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| <b>ILLICIT SUBSTANCES POLICY</b><br>Version 4.0 Last Up-dated 01 March 2008 ©GMP Systems, Year 2008 |                   |             |        |

*This Policy summarises the philosophy of the Home with respect to illicit substances which are found in the possession of service users. The outcome of this Policy is that the care and well-being of the service users are not compromised through potential self-abuse:*

1. The following are termed *illicit substances* for the purposes of this Policy:

Mood-altering substances such as:

- alcohol;
- recreational drugs (cocaine, crack, heroin, amphetamines, tranquilliser, cannabis, LSD, Ecstasy etc - refer to Form No 3-10 - *Profile of Recreational Drugs*;
- solvents, aerosols and other inhalants such as lighter fuels and glue.

2. When a service user is admitted to the Home for a planned course of detoxification treatment, his / her personal possessions will be searched for any illicit substance that may contra-indicate the Treatment Programme. The service user understands that this is a critical condition of the Detoxification Contract to which the service user subscribes.
3. Thereafter, it is possible that illicit substances may be covertly brought into the Home by a service user directly, or by a visiting friend or family member. In the latter cases the substances may often be disguised as mailed packages, hidden in clothing and in other ways. Staff receive specialist training in substance abuse, and the various ways in which illicit substances can be obtained and disguised.
4. When it is discovered that an illicit substance has been brought into the Home, or a service user is found in possession of such a substance, or is discovered to have been drinking alcohol, the Home Manager will be informed immediately.
6. The Home Manager will discuss the incident with the service user's consultant psychiatrist or clinical adviser, and, according to circumstances, a decision will be made whether or not to terminate the service user's Treatment Programme and therefore his / her residency.
7. If a decision is made to continue with the Treatment Programme, the service user will be informed that his / her actions constitute a clear breach of the Detoxification Contract, but due to exceptional circumstances he / she will be allowed to remain in Treatment. However, the service user is advised that any further breach of contract will result in immediate termination of treatment, and records made to this effect in the service user's case notes.
8. Where the decision is taken to terminate the Treatment Programme, this will be actioned in accordance with Policy No 323.

**FORM REFERENCES:**

- Form No: 3-03 Detoxification Contract - *Alcohol*  
 Form No: 3-04 Detoxification Contract - *Recreational Drugs*