

**Dated:** 27/05/2025

**POLICY TITLE:** Powers for Designated Officers

**OWNING DIRECTORATE:** Force Coordination

**AUTHOR:** Force Custody Manager

**CONTACT DETAILS:** 101

**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** Complete

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**AIM OF POLICY:** The main aims of designated officers are to increase resources available to front line duties and to improve the effectiveness of custody procedures.

**BENEFIT OF POLICY:** An increase in resources available to front line duties and an improvement in the effectiveness of custody procedures.

**REASON FOR POLICY:** Under the Police Reform Act 2002, Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 and the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, Northumbria Police has appointed designated officers to undertake tasks and responsibilities, that were previously undertaken by police officers.

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Detention Officers are police staff who have specific designated powers.

They are based within respective area commands.

The following powers have been designated to this role:

**Detention Officer:**

- Attendance at police stations for fingerprinting
- Non intimate searches of detained persons under Section 54 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) 1984
- Intimate searches of detained persons
- Searches and examinations to ascertain identity
- Fingerprint without consent under Section 61 of PACE 1984
- Warnings about intimate samples
- Taking non intimate sample without consent
- Attendance at police stations for the taking of a sample under Section 63(a) of PACE 1984
- Photographing persons in police detention
- Escorting arrested prisoners to police stations

- Escorting detained persons from one police station to another and other locations specified by the Custody Officer
- Penalty notices for disorder
- Charging detainees

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**SOURCE DOCUMENT:** N/A

**GROUPS AFFECTED:** All Staff

**ACCESS AND DISCLOSURE RESTRICTIONS:** None

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