



## 3. Rights in Police Custody

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**You have the right to free legal advice, and to have someone informed of your arrest.**

You have the right to have a solicitor present during an interview. We recommend that you use a solicitor with experience of supporting activists. If you have a solicitor coming, refuse to be interviewed before they arrive. If they can't be contacted within a couple of hours then you may have to just give a no comment interview on your own.

**Do not use the duty solicitor.** They are unlikely to have experience in protest law, and may give bad advice.

You have the right to have a person informed of your arrest **in addition** to the call to your solicitor. If arrested on a protest, we recommend you **call Green & Black Cross on 07946 541 511**. We can liaise with our recommended solicitors on your behalf, ensure you have police station support on release, and give further support post-arrest.

**You also have the right to:**

- A copy of the [PACE codes](#) leaflet. This tells you your rights in custody – ask for it.
- A translator if English isn't your first language.
- Food that meets your dietary requirements – e.g. vegetarian/vegan/religious requirements
- A doctor if feeling unwell.
- A warm cell, including blankets and cups of tea/coffee.

**If you are under 18**, a parent or guardian or appropriate adult must be called and present for any interview. They may find a social worker, but we recommend against this. They may not agree for an appropriate adult to be someone already with a criminal record or involved in the action.