

Do you keep a record of all lost stolen found or seized items that come to west Midlands police?

All items that come into West Midlands Police (WMP) in line with an investigation under PACE 1984 are recorded. Found property is only accepted and recorded if it is considered dangerous, is of sentimental value or contains personal data. We do not log lost items.

Are these listed by item (Mobile phone, handbag, wallet etc)?

Yes, all items are sealed within their own tamper proof evidence bag and recorded on WMP systems individually.

If a member of the public were to request how many phones are currently held by west Midlands police how would they request this and is this possible for west Midlands police to answer?

This would need to be requested via a Freedom of Information request. WMP do have internal police systems that collates such data.

What is your process when it comes to unclaimed phones? Is there a time limit they are held for? Are they destroyed and if so how?

All property seized under PACE 1984 is retained under CPIA 1996. WMP will always endeavour to return detained property to the owner where appropriate. If this is not possible it would be disposed of. The disposal route is currently under review.

If someone hands a found phone in and it is not claimed by the owner can the person handing it in claim the item? If so what is the process?

No, the item cannot be claimed as it would contain personal data, it is not possible to claim a found mobile phone, laptop or tablet.