



Home Office

Rt Hon Mike Penning MP  
Minister for Policing, Crime,  
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[www.gov.uk/home-office](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)

Professor Les Iversen  
Chair, Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs  
c/o 1st Floor (SW)  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

26 November 2015

Dear Les,

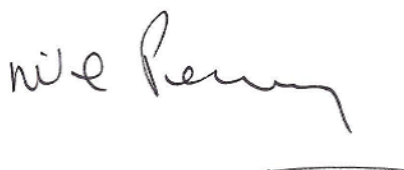
Thank you for your letter of 18 November enclosing the Advisory Council's advice on Methiopropamine (MPA).

Your letter provides a careful consideration of the available evidence concerning the use and physical harms of MPA for the purpose of advice on temporary control under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

I am pleased to accept the ACMD's recommendations and confirm that a temporary class drug order for MPA will shortly be made. The current evidence around MPA being injected since the methylphenidate-based compounds were subject to temporary control is of particular concern.

Together with the Department of Health we will update public health information available on FRANK in relation to MPA to raise health warning and awareness messages on its harms. In addition, the Department of Health and Public Health England will communicate the health risks through appropriate NHS and DH channels to NHS staff and other local healthcare professionals.

The next step in this process is for the ACMD to undertake a full assessment of harms of MPA for consideration in relation to permanent control under the 1971 Act. I ask that the ACMD now undertake that review. I am conscious that further advice should be provided in a timescale that, if appropriate, will enable the completion of the parliamentary process for permanent control within the 12 months from the making of the current order. My officials will be happy to guide you further on these timings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Penning", with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Rt Hon Mike Penning MP**

**Cc**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health

Minister for Health and Social Services, Wales

Minister for Public Health, Scotland

Minister for Health, Social Services & Public Safety, Northern Ireland