

- 1) a copy of the Constabulary's policy or procedure for the verification of the legitimate possession and use of prescribed medical cannabis/cannabis-based prescription medicine (CBPM);**

WMP does not have a policy in relation to this as every case and person encountered is different and each encounter is based on its own merits. However, WMP does have a policy of referring cannabis users towards 3<sup>rd</sup> party drugs workers when found in possession of cannabis without unnecessarily criminalising an individual.

- 2) if the Constabulary does not have a local policy regarding this, could you please confirm that the Home Office guidance is adhered to by the Constabulary - namely that someone claiming the legitimate possession and use of medical cannabis will be expected to produce: the original medication container complete with the pharmacy dispensing label bearing the name of the patient; with either a copy of their FP10 prescription or a letter from the prescribing clinician; and a form of recognised photo ID (such as a passport, driving licence, or a PASS accredited photo card) bearing the same name as displayed on the dispensing label and the copy of the FP10 or clinician's letter;**

WMP would expect a person found in possession of cannabis to produce relevant paperwork and information relating to their current status to hold the cannabis legally in order for the officer involved in the encounter to make an informed decision or be able to make the relevant enquiries at that time in order to minimise the amount of time a genuine medicinal cannabis user is delayed and to be able to make an informed decision on the appropriate action.

- 3) if your Constabulary does not have a policy relating to this, could you please provide the Constabulary's policy regarding compliance with the PSED (Public Sector Equality Duty), especially with regards to the avoidance of discrimination against disabled people for the legitimate possession and use of a prescribed medication;**

No information held

- 4) a copy of any internal briefing documents provided to police officers regarding the existence of - and the process for the verification of - prescribed medical cannabis flower or other CBPM's following the Home Office Circular 2018: 'Rescheduling of cannabis-based products for medicinal use in humans' and The Misuse of Drugs (Amendments) (Cannabis and Licence Fees) (England, Wales and Scotland) Regulations 2018 which allowed the prescribing of medical cannabis (CBPM);**

Whilst some officers have received training on medicinal cannabis (and this number continues to grow) WMP continues to deliver training to officers and staff on all topics around drugs including cannabis in all its forms and uses. There has been no specific briefing document on medicinal cannabis issued to officers.

**5) the named lead for the Constabulary for matters pertaining to the verification of medical cannabis (CBPM);**

Superintendent Jane Bailey who will work with the Drugs Expert Witness Team. The actual verification is primarily a paper enquiry as opposed to the identification of the drug itself.

**6) the Constabulary's policy or position relating to the recognition of unaccredited card schemes such as Cancard or MedCannID, if such a policy exists.**

Whilst MedCannID has now closed its services, officers are aware that there is a verification number printed on the Cancard that they can ring to help with their immediate enquiries. It is expected that a holder of the Cancard should also point this out to an officer in order help prove their status to hold cannabis for medicinal usage.

Additionally, in order to assist you may find the below link useful to an NPCC FOI response which provides guidance documents pertaining to Cancard.

[Cannabis Cards - a Freedom of Information request to National Police Chiefs' Council - WhatDoTheyKnow](#)