

Would you kindly provide guidelines on protocol for Warrants FTA (fail to appear) issued by magistrates courts, executed by the Police

**This information is not currently held by West Midlands Police as the Force Policy is currently under review.**

How Police are notified of Warrants FTA issued by the court?

**For Magistrates Court, the warrant is issued and the Court clerk updates the Court IT system. West Midlands Police PNC Bureau staff monitor that system throughout the day until 1800hrs (Monday to Friday) and enter the warrant detail onto WMP's IT system and PNC. There is also an automatic workflow from the Court IT system to WMP's IT system. As WMP's IT system is relatively new, PNC Bureau staff check both processes to ensure all warrants are processed. For Crown Court, when the Court clerks enter the fact a warrant is issued onto their IT system, an email is automatically generated to the PNC Bureau to inform us of the warrant. PNC Bureau staff then go into the Crown Court IT system to view the warrant, then enter the details into WMP's IT system and onto PNC itself. The Crown Court do, however, have 24 hours to enter the details (sometimes longer) so we often need to check a few times before the paperwork is there to process. We also receive warrant notifications from County Courts via email, but this is rather rare.**

Is there any lag period between when warrant FTA is created on the court system and when Police are notified of it?

**As per the above, there should be negligible delay between Court IT systems and WMP's / PNC.**

On which Police system these warrants are recorded?

**'Connect' is the name of the WMP IT system. The PNC [Police National Computer] is the other way these are recorded.**

Do arresting constables need to be in a possession of warrant FTA?

**No**

Does arresting suspect have right to see the sight of warrant FTA?

**The Court retains the physical warrant. No physical copies are held in police possession and it is not required that the electronic record of the warrant is shown to the person arrested under said warrant.**

For how long (retention period) Police keeps records for these Warrants?

**Following execution or withdrawal, a record of the warrant having existed will be retained in line with Management of Police Information (MoPI) Authorised Professional Practice and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).**

Are these warrants recorded on PNC system?

**Yes**

After warrants FTA are executed what happens to the warrants FTA?

**The warrant is never physically in possession of the police they are retained by the court As we don't possess the warrant, we are unable to answer this question.**