

Know Your Rights on Protests

5 Key Messages

Green and Black Cross

1. No Comment

You don't have to talk to police on the streets, if there's a Stop and Search, or if you are arrested. Best to stay silent or reply with 'no comment'. If arrested, say 'no comment' in interview until you talk to a good lawyer.



2. No Personal Details

Officers may try to get personal details. You are not legally required to give details, even in a stop and search, unless a specific power is used or a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued.



3. Under What Power?

If police ask you to do something, ask them if you are legally obliged to answer and 'under what power'? If you aren't obliged or don't answer, you don't have to do it.



4. No Duty Solicitor

If arrested, do not use the solicitor on duty but get a lawyer experienced in protest law – in London, use any of HJA, Bindmans, ITN or Commons Legal.

We also recommend that you phone or inform GBC from the police station with your 'one call' – 07946 541 511!



5. No Caution

Police often try to get people to accept a caution, which goes on criminal records. We recommend not accepting one unless a good lawyer recommends it. If you're offered one, it's because the police want you to take it – they are not doing you a favour.

