

Amy Coles
request-446541-cd4e1237@whatdotheyknow.com

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

13 December 2017

Dear Ms Coles

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 171115011

Thank you for your request dated 16 November 2017 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

I would like the number of legal highs confiscated from prisoners in HMP Parc Prison in the last five years. That's from 15/11/2012 until the time this FOI is answered. I would like the information broken down by month and if possible basic information about what kind of legal high was taken. I would prefer to have the information digitally and in excel format if possible.

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested and I have provided it attached.

A new enhanced incident reporting standard was introduced in July 2015 that allowed better recording of items found, including the selection of NPS (New Psychoactive Substances) drugs. This ran in parallel with the previous system for a bedding in period until October 2015.

Prior to the new reporting standard, NPS type drugs were not a selectable category. Figures under the previous system were produced by searching for the words 'NPS', 'legal high', 'psychoactive drug', 'psychoactive substance', 'spice', 'mamba' and 'synthetic cannabis' against the type of drugs found. Care needs to be taken when comparing across the periods.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Operational Security Group
HM Prison and Probation Service