(2)(za)-(zc) inserted by [2023 c. 1 s. 10\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)\(7\)](#)