

## NOTICE OF LAWFUL PUBLIC FILMING & ACADEMIC RESEARCH

**1. The Right to Film in Public Spaces** Under UK law, there is no presumption of privacy for individuals situated in a public place. Filming or photographing members of the public, events, or public spaces does not require a permit, nor does it require the explicit consent of the individuals captured in the footage.

**2. National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) Guidelines** The NPCC operational guidelines regarding photography and filming in public unequivocally state:

*"Members of the public and the media do not need a permit to film or photograph in public places and police have no power to stop them filming or photographing incidents or police personnel."* Unless a specific, legally defined restriction is in place (e.g., under the Terrorism Act, which requires reasonable suspicion of terrorism, not mere public filming), the act of filming in a public place is a lawful activity.

**3. Data Protection Act 2018 (Academic & Artistic Exemption)** This footage is being captured explicitly for the purposes of independent critical sociology research and documentary film. Under the **Data Protection Act 2018 (Schedule 2, Part 5)**, the processing of personal data (including video capture) is exempt from several standard GDPR restrictions when undertaken for **academic, journalistic, artistic, or literary purposes**, provided it is in the public interest.

**4. Public Events vs. Private Land** If an event is held on public land (such as a village green or public highway), the organisers cannot legally enforce a ban on photography or filming from the public, nor can they mandate professional "vetting" for individuals exercising their right to record in a public space.

**Researcher Contact:**