

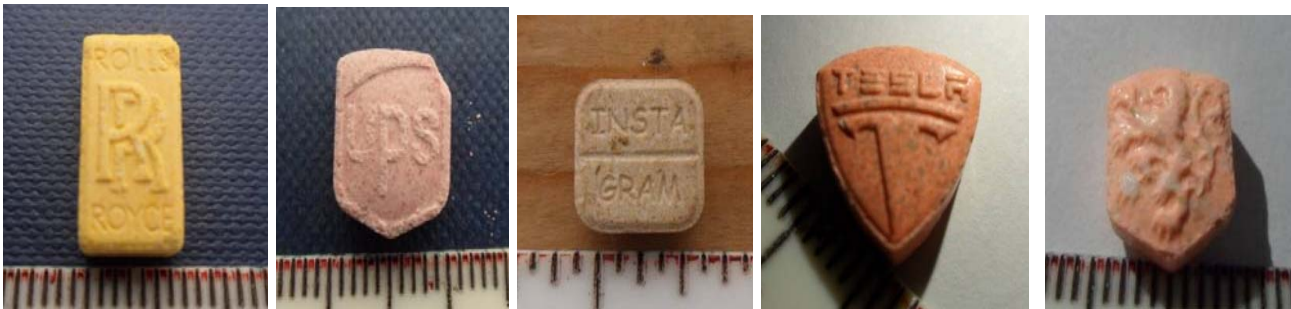


**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Drug Trend Bulletin – Issue 6 November 2015

Tablets recovered at an Edinburgh ‘dance’ event.

Thanks to the Police Scotland East Area STOP Unit for pictures of some of the MDMA tablets recovered at a ‘dance’ event in the Edinburgh area. The logo’s from left to right are, Rolls Royce, UPS shield, Instagram, Tesla and Lion Rampant.



Other logos seized included silver bars, green coloured ‘green HQ’, Louis Vuitton, green coloured Chupa Chups, Warner Brothers, yellow colour Heineken ‘cut outs’ and yellow colour Paul Frank (monkey’s face). All the tablets mentioned presumptively tested positive for MDMA. It is of note that several types of crystal were identified and were being sold as MDMA. Presumptive testing does not apply to drugs in crystal form and laboratory analysis of these recoveries still on-going.

Digital scales disguised as a CD case.

Police officers involved in a house search discovered this method of concealing digital scales which were commercially produced to disguise them as a CD case. This type of equipment is widely available from certain shops and ‘on-line’ vendors.



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LSD recovery Dumbarton area.

The picture below is of two types of LSD tabs recently recovered in the Dumbarton area.



An overview of drug recoveries from the Creamfields music festival 2015.

The following information is based on drug supply charges investigated by Cheshire police at the 2015 Creamfields music festival.

The main drug of choice was MDMA in the form of tablets and crystal.

The range of weight of the tablets was 204mg - 541mg with an average of 372mg.

The average MDMA content in tablets was 122mg with a range of 46mg-258mg per pill.

MDA crystal had an average purity of 90% (range 87%-94%) and the average deal size 0.7g which would be sold as 1 gram.

Cocaine recoveries had a purity range of 7% through to 91%. The average was 48% and average deal size was 0.5g.

There was a number of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) recovered which were being passed off as MDMA. They included Alpha-PVP and Flephedrone.

498 samples were retrieved from amnesty bins and it is assessed over 50% was MDMA. It is interesting that only one sample from the bins was identified as an uncontrolled NPS.

Nitrous Oxide canisters were not as common this year after a campaign prior to the event highlighting dangers in relation to their use.

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Cannabis resin in 100 gram bars.

Cannabis resin is being more commonly recovered in 100 gram bars. The picture is of a recent Police Scotland recovery. The bars have the logo 'V8' stamped on them and there is a perception this type of cannabis resin is of better quality and thus may attract higher prices.



Ecstasy – Breaking Bad ‘cut outs’.

The picture below is of a recent seizure of ecstasy tablets in the Renfrewshire area. The tablets are a crudely made attempt to replicate the Heisenberg character from the TV series ‘Breaking Bad’. On analysis the tablets were found to contain MDMA.

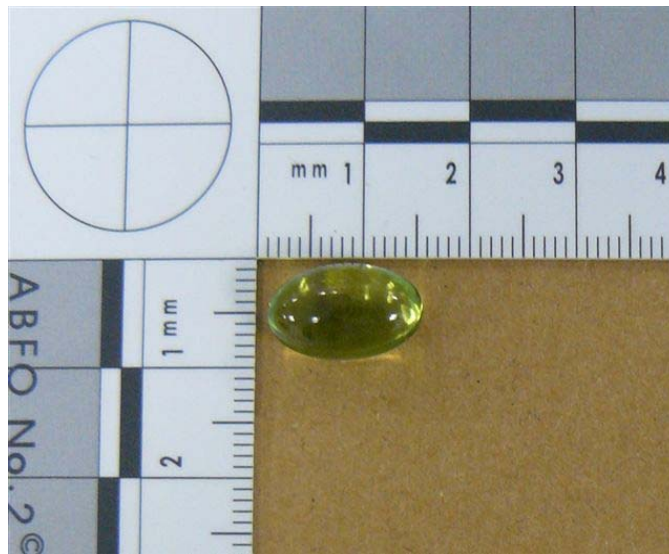


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Green capsules.

There are reports of green 20mg capsules on the illicit drugs market alleged to contain temazepam. There is reporting from the Glasgow, Paisley, Dumbarton and Lanarkshire areas.

Police Scotland has made 2 seizures of green capsules in different areas and thanks to Forensic Scientist Caroline Heron at the SPA Drugs Laboratory for the picture below. The capsules were analysed and there are no controlled drugs in them. It is not known at this time what they contain. It is entirely possible that other green capsules are in circulation.



HIV cases increase in Glasgow

There have been over 40 new cases of HIV diagnosed in people who inject drugs in Greater Glasgow and Clyde in 2015. There are normally fewer than 10 cases per year. The spread of HIV is likely to be through the sharing of injecting equipment, though some transmission through unprotected sex is possible. It is important that people who inject drugs are aware of the risk of contracting HIV from sharing equipment, including spoons, filters and water, and are encouraged to use clean equipment for every injection. It is also important that those at risk take an HIV test; though HIV cannot be cured most people with the virus can have a similar life expectancy to the rest of the population with treatment. Treatment is also essential as, by lowering the level of virus in the blood, the risk of spreading HIV to others is reduced.

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HIV in Glasgow

New HIV infections in Glasgow's injectors are increasing in 2015. HIV is spreading, but you can protect yourself.

HIV can be easily spread through:

- Unprotected Sex 
- The sharing of any injecting equipment 

Stop HIV infection by:

- Using condoms
- Always using clean fresh injecting equipment
- Never sharing any equipment
- Visiting the needle exchange as often as possible
- Taking away enough equipment to cover all your likely injections

We have no limits on the amount of injecting equipment you can take from the exchange.

Early diagnosis and treatment saves lives. To get tested contact your GP, Addiction Team or Drug Service, Participating Pharmacy, Brownlee Centre (0141 211 1075) or Sandyford Clinic (0141 211 8130).

Ask a member of staff for more details 

Acknowledgements.

- Police Scotland - East Area STOP Unit
- Police Scotland - Specialist Crime Division - Det Inspector Joe O'Neill
- Police Scotland - PC Nicky Beattie - Dumbarton Pro Active Crime Team
- Cheshire Police - DC James Thompson
- Police Scotland - PC Rebecca Cox, Johnstone Violence Reduction Unit
- SPA Drugs Laboratory - Caroline Heron
- NHS – Dr Catriona Milosevic, Consultant in Public Health Medicine

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