



Response Date:23/04/2024

2024/390 - medical cannabis

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

1. How many arrests have been made by North Wales Police for people in possession of/using medical cannabis in the past 12 months?

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. To obtain the information in the format you have requested would involve manually reviewing all arrests with keyword "Cannabis" or "CANNABIS" in the reason description record on our force system. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (FOI) Fees and Appropriate Limit regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the FOI Act 2000 the information you have requested is exempt under Section 12 (1), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) of the legislation.

Please note: we have searched for all arrests with keyword "Cannabis" or "CANNABIS" in the reason description with a Keyword Search for 'Medical/Medicinal' in the Arrest Circumstances and there was a 'nil' return.

2. Have officers from North Wales Police undergone training around medical cannabis and the law?

Please find attached some previous FOI responses on this topic.

3. Are there plans for such training to take place?

Please find attached some previous FOI responses on this topic.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 22/04/2024



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:12/10/2023

2023/1056 - Medical cannabis

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Please, can you provide me with:-

- **Legislation in regard to medicinal cannabis.**
- **Resources made available to officers in regard to how to deal with medicinal cannabis.**
- **Information on how officers are trained in dealing with medicinal cannabis, such as training programmes and initiatives.**

If someone has a prescription for Cannabis they will be able to tell you the name of their consultant and which clinic they are registered to. This can then be checked with a phone call directly to the clinic.

- All consultants able to prescribe Cannabis are held on the GMC Specialist Register.
- The three main clinics in the UK are the Lyphe Group, Curaleaf and My Access Clinics.
- Patients are required to carry their NHSFP10PCD prescription form if they have Cannabis on them – This will include the name of the drug, amount prescribed per dose and total quantity provided in words and figures – without this information it is NOT a legal prescription
- Medicinal Cannabis will either be consumed as an oil, a soft-gel capsule or using a vaporiser pen. It should not be rolled into a spliff and smoked as this is not a medically recognised consumption method. Other methods being trialled include pessaries, oral wafers and suppositories.
- Medicinal Cannabis will be carried by the patient in recognisable medication packaging – common varieties are NOIDEC T14 and ALTHEA T18. It will not be in a snap bag covered in smiley faces!
- A patient can only possess one month's personal supply at one time.
- There are no medicinal edible Cannabis products legally available in the UK.
- Reporting being a medicinal cannabis patient to the DVLA is the patient's responsibility, not the clinics.

We do not currently teach anything specific to medicinal cannabis as it would be classed the same as any other prescribed drug.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 11/10/2023



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 19/10/2023

2023/1103 - medical cannabis

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Since the legalisation of medical cannabis (hence forth MC) in 2018 a worrying amount of people are arrested, detained or otherwise interfered with because they have MC is ridiculous, not only in terms of wasting public money (the time officers spend on it, cell space being used, tax money being spent when police have to apologise for being ignorant about the laws they "uphold"). Its also an added worry for people with an MC prescription who don't want any trouble with the police like most people and would just like to get on with their day/lives.

I would like you to explain the law to me surrounding medical cannabis.

I would like you to tell me what I need to provide an officer with when asked about my MC.

What training have you provided or has been provided to officers surrounding changes in laws since they first started working in law enforcement? If said training does exist is it mandatory? Also what length of time is given to officers to complete? Is it graded? If so what grade is a pass? What happens if they fail?

What consequences can an officer expect if they wrongfully arrest or detain a MC user? Also if they confiscate said users MC what procedures should the officers follow, and how can they prove they followed said procedures correctly?

How as a MC user of legal cannabis can you stop an officer from confiscating prescription medication and associated medical devices?

Please find attached a previous FOI response 1056/2023.

Officers are subject of the Police Conduct Regulations 2020, Standards of Professional Behaviour and Code of Ethics. In carrying out their duties in accordance with these standards, police officers have the right to receive the full support of their force. The ability of police officers to carry out their duties to the highest professional standards will depend on the provision of appropriate training, equipment and management support. Forces have a responsibility to keep police officers informed of changes to police regulations, local policies, laws and procedures. Police officers have a duty to keep themselves up to date on the Code of Ethics and Authorised Professional Practice on the basis of the information provided.

In the event of a complaint or conduct matter being raised the Force will be expected to review the circumstances of that case and determine an appropriate response, which might include learning, or more formal performance or misconduct outcomes, in line with Regulations and Home Office Guidance

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 19/10/2023



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:01/11/2023

2023/1164 - Medical cannabis

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

- 1. Does North Wales Police have a policy in place around educating ""ALL"" police officers and employees around the legality of medical cannabis. This is since Chief Inspector Arfon Jones left the force.**

If so, please can you provide details.

North Wales Police do not hold any information in relation to this part of your request, as there is no formal 'policy'.

- 2. Does North Wales Police have any guidelines in place. For instance, when a cbmp is stopped for carrying, or in possession of what they describe to be medical cannabis? If so, please could you provide details.**

Please see previous response 1056/23

- 3. Has North Wales new Chief Inspector put any policy's in place, or worked towards high lighting the new legality of cbmp. After the previous Chief Inspector Arfon Jones work towards ""medical cannabis"" Legalisation? If so, please can you provide details.**

Please see the answer to question one.

- 4. Is North Wales Police influenced by a local Conservative Senedd Politician (Darren Miller) who voted against the cbmp legislation put through Westminster in October 2018? Also sending a very negative letter to Arfon Jones (Plaid Cymru). Regarding non based facts regarding medical cannabis and what it would do to the community.**

If so, please can you provide details.

Unfortunately, North Wales Police is unable to assist with your request/this part of your request as there is no requirement to respond if it would mean creating new information or giving an opinion or judgment that is not already recorded and it is therefore not valid under Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 30/10/2023