



## Police to investigate footage of Bus4Choice abortion protest – Robot and pills seized

by Britney | May 31, 2018 | Northern Ireland | 0 comments



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Mandatory Credit - Picture by Freddie Parkinson/Press Eye © Thursday 31 May 2018 Taking abortion pills distributed at Belfast pro-choice rally may lead to arrest, warn police. Pregnant women who take abortion pills delivered by a pro-choice organisationÕs Ôabortion robotÕ outside a Belfast courthouse this afternoon could face charges, the PSNI has warned.

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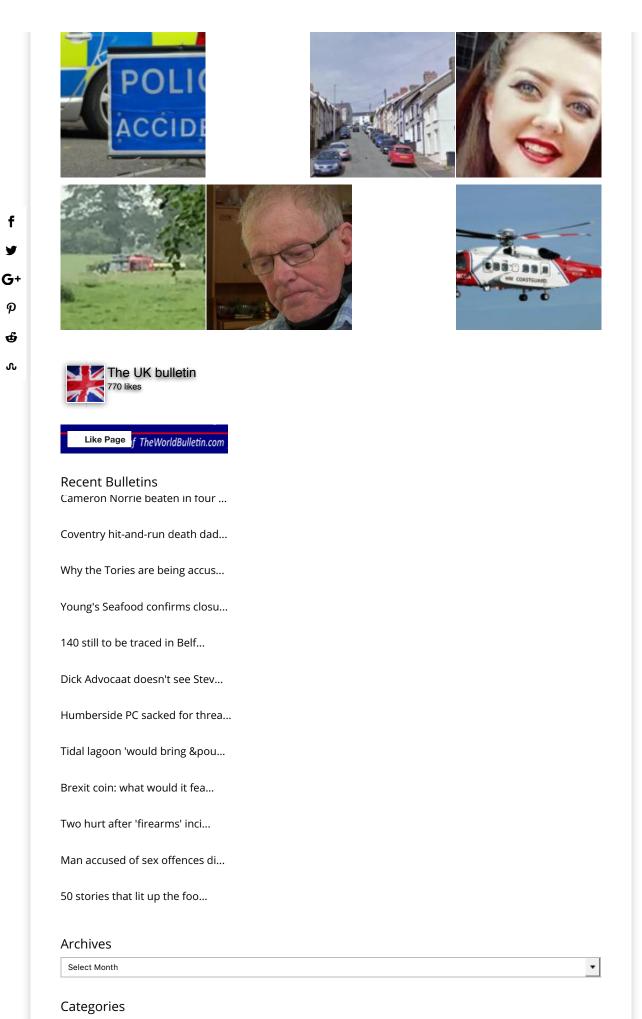
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 Police to investigate footage of Bus4Choice abortion protest – Robot and pills seized BelfastTelegraph.co.uk Pro-choice campaigners have taken illegal abortion pills outside Northern Ireland's main court buildings in defiance of the strict laws governing terminations. https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/police-to-investigate-footage-of-bus4choiceabortion-protest-robot-and-pills-seized-36964931.html https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/incoming/article36965050.ece/c71d7/AUTOCROP /h342/bortionProtest001.jpg Email Pro-choice campaigners have taken illegal abortion pills outside Northern Ireland's main court buildings in defiance of the strict laws governing terminations. The PSNI have confirmed that they seized a robot that was intended to deliver abortion pills to women in Northern Ireland along with a number of pills. The incident took place outside Laganside Courthouse in Belfast on Thursday afternoon. Chief Inspector Stephen McCauley said, "Officers recorded footage of the demonstration, the details of a number of participants and have spoken with one of the event organisers. "We will be reviewing the footage to determine whether any offences have been committed, but as we are now investigating this matter, we will not be commenting further." A number of people gathered outside the court to protest against the lack of access to abortion rights in Northern Ireland. The protest was also attended by anti-abortion campaigners Precious Life. Pro-choice protesters outside Laganside Courts #Abortion pic.twitter.com/KsM1XuyaUX - Victoria Leonard (@Bel\_Tel\_VL) May 31, 2018 Police had warned that pregnant women who take the abortion pills delivered by a pro-choice organisation's 'abortion robot' could face charges. The robot was part of the Bus4Choice run by social feminist organisation Rosa NI with the support of web-based abortion pills provider Women on Web and Women on Waves. The group is holding protests across Northern Ireland on Thursday. The women, who would not disclose their identity or whether they were pregnant, had intended to challenge the law by taking the pills outside the courthouse. The pills were be delivered by a remote control robot. A doctor was intending to counsel women remotely, as the robots were operated from the Netherlands in a bid to avoid breaking the law. On Wednesday PSNI detective chief superintendent Tim Mairs said it would investigate any suspected criminal offences. Organisers of pro-Choice rally in Belfast have handed over abortion pills & mini-robot to police. Demonstrators had planned to take pills in public. Police approached organisers beforehand & warned them that if the robot was used to distribute the pills it

could be seized. pic.twitter.com/Af6liBig0l

— Mark Simpson (@BBCMarkSimpson) May 31, 2018												
Eleanor Crossey Malone, from socialist feminist movement Rosa, was one of those who took the pill in front of television cameras. She said: "I have taken this in defiance of the extremely outdated, medieval, anti-choice laws that exist in Northern Ireland.												
							"Northern Ireland after repeal will be one of only two jurisdictions remaining in Europe to criminalise women effectively for having abortions. "We are not willing to accept it any more."					
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