



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 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.

I.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



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