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Leading police information resource
of criminal justice legislation

I recently became aware of just how PNLD started, which was on a set of index cards back in 1988. Look at how far we have come since then, as we are now the leading online information resource of criminal justice for the police forces of England and Wales, law enforcement organisations and wider criminal justice partners.

The fact that it is still going, stronger than ever, after 35 years is a credit to everyone who has been involved with PNLD.

We now use Microsoft technology rather than index cards to provide Acts of Parliament, Common Law, Regulations, Orders and Byelaws, Case Law Summaries, and the National Standard Offence Wordings and Codes, but the ethos remains the same. We aim to educate and inform the police service about the law in a user-friendly way.

Our long-standing philosophy is that a busy police officer, working a night shift, can quickly access the legal database and easily understand the legislation. Guidance notes are added by our team of qualified Legal Advisers to explain complex legislation, allowing officers to uphold and enforce the law, provide positive outcomes for victims, and in turn, protect the public.

This last year saw most of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 come into force; a wide-ranging Act aimed at providing protection for the police by way of the Police covenant. It also protects the public by giving the police the tools needed to challenge crime and disorder, ensuring sentences for the most violent crimes match the severity of those crimes, and tackling repeat and prolific offenders.

Parts of the Public Order Act 2023 relating to the summary offences of locking on, being equipped for locking on and the either way offence of interfering with the use or operation of key national infrastructure, have given the police more powers to deal with protests.

Use of our products across all platforms continues to grow month on month and, as we embrace the new technology, we are constantly seeking ways to make improvements for the benefit of our customers, such as:

- Charlie the Chatbot is proving to be a great addition to the Ask the Police portals, quickly signposting users to relevant content through a simple step-by-step process.
- Alongside the ever-popular printed version, the highly anticipated digital Definitions and Points to Prove booklet will go live later this year, making it even more accessible.
- Enhanced reporting via Power BI provides us with valuable insights into usage, meaning we can concentrate on providing our customers with the right information at the right time.

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I am pleased to share with you the accumulation of the last 12 months hard work by the team and look forward to hearing your comments.

Marnie Ratcliffe, Head of PNLD

Our Vision

PNLD aspire to be the leading online provider of criminal law information by delivering legal insight and clarity through fresh approaches.

Our Mission

PNLD is a national organisation recognised for providing a consistently accurate, timely and reliable online criminal law resource for the police and its criminal justice partners.

We will continue to guide and inform on essential legal matters in a helpful, educational and cost-effective way, contributing to the overall efficiency of criminal justice.

Reference, Research & Reassurance



16 PNLD employees



7 qualified
Legal Advisers



Creators of National
Standard Offence Wordings &
CJS codes on behalf of MOJ



43 HO police forces &
CJS partners



In support of the
Criminal Justice
System



FS 500534



Legislation



National
SOWs



Case Law
Summaries



Guidance
Notes



Points to
Prove



Legal
Updates



Legal
Q&A's



2022-23

10.8m
page views



+66k

Total documents
on PNLD



+15k

Standard Offence
Wordings



+140k

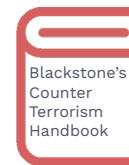
Police
registrations



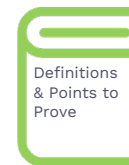
Added Value



Blackstone's
Operational
Handbook:
Law



Blackstone's
Counter
Terrorism
Handbook



Definitions
& Points to
Prove

Number of queries received:

Legal 2,759
Public 4,884

Positive feedback:

100% Legal
98% Public



Legal Articles



War Crimes and other
International Crimes



Non-fatal Strangulation
and Suffocation



Driving licence
questions, you hope you
never have to answer!



Offensive Weapons Act
2019



Option to subscribe to our mailing lists



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