



PNLD

Annual Summary 2021-22



Leading police information resource
of criminal justice legislation

PNLD is the leading online information resource of criminal justice legislation for the police forces of England and Wales, law enforcement organisations and wider criminal justice partners. As a national organisation, we are recognised for providing consistent, accurate, timely and reliable criminal law, we have supported over 250,000 end users across the UK for over 25 years.

PNLD contains Acts of Parliament, Common Law, Regulations, Orders and Byelaws, Case Law Summaries, and the National Standard Offence Wordings and CJS Codes that are pivotal in processing offenders throughout the criminal justice and court system of England and Wales.

The Ask the Police websites continue to provide the public with comprehensive answers to a range of policing questions, explaining complex law in a clear and simple style. The Blackstone's Operational Handbook also returns for publication later this year with our 2023 edition.

Our team of highly qualified Legal Advisers research new and amended legislation, reacting promptly to legislative changes, supporting the police and its partners with legal queries and advice daily. PNLD is a critical resource, and our content continues to provide essential legislation and guidance necessary to support successful investigations, prosecutions and disposals, thus increasing positive outcomes for victims of crime.

Throughout 2021, Covid-19 continued to dominate, we saw the implementation of local lockdowns, a second and third national lockdown in October and December 21, followed by a three then four-tier system of restrictions. By the end of the financial year, a government roadmap for lifting the restrictions was underway, however we were not to be clear of legislative changes until early 2022.

PNLD responded dynamically to the Covid-19 changes to ensure that the police service in England and Wales continued to operate effectively. National collaboration was key to ensure consistency and to provide one clear voice throughout the pandemic. The frequency of the creation and delivery of the National Standard Offence Wordings and CJS codes was increased to meet demand from police forces. PNLD responded quickly and at short notice, to the increased number of

complex Statutory Instruments, updating the legislation, writing offences, and creating summaries of the changes.

We delivered a national communication strategy to meet the challenge of the diverse and complicated restrictions, effectively addressing the differing offences and guidance in place across different regions and countries at any one time. PNLD also responded to ongoing public queries relating to Covid-19, through its national Ask the Police site, askthe.police.uk.

We are delighted that our efforts during the pandemic have been recognised by the National Police Chiefs' Council at their National Policing awards in relation to Operation Talla where 'our contribution to policing, which saw many individuals go above and beyond to continue offering a vital service to the public' were celebrated.

In November 2021, we launched our new look websites, with improved capabilities and innovative interface. The solution uses Microsoft Azure, Power Apps and Dynamics 365 along with PowerVirtualAgent to enable unified content management and provide an enhanced user experience. The collaboration with West Yorkshire Police and partnership with Microsoft has enabled the transformation of PNLD as a critical policing service.

The system has many enhancements including:

- a newly designed user interface, providing a consistent and improved user experience
 - the ability to pin content for quick access to documents regularly used
 - an integrated Motoring and the Law section for quick access to traffic related content
 - an innovative cognitive search capability, enabling predictive search and document filtering that makes content easier to find
 - variable search terminology providing for both simple search and more specialist legal search
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I look forward to sharing with you the accumulation of the last 12 months hard work by the team and 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.

Supporting the ongoing challenges of policing



16 PNLD employees



7 qualified
Legal Advisers



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



+250k
end users

43 HO police forces &
CJS partners



In support of the
Criminal Justice
System



Legislation



National
SOWs



Case Law
Summaries



Guidance
Notes



Points to
Prove



Legal
Updates



Legal
Q&A's



12.5m
page
views

2021-22



Page views

Reduction
in calls



Total documents
on PNLD



+66k



+15k



+46k



Standard Offence
Wordings



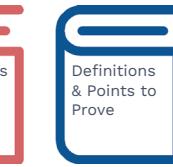
Added Value



Blackstone's
Operational
Handbook:
Law



Blackstone's
Counter
Terrorism
Handbook



Definitions
& Points to
Prove

Number of queries received:

Legal 1,216
Public 10,284

Positive feedback:

100% Legal
96% Public



Legal Articles



Spiking



Human Rights v
Obstruction of the
Highway



Trial of the Colston
Four



Mobile phones -
driving



Option to subscribe to our mailing lists





Ask the
Police



Ask the
Police

Scotland



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