



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Drug Trend Bulletin – Issue 8 March 2016

Cannabis resin with a high THC level

There are reports of an increase in availability and use of cannabis resin is widely available. The picture below is of an interesting recovery in England where a bar of resin was found to have a THC content of 29% which is much higher than the normal strength of Moroccan produced 'nine bar'. This is an exceptionally rare case and does not reflect mainstream resin purity in Scotland at the present time.



Cannabis resin is more frequently being recovered in 100 gram bars. The following pictures show examples of recent recoveries across Scotland.



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There is some reporting that indicates cannabis resin or 'solid' as it sometimes called, is becoming more popular with users. One of the reasons suggested is that the cannabis 'bud' in circulation is too strong and expensive. If you have any general information regarding this or any other developing drug trends please consider informing the STOP Unit Coordinator on the contact numbers or email shown at the end of this Bulletin.

Methamphetamine recovery in the Glasgow area

The Class 'A' Controlled drug methamphetamine has been recovered in the Glasgow area in a very small number of deals in a crystalline form weighing approximately 0.25 grams each. There was a separate recovery of a small amount in the Bellshill area. Both seizures were in 2015 and unusual as methamphetamine is seldom recovered in Scotland. It is requested that any information on methamphetamine use or availability in Scotland is reported to the police or drug services.

Methamphetamine 'ice' crystals



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Can you guess what it is?

The substance shown in this photograph was recovered after being thrown over the wall of a Scottish prison (incoming). Can you guess what it is? (Answer at the end of this bulletin).



Ecstasy 'cut outs' – yellow strawberry shape

Yellow coloured strawberry shape ecstasy tablets have been recovered recently. The tablets contain MDMA and are representative of the current trend of 'cut out' design pills containing large doses of MDMA. This creates an increased risk for users as there is no way of telling what's in them. It is also of note that ecstasy in its crystal form is normally high strength and increases the risk of adverse effects.



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NBoMe tabs recovered in the Dumbarton area

There has been a recent recovery of Rolling Stones 'Big Licks' logo and an unidentified logo on 'blotter art' tabs in the Dumbarton area. Forensic analysis identified the Rolling Stones 'Big Licks' logo tabs contained 25I-NBoMe, a Class 'A' controlled drug. The unidentified logo tabs contained 25C-NBoMe which is also a Class 'A' controlled drug. There was no LSD present in any of the tabs.



Ecstasy 'cut outs' – Master Card logo

The tablets shown were recently recovered in the north east areas of Aberdeen and Inverurie. The tablets were found to contain MDMA and although purity levels are not known at this time, it is again assessed this design of 'cut out' tablet will be stronger than normal. Higher levels of MDMA can present a serious risk to users, particularly when more than one tablet is consumed. Ecstasy 'cut out' designs currently sell for approximately £10 per single tablet.



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Heroin containing methaqualone

The Scottish Police Authority Drugs Laboratory has identified a very small number of cases involving heroin containing methaqualone, a Class 'B' controlled drug. The small amounts of heroin were recovered in the autumn of 2015 with the most recent seizure being in the Glasgow area. This is an unusual trend and involved quantities of heroin sufficient in size to infer onward supply.

More NBoMe tabs

Crescent moon design



Dalai Lama design



Blotter art – unidentified content

The picture is of a recent recovery of 'Hoffman' logo blotter art. There is no forensic analysis result available at this time.



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Diazepam containing U – 47700

The tablets shown below would be perceived to contain diazepam however laboratory analysis has identified the content as U-47700. U 47700 is a non controlled opioid analgesic derived from AH - 7921 which was controlled as a Class 'A' drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 in 2015. Police Scotland's Forensic Provider has identified an increasing number of recoveries of this drug.



Can you guess what it is?

Diamorphine, paracetamol and caffeine.

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