

DO I HAVE TO ANSWER POLICE QUESTIONS?

If you are stopped and questioned by the police, or they talk to you at a protest, you have the right **NOT** to respond, unless you are engaging in “anti-social” behaviour (causing, or likely to cause “harassment, alarm or distress”). You shouldn’t provide false information to the police, as this is a criminal offence. You can’t be searched or arrested just because you lawfully refused to answer police questions.

DO I HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTEST?

Yes. Your right to protest is a protected by the Human Rights Act and can only be lawfully restricted by the police for certain specified purposes (such as preventing crime or disorder) and in a way that is proportionate. For more information and guidance on organising a protest, police powers to restrict or prohibit protests, and your rights if arrested, go to libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-and-information and select the topic of ‘protest’, or use the QR code.

LIBERTY



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organise



This information was correct as of 13 October 2023.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM ARRESTED?

Before arresting you the police should explain that you're being arrested and why. If you're arrested, say "**NO COMMENT**" to all questions and do **NOT** accept a caution until you have legal advice. Seek advice from a solicitor with expertise in protest law (see below). You have the right to:

- tell someone about your arrest
- an interpreter if English isn't your first language
- an appropriate adult if you're under 18 or a vulnerable person

You are **NOT** legally required to share your nationality or immigration status when arrested, although police may check this if they suspect you are not a British citizen. For guidance on the implications of being arrested at a protest, see: jcw.org.uk/immigration-advice-for-protestors

SOLICITORS OFFERING FREE 24 HOUR ADVICE & LEGAL OBSERVERS:

ITN SOLICITORS 020 3909 8100

HODGE JONES & ALLEN 0844 848 0222

KELLYS 01273 674 898 / 0800 387 463

COMMONS 020 3865 5403

BINDMANS 020 7305 5638

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