

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICE

SOLICITORS

NLS 24 Hour Protest Line: 02036015051

Before you go

It is a good idea to have essential numbers written down on a piece of paper (we advise you to print this off and write your numbers on the back) and even on your arms - as the police will normally seize any mobile telephone if you are arrested.

Be sure to take plenty of water and be prepared to be out for longer than you might expect.

If arrested

The police can only arrest you if they have reasonable grounds both to suspect you of committing an offence and for believing it is necessary to arrest you.

The police should tell you that you are under arrest, why you are under arrest and why they think it is necessary to arrest you.

The arresting officer should identify themselves by either a name or a number.

Other than at the police station, police are only allowed to search outer clothing.

If you are suspected of anti-social behaviour the police can require you to provide your name and address.

Other than this, there is no general obligation to provide these details unless and until you appear in court.

You should not answer any questions about any alleged offence unless you have received appropriate legal advice.

You are entitled to free and independent legal advice whilst at the police station. This is subject to limited exceptions unlikely to apply to protesters.

You must be permitted to speak to a solicitor on the telephone in the first instance so ensure you remember National Legal Service and have our number written down.