



# Home Office

## HOME SECRETARY

2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

Professor Les Iversen  
Chair of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs  
c/o 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

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Dear Professor Iversen

Thank you for your letter of 25 February.

When we met last month we discussed our shared concern about the rise in cocaine use, and in particular the use of pharmaceutical agents which mimic the effects of cocaine as cutting agents. You indicated then that the Advisory Council was minded to undertake a review. I am very pleased to hear that this will now proceed. I have no doubt that your findings will be very valuable in improving our understanding of the harms of cocaine and how they might be reduced.

As you aware, my department has been considering how we fill some of our knowledge gaps around powder cocaine and take further action to reduce harms. I am pleased to note that my officials will speak to this work at the Advisory Council's Technical Committee meeting later this month so that we can share our developing programme of work with the Council.

As ever, please pass on my thanks and gratitude to the Council's members for their work.

Yours sincerely  
Alan Johnson

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