



Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994

1994 CHAPTER 22

PART III

OFFENCES

[^{F1}Offence in respect of incorrectly registered vehicles]

[^{F1}43C Offence of using an incorrectly registered vehicle

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if, on a public road or in a public place, he uses a vehicle to which subsection (2) applies and in respect of which—
 - (a) the name and address of the keeper are not recorded in the register, or
 - (b) any of the particulars recorded in the register are incorrect.
- (2) This subsection applies to a vehicle if—
 - (a) vehicle excise duty is chargeable in respect of it, or
 - (b) it is an exempt vehicle in respect of which regulations under this Act require a nil licence to be in force.
- (3) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1) to show (as the case may be)—
 - (a) that there was no reasonable opportunity, before the material time, to furnish the name and address of the keeper of the vehicle, or
 - (b) that there was no reasonable opportunity, before the material time, to furnish particulars correcting the incorrect particulars.
- (4) It is also a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1) to show—
 - (a) that he had reasonable grounds for believing, or that it was reasonable for him to expect, that the name and address of the keeper or the other particulars of registration (as the case may be) were correctly recorded in the register, or
 - (b) that any exception prescribed in regulations under this section is met.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

Changes to legislation: Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, Section 43C is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 July 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](#)

(6) The Secretary of State may make regulations prescribing, varying or revoking exceptions for the purposes of subsection (4)(b).

(7) In this section—

“keeper”, in relation to a vehicle, means the person by whom it is kept at the material time;

“the register” means the register kept by the Secretary of State under Part 2.]

Textual Amendments

F1 [S. 43C](#) and preceding cross heading inserted (1.7.2005) by [Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 \(c. 15\)](#), [s. 150\(1\)](#); [S.I. 2005/1521](#), [art. 3\(1\)\(u\)](#) (subject to [art. 3\(4\)\(5\)](#))

Changes to legislation:

Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994, Section 43C is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 July 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\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)\(7\)](#)