

# David Barton

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## motorists' lawyer



**As Scotland announces plans to reduce the drink-drive limit, will the rest of the UK follow?**

3/11/2014

The Scottish government recently announced plans to reduce the country's drink-drive limit in time for Christmas.

If approved by the Scottish Parliament, it will mean Scotland's blood alcohol limit will be cut from 80mg to 50mg in every 100ml of blood. The new limit will be introduced on December 5 and, according to reports, means that a glass of wine or a pint of beer would put a driver over the legal limit.

Comment:

**David Barton, a specialist in motoring law at [www.motorists-lawyer-kent.co.uk](http://www.motorists-lawyer-kent.co.uk), says:**

“This reduction will bring Scotland into line with many European countries where the limits are lower than here.

“The oddity will be crossing the border back to Scotland where a driver will be legal in England but not in Scotland. This will need real care and awareness.

“I have had many clients who, after committing a drink-driving offence, say they miscalculated and got it wrong.

“They also say they wish the limit was lower so it would remove the guessing. It’s the guessing that causes problems with quite a lot of people.

“People do try and calculate what is safe to drink and get it wrong...a 50mg limit means no one can afford to take a drink but it avoids the possibility of something like medication causing a reading.

“There are genuine issues over a zero limit - 50mg is low and apparently also the point at which impairment will kick in.

“The current limit of 80mg has been around for a long time and road deaths and accidents involving alcohol, etc, are still too high.

“I think lots of people will support this. It’s difficult to see why not.”

-ENDS-

**About David Barton:**

In the last 30 years as a motorists' solicitor, David has represented hundreds of clients in connection with all types of driving offences. David is based in Kent but represents clients around the UK.

**For more information, visit: <http://www.motorists-lawyer-kent.co.uk>**

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