



Home Office

Sarah Newton MP
Minister for Vulnerability,
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Professor Les Iversen
Chair, Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs
1st Floor (NE), Peel Building
2 Marsham Street
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6 December 2016

Dear Les,

Re: ACMD Advice on Pregabalin and Gabapentin

Thank you for the Advisory Council's advice of 14 January 2016 which recommended the control of gabapentin and pregabalin under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. I am grateful for the advice, given the growing concerns around the misuse and harms of these substances, particularly in Northern Ireland.

I accept the ACMD's advice in principle, subject to the outcome of a public consultation to assess the impact on the healthcare sector, particularly if both gabapentin and pregabalin were to be listed in Schedule 3 to the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001.

My officials will carry out a public consultation in the coming months, keeping you updated on their progress.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Newton MP