

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0037  
Date: 01 February 2022



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

**Did NHS Grampian inform Police Scotland that dihydrocodeine was an unlicensed drug for the treatment of heroin addicts and what checks did you carry out to ensure that pregnant detainees received methadone to prevent damage to a foetus. Did NHS Grampian inform Police Scotland, If the detainee take recreational drugs, such as cannabis, cocaine and heroin, that taking dihydrocodeine, they will be more likely to get the serious side effects of dihydrocodeine including breathing difficulties, muscle stiffness, low blood pressure and seizures or fits.**

I would remind you that Freedom of Information provides a right of access to recorded information only and we would therefore interpret these questions as seeking some formal correspondence/ note etc from NHS Grampian to Police Scotland on the subject.

As such, in terms of section 17 of the Act I can confirm that there is no information held by Police Scotland of relevance to these questions.

To explain, medical provision for persons in police custody is the responsibility of National Health Service (NHS) Scotland.

The management of all medication given to an individual whilst in police custody is the responsibility of the NHS Healthcare Professional (HCP).

As such, if you require any further information relating to the provision of medication to persons in police custody in NHS Grampian, please contact them.

The HCP may provide Police Scotland with a Care Plan detailing any information the HCP deems necessary to share with the custody staff to enable them to provide ongoing care and welfare to the person in custody. The need for, and content of, any Care Plan is the responsibility of the Healthcare Professional.

**Why did Police Scotland give this medication to detainees knowing of the dangers of giving this unlicensed medication.**

In terms of section 8 of the Act, this question seeks comment/ opinion as opposed to recorded information and so is not considered to be a valid FOI request.

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Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalrnarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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