

SPEEDING, CARELESS AND DANGEROUS DRIVING

What is careless driving?

Careless driving means driving a vehicle without due care and attention or without reasonable consideration for other road users. Whether or not driving is careless will depend on the facts and circumstances of each case.

What are the penalties for careless driving?

The court can endorse your driving licence with between 3 and 9 penalty points, together with a fine. The court also has discretion to disqualify from driving.

What is meant by 'dangerous driving'?

The offence is driving a vehicle dangerously on a road or other public place. Danger under the legislation refers to the risk of injury or damage to property caused by the manner of driving. Potential injury includes that to the driver him or herself. Whether or not driving is dangerous will depend on the facts and circumstances of the case, Excessive speed can constitute dangerous driving depending on how much above the speed limit, and other factors such as the type of road, weather, time of day, etc.

What are the penalties for dangerous driving?

The maximum prison sentence is two years' imprisonment. Endorsement of driving licence and disqualification for a minimum period of 12 months are obligatory. You would also have to re-sit the driving test.

Do I have to say who was driving my car at the time of an offence?

Yes, the keeper of a vehicle has a legal obligation to tell the police the name of the person who was driving the vehicle at the time of an alleged motoring offence, whether it was the keeper or someone else.