



The Government has decided to make Khat an illegal Class C drug. The ban on Khat will come into effect on 24 June 2014.

## Why is khat being banned?

Khat contains natural ingredients which are already controlled drugs both in the UK and internationally because they are harmful. To help protect local communities from the potential health and social harms associated with Khat and to ensure that the UK does not become a hub for international Khat smuggling, it will become illegal to produce, possess, supply and import or export Khat without a Home Office licence.

## What will happen if you use Khat from 24 June 2014 in Scotland?

From 24 June 2014, anyone caught producing, possessing, supplying, importing or exporting Khat will be liable to arrest and will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal, risking prosecution for Class C drug offences.

Simple possession of Khat may attract sanctions of up to 2 years in prison and/or an unlimited fine on indictment (up to 3 months in prison and/or a £1,000 fine on summary conviction).

## What happens if you trade in Khat once it becomes an illegal Class C drug?

Supply offences attract sanctions of up to 14 years in prison and/or an unlimited fine (up to 3 months in prison and/or a £2,500 fine on summary conviction).

Supplying Khat to your friends, even if you give it away, is also considered 'supplying' under the law.





## **Will the ban on khat apply in both public and private places?**

Yes. Khat will become an illegal Class C drug and this will apply UK wide.

## **Where can I go to find advice and support about giving khat up?**

For advice and information on local support and treatment services for Khat use, your GP or local council is a good place to start.

For confidential advice and information on local support and treatment services please visit:

**<http://knowthescore.info/> or <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/policies/drugs-alcohol>**