

# LIBERTY

## **CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE**

### **MARCH 2023**

A Policy and Campaigns Officer presented a paper on civil disobedience. Historically, Liberty has primarily focused on defending 'peaceful' and lawful forms of protest. However, within the context of growing legal restrictions on the right to protest and our wider positive visioning work on human rights, it is important that we campaign proactively to safeguard, and expand, the right to protest. Rather than setting out how this expansion could occur, Policy Council was instead asked to agree narrow conditions under which we think the State could legitimately restrict the right to protest.

Policy Council agreed that, with consideration to anti-oppressive values, Liberty may support necessary and proportionate restrictions on the right to protest only in circumstances of serious danger to life and endangerment of human dignity, or other serious human rights violations.