Status: *Point in time view as at 01/01/2006. There are multiple versions of this provision on screen.*
These apply to different geographical extents.This version of this provision has been superseded.
Changes to legislation: *Computer Misuse Act 1990, Section 14 is up to date with all changes known to be in*
force on or before 13 May 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)

Computer Misuse Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 18

Miscellaneous and general

14   Search warrants for offences under section 1. **E+W**

(1) Where a circuit judge is satisfied by information on oath given by a constable that there are reasonable grounds for believing—

   (a)   that an offence under section 1 above has been or is about to be committed in any premises; and

   (b)   that evidence that such an offence has been or is about to be committed is in those premises;

he may issue a warrant authorising a constable to enter and search the premises, using such reasonable force as is necessary.

(2) The power conferred by subsection (1) above does not extend to authorising a search for material of the kinds mentioned in section 9(2) of the **M1**Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (privileged, excluded and special procedure material).

(3) A warrant under this section—

   (a)   may authorise persons to accompany any constable executing the warrant; and

   (b)   remains in force for **[F1**three months**]** from the date of its issue.

(4) In executing a warrant issued under this section a constable may seize an article if he reasonably believes that it is evidence that an offence under section 1 above has been or is about to be committed.

(5) In this section "premises" includes land, buildings, movable structures, vehicles, vessels, aircraft and hovercraft.

(6) This section does not extend to Scotland.

Extent Information
   E1   This version of this provision extends to England and Wales only; a separate version has been created for Northern Ireland only.

Textual Amendments

F1   Words in s. 14(3)(b) substituted (E.W.) (1.1.2006) by Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (c. 15), ss. 174, 178, **Sch. 16 para. 7**; S.I. 2005/3495, **art. 2(1)** (subject to art. 2(2))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1   S. 14(4) extended (1.4.2003) by 2001 c. 16, ss. 50, 52-54, 68, 138(2), Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 51; S.I. 2003/708, **art. 2**
S. 14(4) modified (1.4.2003) by 2001 c. 16, ss. 55, 68, 138(2), Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 107 (with s. 57(3)); S.I. 2003/708, **art. 2**

Marginal Citations

M1   1984 c. 60.

14   Search warrants for offences under section 1.   **N.I.**

(1) Where a circuit judge is satisfied by information on oath given by a constable that there are reasonable grounds for believing—

   (a)   that an offence under section 1 above has been or is about to be committed in any premises; and

   (b)   that evidence that such an offence has been or is about to be committed is in those premises;

he may issue a warrant authorising a constable to enter and search the premises, using such reasonable force as is necessary.

(2) The power conferred by subsection (1) above does not extend to authorising a search for material of the kinds mentioned in section 9(2) of the [M1]Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (privileged, excluded and special procedure material).

(3) A warrant under this section—

   (a)   may authorise persons to accompany any constable executing the warrant; and

   (b)   remains in force for twenty-eight days from the date of its issue.

(4) In executing a warrant issued under this section a constable may seize an article if he reasonably believes that it is evidence that an offence under section 1 above has been or is about to be committed.

(5) In this section "premises" includes land, buildings, movable structures, vehicles, vessels, aircraft and hovercraft.

(6) This section does not extend to Scotland.

Extent Information

E2   This version of this provision extends to Northern Ireland only; a separate version has been created for England and Wales only

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1   S. 14(4) extended (1.4.2003) by 2001 c. 16, ss. 50, 52-54, 68, 138(2), Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 51; S.I. 2003/708, **art. 2**
S. 14(4) modified (1.4.2003) by 2001 c. 16, ss. 55, 68, 138(2), Sch. 1 Pt. 3 para. 107 (with s. 57(3)); S.I. 2003/708, **art. 2**

Marginal Citations
   M1   1984 c. 60.

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