



Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001

2001 CHAPTER 3

PART 2

REGULATION OF REGISTRATION PLATE SUPPLIERS

Supplementary provisions and offences

26 Rights to enter and inspect premises: Part 2

- (1) A constable or an authorised person may at any reasonable time enter and inspect premises for the time being entered in the register as premises which are occupied by a person carrying on business as a registration plate supplier wholly or partly for the purposes of his business so far as it consists in selling registration plates.
- (2) A constable or an authorised person may at any reasonable time—
 - (a) require production of, and inspect, any registration plates kept at premises falling within subsection (1); and
 - (b) require production of, inspect and take copies of or extracts from any records which the person carrying on business as a registration plate supplier is required to keep at such premises by virtue of this Part.
- (3) Subsection (4) applies where, on an application made by a constable or an authorised person, a justice of the peace [^{F1}, or (in Scotland) a justice of the peace, magistrate or sheriff,] is satisfied that admission to premises specified in the application is reasonably required in order to secure compliance with the provisions of this Part, or to ascertain whether those provisions are being complied with.
- (4) The justice [^{F2}of the peace, magistrate or sheriff] may issue a warrant authorising a constable or (as the case may be) an authorised person to enter and inspect the premises concerned.
- (5) A constable or an authorised person—
 - (a) shall not be entitled to use force to enter premises in the exercise of his powers under subsection (1); but

Changes to legislation: *Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001, Section 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 October 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*

- (b) may, if necessary, use reasonable force in the exercise of his powers under a warrant issued under subsection (4).
- (6) A constable or an authorised person in seeking to enter any premises in the exercise of his powers under subsection (1), and an authorised person in seeking to enter any premises in the exercise of his powers under a warrant issued under subsection (4), shall, if required by or on behalf of the owner or occupier or person in charge of the premises, produce evidence of his identity, and of his authority for entering, before doing so.
- (7) Any person who obstructs an authorised person in the exercise of his powers under subsection (1) or (2) or under a warrant issued under subsection (4) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.
- (8) In this section “an authorised person” means a person authorised for the purposes of this ^{F3}section—
- (a) by the Secretary of State, or
 - (b) ^{F4}[except in Northern Ireland] by a local authority in respect of premises situated in the area of the local authority.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 26(3) inserted (31.7.2008) by [Road Safety Act 2006 \(c. 49\)](#), **ss. 46(7)(a)**, 61(1); S.I. 2008/1864, art. 2
- F2** Words in s. 26(4) inserted (31.7.2008) by [Road Safety Act 2006 \(c. 49\)](#), **ss. 46(7)(b)**, 61(1); S.I. 2008/1864, art. 2
- F3** Words in s. 26(8) substituted (16.3.2007 for E.W.) by [Road Safety Act 2006 \(c. 49\)](#), **ss. 44(2)**, 61(1); S.I. 2007/466, art. 2(a)
- F4** Words in s. 26(8) inserted (31.7.2008) by [Road Safety Act 2006 \(c. 49\)](#), **ss. 46(7)(c)**, 61(1); S.I. 2008/1864, art. 2
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Commencement Information

- I1** S. 26 wholly in force; s. 26 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 44; Pt. 2 (ss. 17-31) of the Act in force for certain purposes at 1.12.2002 and s. 26 otherwise in force at 1.3.2003 by [S.I. 2002/2957](#), arts. {2}, {4}

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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. 38(4A) inserted by [2006 c. 49 s. 2\(3\)](#)