



Reforms to pre-charge bail

The Policing and Crime Bill 2016

West Midlands Police
Criminal Justice Services



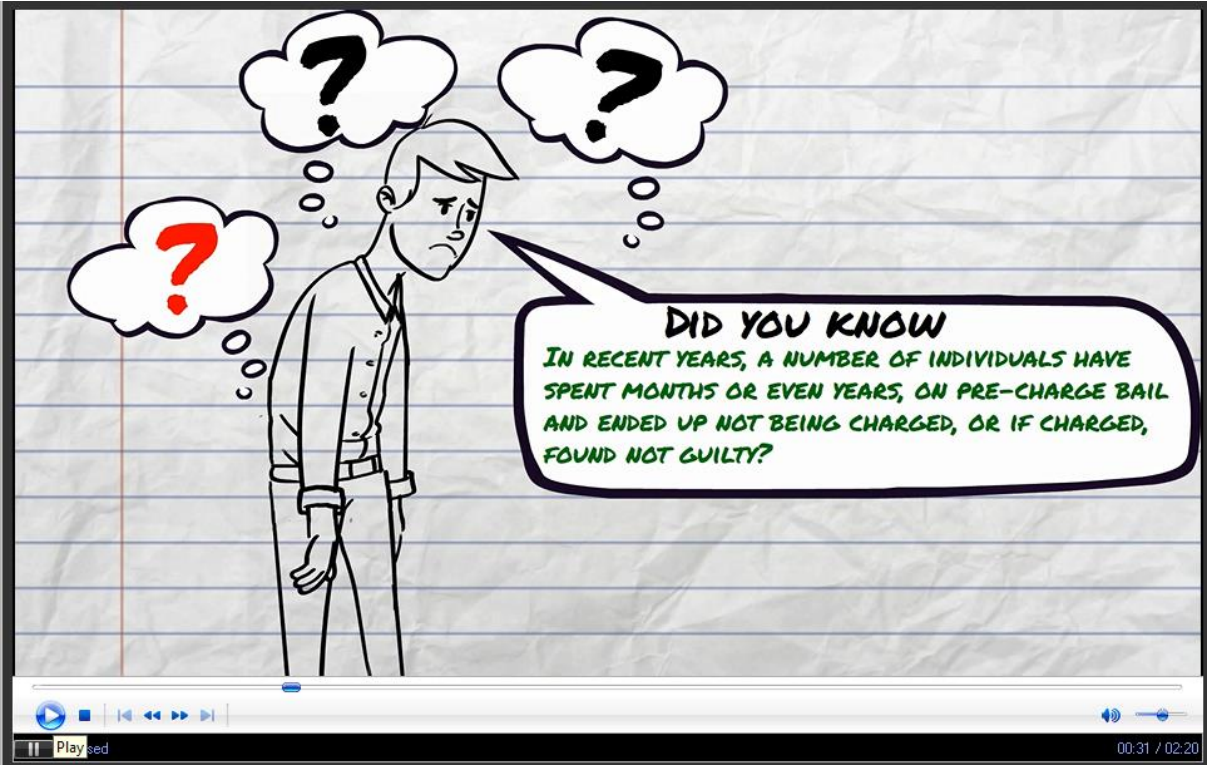
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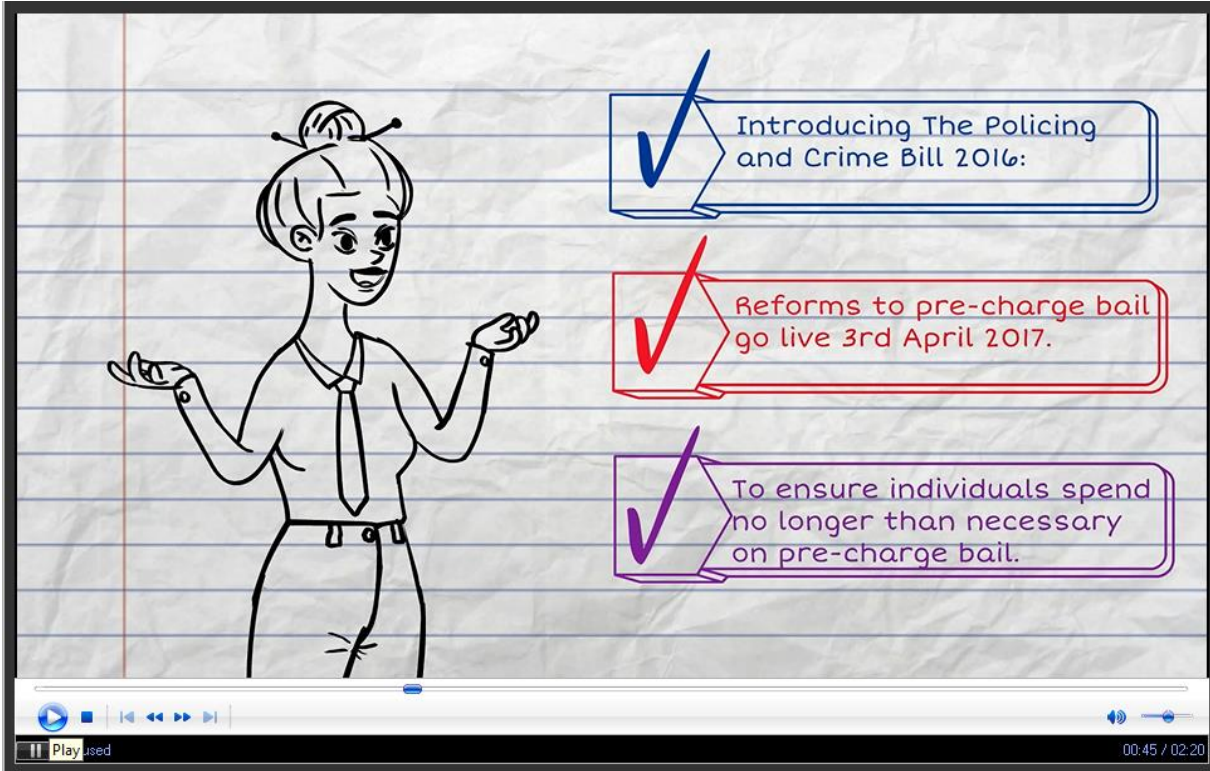


Pre-charge bail, also known as 'police bail', is granted by the police under Part 4 of PACE 1984

... to individuals arrested on suspicion of a criminal offence, but where there are no grounds to keep them in detention while the investigation continues.

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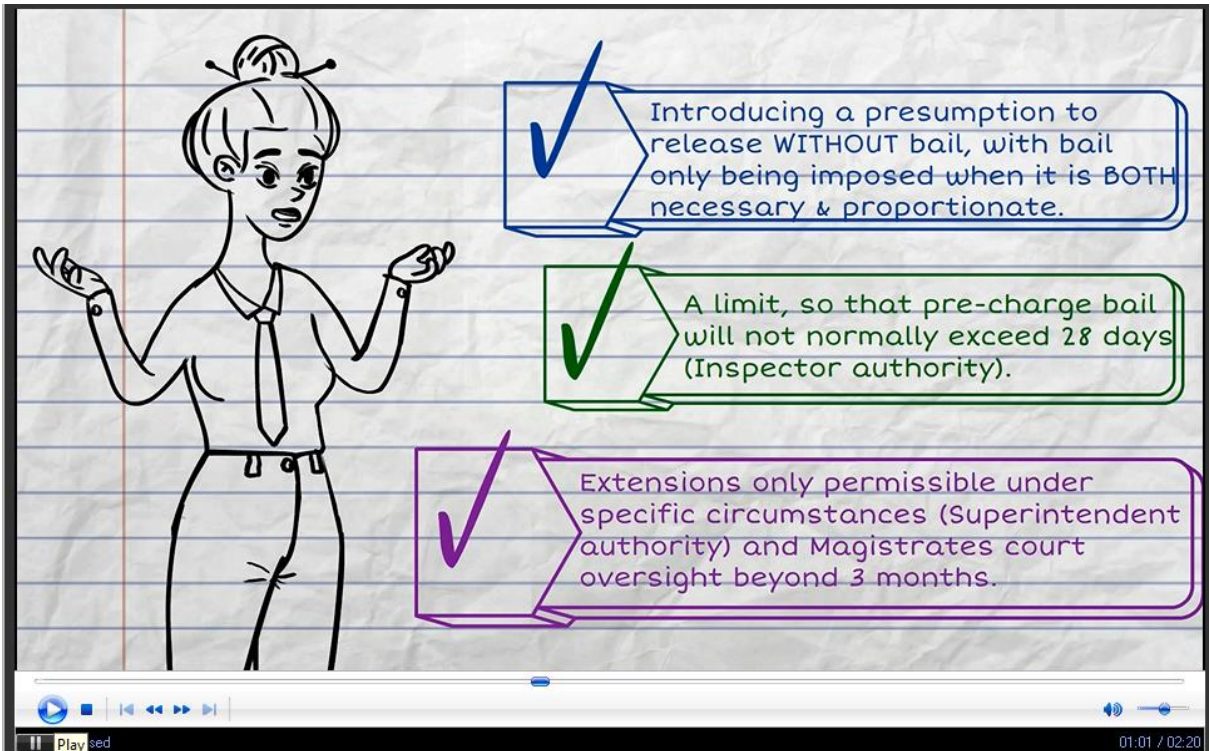


Introducing The Policing and Crime Bill 2016:

Reforms to pre-charge bail go live 3rd April 2017.

To ensure individuals spend no longer than necessary on pre-charge bail.

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Introducing a presumption to release WITHOUT bail, with bail only being imposed when it is BOTH necessary & proportionate.

A limit, so that pre-charge bail will not normally exceed 28 days (Inspector authority).

Extensions only permissible under specific circumstances (Superintendent authority) and Magistrates court oversight beyond 3 months.

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Introducing a new disposal code
"Release pending further
investigation"

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ALL DECISIONS TO IMPOSE OR EXTEND BAIL, TAKEN BY THE POLICE MUST CONSIDER 4 FACTORS:

1. Reasonable grounds to suspect person is guilty of the offence.
2. That further time to gather evidence is needed to make a charging decision;
3. The investigation is being carried out diligently & expeditiously; and
4. Bail (including any conditions) continues to be both necessary and proportionate.

RESPONSIBILITIES TO NOTIFY THE SUSPECT OF INFORMATION ARE INTRODUCED!

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