NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 27 March 2019.

NHS Tayside wishes to advise you that there are exemptions applicable to the information requested. Please refer to the exemptions section of this correspondence.

Extract from Request (NHS Tayside have added numbers for ease of reference)

1. “Since the New Psychoactive Substances Act came into force in 2016 how many people have been admitted to hospital because of the effects of New Psychoactive Substances?

2. How many these were emergency admissions?

3. How many people have died because of the effects of New Psychoactive Substances?

4. How many people were sign posted to recovery and drug addiction services because of their use of New Psychoactive substances?”

Response

1. From 26 May 2016 – 31 December 2018, there have been 1,045 General/Acute Inpatient & Day Case Discharges with a diagnosis relating to "New Psychoactive Substances" (NPS). These discharges were for 973 individuals. Data for January to March 2019 is not yet complete.
   Please note: the ICD-10 codes used to identify the data are broad and may result in discharges being included that are not due to NPS use.

2. All admissions featured within the discharges are coded as emergency admissions under the system used.
   In this context an admission that is not elective (i.e. planned care) is an emergency as it is unplanned care. That does not mean to say the person was in immediate danger when admitted to the ward under that episode.

3. No one admitted to NHS Tayside with a diagnosis relating to “new psychoactive substance” between 26 May 2016 and 31 December 2018 has died in hospital.

4. NHS Tayside does not hold the information requested. It is not possible to identify if signposting was undertaken in each of these hospital admissions from the data available.
Notes:
1. All discharges from acute hospitals are recorded in the SMR01 dataset.
2. The data includes both 'elective' and 'emergency' admissions. "New Psychoactive Substances" are defined by Medical Records within NHS Tayside as being the following ICD10 codes.
   - T43.6 - Psychostimulants with abuse potential (Poisoning)
   - X41. (X410-X419) - Accidental poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs, not elsewhere classified.
   - X61. (X610-X619) - Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonism and psychotropic drugs, not elsewhere classified. (The external cause code to "T43.6" if a patient has intentionally self-harmed using Mephedrone.)
   - F15. (F150-F159) - Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of other stimulants, including caffeine. (The category to select to record any mental and behavioural disorders due to use of Mephedrone)
   - ii) Please note that there is no specific code in ICD10 to identify Mephedrone individually.
   - iii) Individual/specific substances are not recorded in the SMR datasets.

As noted above these ICD-10 are broad and will result in discharges being included that are not due to deliberate NPS use. They could also include episodes of patients having adverse reactions to prescribed medications, or intentional overdoses of prescribed medication for which they require treatment.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6131</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held.</td>
<td>Information not held for January – March 2019. (Q1) NHS Tayside does not hold the information requested. (Q4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Tayside has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commission.

A request for an internal review must be made in writing no later than forty working days from receipt of this response and addressed to:

Tayside NHS Board Secretary
Tayside NHS Board Headquarters
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School
Dundee
DD1 9SY

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Or via the online appeal service: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

If you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact:

Information Governance Team
Maryfield House
30 Mains Loan
Dundee
DD4 7BT

Telephone - 01382 424413
E-mail: informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
30 April 2019