



Home Office

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Kenneth Heskin
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29 November 2019

Dear Mr Heskin,

Freedom of Information request reference: 56262

Thank you for your email of 3 November, in which you requested information about cannabis-based products for medicinal use. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

- 1) You asked for: "Copies of laws that prevent me from purchasing medicinal cannabis from a GP in the Netherlands (where it costs hundreds of pounds less) and bringing it back to the UK for my own personal use";
- 2) "...copies of any documentation I need to have signed by the GP in the Netherlands to allow me to import it"; and
- 3) "...with copies of the law that prevents me from receiving medical cannabis from a GP in the Netherlands by mail".

In the case of the first and third requests, for "copies of laws", I confirm that the Home Office holds the information which you have requested about UK legislation. However, section 21(1) of the FOIA exempts the Home Office from having to provide you with this information, because it is already reasonably accessible to you on the legislation.gov.uk website.

The Home Office is unable to provide legal advice. However, the legislation that applies specifically to cannabis-based products for medicinal use is the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/3998). See Regulation 16A in particular.

The Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 also prescribes restrictions around the import and export of controlled drugs, including cannabis-based products for medicinal use. If you have any difficulties in accessing this information at the source which I have indicated, please contact me again.

Regarding your second request, for copies of documentation to be signed by GPs in the Netherlands, the Home Office does not hold this information.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference 56262. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

Drugs and Alcohol Unit