



# Road Traffic Act 1988

## 1988 CHAPTER 52

### PART I

#### PRINCIPAL ROAD SAFETY PROVISIONS

##### *Driving offences*

#### **[<sup>F1</sup>2A Meaning of dangerous driving.**

- (1) For the purposes of sections 1<sup>[<sup>F2</sup>]</sup>, 1A] and 2 above a person is to be regarded as driving dangerously if (and, subject to subsection (2) below, only if)—
  - (a) the way he drives falls far below what would be expected of a competent and careful driver, and
  - (b) it would be obvious to a competent and careful driver that driving in that way would be dangerous.
- (2) A person is also to be regarded as driving dangerously for the purposes of sections 1<sup>[<sup>F2</sup>]</sup>, 1A] and 2 above if it would be obvious to a competent and careful driver that driving the vehicle in its current state would be dangerous.
- (3) In subsections (1) and (2) above “dangerous” refers to danger either of injury to any person or of serious damage to property; and in determining for the purposes of those subsections what would be expected of, or obvious to, a competent and careful driver in a particular case, regard shall be had not only to the circumstances of which he could be expected to be aware but also to any circumstances shown to have been within the knowledge of the accused.
- (4) In determining for the purposes of subsection (2) above the state of a vehicle, regard may be had to anything attached to or carried on or in it and to the manner in which it is attached or carried.]

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*Status: Point in time view as at 03/12/2012. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

*Changes to legislation: Road Traffic Act 1988, Section 2A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 July 2024. 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)*

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#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 1-2A substituted (1.7.1992) for ss. 1-2 by [Road Traffic Act 1991 \(c. 40, SIF 107:1\)](#), [s.1](#); S.I. [1992/1286](#), [art. 2](#), Sch.
- F2** Word in s. 2A(1)(2) inserted (3.12.2012) by [Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 \(c. 10\)](#), [ss. 143\(3\)](#), [151\(1\)](#); S.I. [2012/2770](#), [art. 2\(b\)](#)

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 03/12/2012. This version of this provision has been superseded.

**Changes to legislation:**

Road Traffic Act 1988, Section 2A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 July 2024. 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.