Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy submission of 22 August 2023

PE1900/R: Access to prescribed medication for detainees in police custody

Following my recent commitment to the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee and Criminal Justice Committee, I can now confirm that a rapid review of each health board has been carried out, relevant to petition PE1900.

This review was agreed after His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) and Health Improvement Scotland published their inspection of police custody units within NHS Lanarkshire's board area, 20 April 2023. This inspection highlighted issues in the provision of Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST) for detainees; the lack of a controlled drug license to meet legal obligations on the storage and supply of controlled drugs in police custody; and a degree of under reporting of adverse health events, complaints and feedback.

I therefore wrote to the Chief Executive of each territorial health board requesting confirmation that they have:

- A controlled drug license to store and/or supply controlled drugs as required by law, in every custody unit.
- Written policies and effective practices which ensure that every detainee has access to their prescribed medication in custody, whether that be OST or any other prescribed medication.
- Robust processes and adequate training to ensure that every adverse health event, complaint or feedback is recorded on Datix.

I also wrote to Police Scotland to request assurances that:

- They have written policies and effective practices which ensure that every detainee has access to their prescribed medication in custody, whether that be OST or any other prescribed medication.
- Every member of custody staff is trained to administer naloxone and that this is available in every custody unit.
- Every member of custody staff has undertaken specialist training on substance dependency, mental health and trauma informed care.

I have received responses from all areas. Please see table below which outlines each boards response, as well as Police Scotland's response attached separately.

As part of our ongoing work, officials will engage with the relevant areas to follow up on the information they have provided to ensure time scales are met, processes are put in place and support the delivery of these actions.

Elena Whitham MSP

HEALTH BOARDS	1) Do you have a controlled drug license in place to store and/or supply controlled drugs in every police custody unit in your health board area?	2) Do you have written policies and effective practices in place which ensure that every detainee has access to their prescribed medication in custody, whether that be OST or any other prescribed medication?	3) Do you have robust processes and adequate training to ensure that every adverse health event, complaint or feedback is recorded on Datix?	If no to any of these questions, then what is your plan for implementing this and what is the timescale for completion:
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	 Yes A current controlled drug licence is in place within each of the three Police custody units in Ayrshire and Arran. The current licences are valid until 26 September 2023. The first application for controlled drug licences for the Police custody suites was submitted by NHS Ayrshire and Arran to the DFLU in 2017. 	Yes A policy is in place relating to the provision of medication within the custody suites 'Medicines Management within Police Custody Suites Local Operating Procedure'. Within the Medicines Management LOP a further policy is referred to which details the 'Process for Detainees Receiving Methadone or Opiate Substitution Therapy'. This SOP describes the process of obtaining medication from community pharmacy or using interim prescriptions to continue treatment in	Yes Services with the Police custody suites are exclusively provided by an independent contracted provider (current COMS) with specification made for complaints or feedback described within the document 'Mainland Healthcare and Forensic Medical Services for People in Police Custody Service Specification and Clinical Model' Complaints regarding Justice Settings are reviewed by the NHS Clinical Service Manager Justice Healthcare Services	N/A

		custody for the necessary duration. These were recently noted to be in need of update with regards a few details (contact numbers, team names, staff in post etc) and are currently being reviewed by the management team for renewal.	and discussed by the Prison and Police Custody Clinical Governance Group.	
NHS Borders	Yes NHS Lothian host Police Custody Healthcare services for NHS Lothian, NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Borders. The governance of each area is checked on a rotational basis when the licence needs to be renewed. Governance is underpinned by CD Governance Teams in the Health Board areas, daily/ 72-hour CD checks and a monthly report which	Yes Effective practice. Every detainee who is on prescribed medication is referred to the service using single point referral service. There is no discrimination between essential medications. Missed dose protocols are followed for all medications if relevant. OST collection can be from patient's home or pharmacy if it is supported by corroboration from Emergency Care Summary/ Pharmacist/Patient/ GP.	 Yes All staff complete Learn Pro training regarding Datix and significant adverse event reporting. Senior Charge Nurses attend a two-day training for management of adverse events. Datix and understanding of policy is recorded on quarterly Health and Safety Reports which go to NHS Lothian Board via REAS SMT (directorate). Locally, a 	N/A

	feeds into the Health and Safety quarterly report to NHS Lothian Board. Pharmacy ordering and supply for CD schedule 3 drugs is		spreadsheet is updated on a monthly basis and SCNs carry out monthly checks and reports as part of staff management supervision	
	supported by standard operating procedures which are displayed on an intranet page for the service.		arrangements. O Police Scotland and NHS Lothian teams can raise a Service Review Form in which operational matters can be discussed and any actions taken based on SBAR format.	
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	No (refer to last column)	Yes Work was undertaken at the request of Police Scotland in 2022 to look at arrangements for administration of medicines in D&G police custody suites; Nursing & FME have provided evidence of the processes that are in place for the prescribing & administration of medicines within police	Yes O Patient Safety Team advises that our RM system (Datix) is configured to enable adverse events and complaints from custody suites to be logged on the system and reviewed/investigated as per NHS Dumfries & Galloway policies and procedures which fully comply with National	1) At present we do not require a license from the Home Office for service. This is because controlled drugs (methadone for MAT) are prescribed on a named patient basis using GP10 prescription form & thus we hold no CD stocks that are not designated for; This is based on experience of applying for licenses for other healthcare services (SDAS and HMP Dumfries).

custody healthcare	Adverse Event &	CHSCP (the hosting
setting;	Learning Framework;	directorate for police
		custody suite healthcare)
 It is worth noting that 	 We do though note 	will link with HO regarding
with any service it is	from the Lanarkshire	licensing if operationally
subject to continual	report that there is a	they wish to hold stocks of
improvement and	risk of under reporting	methadone in the future;
development;	due to the need for	
•	effective	Medicines storage was
 There is a local forum in 	communication across	reviewed in 2022 as part of
existence at the clinical	the different	our Controlled Drug
operational level	stakeholder groups	Governance Improvement
between Police Scotland	(Police Scotland &	Plan (reporting via Annual
& NHS colleagues where	NHS);	CD Accountable Officer to
matters are raised &	,	Healthcare Governance
discussed.	 As noted in Question2, 	Group) and improvements
	there is a monthly	made to being in line with
	forum between Police	RPS Safe & Secure
	Scotland & NHS for	Handling of Medicines
	police custody	standards.
	healthcare - this forum	
	would report and	
	escalate any incidents	
	that couldn't be	
	resolved within it;	
	,	
	o This forum (which is	
	linked operationally to	
	the CHSCP GMs senior	
	team via the service	
	manager) would be	
	appropriate for raising	
	awareness of learning	

			from the Lanarkshire report.	
NHS Fife	Yes NHS Lothian host Police Custody Healthcare services for NHS Lothian, NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Borders. The governance of each area is checked on a rotational basis when the licence needs to be renewed. Governance is underpinned by CD Governance Teams in the Health Board areas, daily/ 72-hour CD checks and a monthly report which feeds into the Health and Safety quarterly report to NHS Lothian Board. Pharmacy ordering and supply for CD schedule 3 drugs is supported by	Yes Effective practice. Every detainee who is on prescribed medication is referred to the service using single point referral service. There is no discrimination between essential medications. Missed dose protocols are followed for all medications if relevant. OST collection can be from patient's home or pharmacy if it is supported by corroboration from Emergency Care Summary/ Pharmacist/Patient/ GP.	Yes All staff complete Learn Pro training regarding Datix and significant adverse event reporting. Senior Charge Nurses attend a two-day training for management of adverse events. Datix and understanding of policy is recorded on quarterly Health and Safety Reports which go to NHS Lothian Board via REAS SMT (directorate). Locally, a spreadsheet is updated on a monthly basis and SCNs carry out monthly checks and reports as part of staff management supervision arrangements.	N/A

	standard operating procedures which are displayed on an intranet page for the service.		 Police Scotland and NHS Lothian teams can raise a Service Review Form in which operational matters can be discussed and any actions taken based on SBAR format. 	
NHS Forth Valley	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A
	o NHS Lothian host Police Custody Healthcare services for NHS Lothian, NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Borders. The governance of each area is checked on a rotational basis when the licence needs to be renewed.	Effective practice. Every detainee who is on prescribed medication is referred to the service using single point referral service. There is no discrimination between essential medications. Missed dose protocols are followed for all medications if relevant.	 All staff complete Learn Pro training regarding Datix and significant adverse event reporting. Senior Charge Nurses attend a two-day training for management of adverse events. 	
	 Governance is underpinned by CD Governance Teams in the Health Board areas, daily/ 72-hour CD checks and a monthly report which feeds into the Health and Safety quarterly report to NHS 	OST collection can be from patient's home or pharmacy if it is supported by corroboration from Emergency Care Summary/ Pharmacist/Patient/ GP.	o Datix and understanding of policy is recorded on quarterly Health and Safety Reports which go to NHS Lothian Board via REAS SMT (directorate). Locally, a spreadsheet is updated on a monthly basis and SCNs carry out monthly	

NUS Grampian	Lothian Board. Pharmacy ordering and supply for CD schedule 3 drugs is supported by standard operating procedures which are displayed on an intranet page for the service.	Voc	checks and reports as part of staff management supervision arrangements. O Police Scotland and NHS Lothian teams can raise a Service Review Form in which operational matters can be discussed and any actions taken based on SBAR format.	1) At the moment there is no
NHS Grampian	No (refer to last column)	Yes There is a current policy Guidance on the Safe Management of Medicines including Controlled Drugs in NHS Grampian', however this is in the process of being updated to reflect the needs required to deliver the governance around the Controlled Drug Licence. The policy is near completion and is currently in its consultation period with key stakeholders.	Yes The Datix system is used widely within all 3 police custody suites in NHS Grampian. Once an adverse event report has been submitted, an appropriate level of review is carried out, and any necessary action/learning is implemented if required. All staff undertake DATIX training as mandatory and there are numerous trained Adverse Event	1) At the moment there is no controlled drug licence in place for the 3 police custody suites within NHS Grampian. We are currently working towards submitting an application for a controlled drug licence, which will cover all 3 police custody suites within NHS Grampian. We are striving to submit the application by the end of May 2023, as we are finalising the policies and procedures that are required to be in place.

- In addition we are currently reviewing and amending the NHS Grampian policy – 'Guidance on the Safe Administration of Medication including Controlled Drugs in Forensic and Custody Healthcare'. Again this is being updated to reflect the governance alongside the Controlled Drug Licence.
- Currently there is only a small percentage of our nursing workforce that hold the Non-medical Prescribing Qualification. However within our workforce planning we are working towards a model where it will be mandatory that all our nursing workforce will undertake Non-medical Prescribing as part of their role.

- Reviewers within the Partnership to support Level 1 and Level 2 Investigations.
- Currently across
 Aberdeenshire HSCP
 all Level 1 & 2
 investigations are
 reported in to the
 Partnership Risk Group
 for sign off and
 approval and are
 escalated to the Clinical
 and Adult Social Work
 Group where
 necessary.
- Going forward we have plans to develop a Custody specific Quality and Risk Group to ensure local learning is gained from any identifiable themes, and provide assurances that all appropriate action is being taken and learning shared across all our Police Custody Suites.

NHS Greater Glasgow	Yes	 As per above the application for the Controlled Drug Licence is planned to be submitted at the end of May 2023. Yes 	Yes	N/A
	license is in place to store and supply Schedule 2 to 5 controlled drugs in every police custody healthcare suite in Greater Glasgow & Clyde. The most recent Home Office Compliance Visit was on 18th January	the Police Custody Healthcare Team are assessed by a registered nurse and, where appropriate and it is safe to do so, local PCHC medicines policies will support the acquisition and administration of the individual's prescribed medication in custody. If OST is part of the patient's regular	managed and administered in line with Police Custody Healthcare Service CD Policy and Standard Operating Procedure as noted below. Training is included as noted through the induction process into Police Custody Healthcare with an agreed communication	
	2023. The Home Office were satisfied with processes, policies and stock control / management across NHSGGC police custody healthcare and renewal of the Licence was granted.	prescribed medication in discussion and agreement with Police Scotland, the individual's OST is collected from their identified pharmacy and administered as prescribed. In the event of this not being possible, alternative medication will be prescribed and	process for any updates, developments or amendments as noted by email, verbal and team meetings inclusive of minutes. O All incidents or adverse events are recorded on Datix with review by the Senior Charge Nurse and investigation when	

NHS Highland	No (refer to last column)	administered. This is not a regular occurrence and the aim is to maintain medication as prescribed where at all possible. O Work is currently ongoing in relation to holding stock of OST (methadone, buprenorphine) within Police Custody Healthcare suites as part of our moves to implement MAT standards. The Standard Operating Procedure to support this is currently progressing through the relevant governance procedures within the service. The aim of this is to support improved access to OST in the future for individuals referred to the Police Custody Healthcare service	required. When required events will be escalated to the Service Manager and/or Head of Service. This is monitored overall through Police Custody Healthcare Governance Group in the quarterly meetings. o (PDF links available via email (1) The Safe and 12ealth Handling or Contrlled Drugs Policy in NHSGGC Police 12ealth Care and (2) The Safe Management of Controlled Drugs in NHSGGC Police Custody Healthcare)	1) A controlled drug licence
THIS I HIGHIANA	THE (TETEL TO LOST COLUMN)	o Including OST	103	application has been submitted, inspection was due to take place on 14th March 2023. NHS Highland

NHS Lanarkshire	No (refer to last column)	Yes	Yes	were given notification from the Home Office of this visit being postponed on Friday 10th March 2023. We are waiting a rescheduled date from the Home Office for inspection to complete the application process, they are aware this is outstanding. 1) Both Custody Suites in
		 There are Standard Operating Procedures that cover Medicine Management, Substance Misuse referrals, Symptomatic Relief for Substance Misuse*, Controlled drug management (detainees own supply), Supervised Administration of Opioid replacement therapy, Independent Prescriber nursing* and Take Home Naloxone. (* SOP's independently signed by Chief Pharmacist, Professional Nursing Rep and other senior members of the 	 Healthcare in Custody in NHS Lanarkshire is provided by a limited liability company. They have held the contract since the transfer of responsibility to provide healthcare to NHS Boards in 2013. Initial awareness was given on incident recording and adverse events. In light of the HMICS repot findings, the following actions have been taken: Discussions have been held with the healthcare provider clinical lead on the 	NHSL (Motherwell and Coatbridge) do not have a CD license. Given the guidance issued by Home Office DOMESTIC CONTROLLED DRUG LICENSING IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS we are now in the process of seeking a license. As per Application requirements: Meetings held to discuss identification of the relevant Managers and Checking of DBS status (Managing director, Site Security, legal compliance and Responsibility for Witnessing Destruction). If no current DBS held, then

Custody offender management Group.) The SOP's are reviewed, updated and shared with the Custody Healthcare Operational Group on an annual basis. The SOP's are reviewed, updated and shared with the Custody Healthcare Operational Group on an annual basis. - A scoping exercise will be undertaken to ensure all staff involved in proving healthcare in custody have access to Learnpro - The module on Datix recording to be completed by all staff within 3 months - Any staff who do not have access to Learnpro will be offered alternative learning - Adverse events will be recoded and discussed at the quarterly Custody Healthcare Operational group meeting. - A learning cycle will be developed to review
any adverse events recorded.

1

Yes

- NHS Lothian host Police Custody Healthcare services for NHS Lothian, NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Borders. The governance of each area is checked on a rotational basis when the licence needs to be renewed.
- Governance is underpinned by CD **Governance Teams** in the Health Board areas, daily/72-hour CD checks and a monthly report which feeds into the Health and Safety quarterly report to NHS Lothian Board. Pharmacy ordering and supply for CD schedule 3 drugs is supported by standard operating procedures which are displayed on an

Yes

- Effective practice. Every detainee who is on prescribed medication is referred to the service using single point referral service. There is no discrimination between essential medications. Missed dose protocols are followed for all medications if relevant.
- OST collection can be from patient's home or pharmacy if it is supported by corroboration from Emergency Care Summary/ Pharmacist/Patient/ GP.

Yes

- All staff complete Learn Pro training regarding Datix and significant adverse event reporting.
- Senior Charge Nurses attend a two-day training for management of adverse events.
- Datix and understanding of policy is recorded on quarterly Health and Safety Reports which go to NHS Lothian Board via REAS SMT (directorate). Locally, a spreadsheet is updated on a monthly basis and SCNs carry out monthly checks and reports as part of staff management supervision arrangements.
- Police Scotland and NHS Lothian teams can raise a Service Review

	intranet page for the		Form in which	,
	service.		operational matters can be discussed and any actions taken based on SBAR format.	
NHS Orkney	No (refer to last column)	No (refer to last column)	Yes NHS Orkney has a series of processes in place to support complaint handling. These are underpinned by appropriate policies and training. We are currently reviewing our wider Healthcare Governance policies and will be bringing all of these together in one overarching framework within the next 3 months.	 A decision on whether this is required will form part of a review of the supply of all medications within the custody facility. This work is being undertaken with our colleagues in NHS Shetland and will be in place within 6 months. Completion of these policies will take place on completion of the review. Policies will be in place within 6 months.
NHS Shetland	No (refer to last column)	No (refer to last column)	Yes NHS Shetland have trained staff providing custody healthcare who are competent in local governance systems including complaint handling and adverse event recording. The staff work with local policies and	1) A decision on whether this is required will form part of a review of the supply of all medications within the custody facility. At present, the controlled drugs stored within the custody suite which require home office license are limited to benzodiazepines. This work is being undertaken

	1	1		
			procedures. Local clinical governance arrangements provide review of adverse events and assurance.	with our colleagues in NHS Orkney and will be in place within 6 months. 2) Completion of these policies will take place on completion of the review. Policies will be in place within 6 months.
NHS Tayside	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A
		All medication is continued in custody.	 All are recorded on Datix, reviewed with the senior team and discussed at the Business & Governance Group. 	
NHS Western Isles	No (refer to last column)	 Yes We are currently updating our standard operating procedures with the introduction of our Mental Health pathway and Naloxone administering process. To support the issuing of prescribed medications, clinicians working in the service have access to emergency care summary and Adastra. 	Yes Datix is the method used by NHS Western Isles to record any adverse event within the service. This is monitored and assigned to the appropriate senior manager for investigation, route cause analysis and remedial action. Training and system access for Datix is	1) We do not store controlled drugs within any of our custody suites. Currently any controlled drugs are issued via our Emergency department in Western Isles Hospital or our Community Hospitals in Uist (OUAB Hospital) & Barra (St Brendan's Hospital). All hospitals are located closely with our custody suites which prevents any significant delay in access to prescribed medication which is not located in the

available to all staff in NHS Western Isles	Custody Suite.
	The NHSWI board and service leads for custody and Pharmacy will work on a pathway/standard operating procedure for prescribing of controlled drugs to patients who are in receipt of custody healthcare. This will be carried out over the next 4-6 months. Patients will continue to have access through the current route of ED or Community Hospitals.

Correspondence from Chief Superintendent to Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy

Dear Minister.

<u>Joint Inspection of Custody and Healthcare Provision - Lanarkshire</u>

I refer to your letter of 24 April 2023 to Chief Constable Sir Iain Livingstone QPM regarding the recent joint inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Scotland (HMICS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) of our custody centres in Lanarkshire. The Chief Constable has asked me to respond in my role as the Divisional Commander of Criminal Justice Services Division, the division which oversees the police custody provision in Scotland.

Firstly, let me say that we welcome these inspections and we have been advocating for consideration of the ways in which the healthcare provision is supplied to people in custody by the 14 local Health Boards. I was pleased to learn that the Inspectorate concluded that those held in custody in Lanarkshire were well cared for and recognised that our staff work extremely hard to deliver a high quality of service, in what is one of the busiest and most challenging custody environments in Scotland.

As you are aware the report made a number of recommendations, both for Police Scotland and NHS Lanarkshire to consider. I can advise that those relevant to Police Scotland are currently being progressed with an aim to have them discharged as soon as possible. We will also continue to work with NHS colleagues through the National Police Care Network to support them in progressing the recommendations for which they are responsible.

In relation to Opioid Substitution Treatment and the absence of a controlled drug license to meet legal obligations on the storage and supply of controlled drugs to those within police custody, I can advise that

these are matters for NHS Lanarkshire but I can inform you they are being actively advanced by the NHS Service Manager with responsibility for Custody Healthcare who I understand is in dialogue with the Inspectorate on this matter. We welcome that this issue has been highlighted and the network are in engagement with all NHS Boards to ensure that appropriate licences are in place in all other areas.

As part of our commitment to keeping people safe and minimising harm, Police Scotland has proactively rolled out training in the administration of Naloxone to all our officers and this is now included within the two day syllabus of our officer safety training. As this programme rolls out we will get to a position in the near future where all police officers in CJSD will be in a position to administer it should the need arise. A number of our custody centres also have 24/7 cover by healthcare practitioners who have access to Naloxone. In regards our police staff based in custody centres we are currently in consultation with staff representative bodies with a view to rolling out this training to police staff also. This is something the division have been driving to deliver for some months.

In relation to training our staff in substance dependency, mental health and trauma informed care we always strive to provide a supportive environment for persons passing through our custody centres. We work hand in hand with our key partner's primarily in the NHS to offer help on this journey. In order to deal effectively with these personal crises it's essential for Police Scotland to have officers and staff who understand the trauma which is often at the root of such appeals for help. We have trained divisional champions in Trauma & Informed Practices with a view to offering our remaining staff learning in this important area in the near future.

I trust this provides you with the assurances you seek, however should you have any further questions, then please do not hesitate to get back in touch via email at CJSDDivisionalCommander@scotland.police.uk.

Yours sincerely

Muluadie

Gordon McCreadie Chief Superintendent