Released Under Investigation

Postal Charging Advice

Procedures are now in place to enable the police to charge people with offences by post.

The process is explained here as the answers to some questions that you may have:

What is Postal Charging?

This is a new method of bringing an offender before a court for prosecution.

It means that you could be charged by post and required to attend court without returning to a police station.

Can I be charged by post?

If you have been in police custody and you have been released without bail then, if a decision is made to charge you, you may be charged by post.

How does it work?

If a decision is made to charge you then you may receive a charge through the post with an instruction to attend court at a specific time and date.

What should I do if I receive a Postal Charge?

You will receive a charge form with a court appointment. This will state the offence(s) that you are charged with. You will be required to attend court at a specific date and time.

You must carefully read the instructions and complete all of the enclosed paperwork. Failure to do so may cause an unnecessary delay or adjournment.

If you fail to attend court when required a warrant will be issued for your arrest. If this happens you may be held in custody until the next available court.

It is important that you notify your legal representative of any changes in circumstances, including change of address or contact details