



<b>POLICY</b>	<b>Issue: 3.0</b>
<b>Policing of Cannabis</b>	<b>Date: 30/03/2009</b>

## Policy Statement

Possession of Cannabis is illegal. Offenders can be arrested for possession of Cannabis if necessary. Cannabis is classified as a Class B Drug under The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and conviction of some offences involving this drug can result in up to 14 years imprisonment.

Civil Nuclear Constabulary (the Constabulary) officers in the course of their primary duties of protecting nuclear licensed sites and material, as well as acting in the interests of national security, may in support of law enforcement have to deal with persons found in possession of cannabis. This policy seeks to put into place processes and procedures through guidance documents, which enable Constabulary officers to take into account ACPO guidelines, the Coordinated Policing Protocol between the Constabulary and Home Office / Scottish Government Police Forces and local Memoranda of Understanding in determining the appropriate course of action.

## Aims of the Policy

- To give a justifiable and proportionate response to dealing with persons found in possession of cannabis, which can be seen to be ethical and non-discriminatory by the public and therefore gain trust in the Criminal Justice system from all members of the community
- To enable the police service to give greater focus and resources to organisational and community policing priorities by dealing with offenders found in possession of cannabis in a manner which saves time and is less bureaucratic.
- To maintain an enforcement and prosecution strategy that delivers the national message that cannabis is harmful, and remains illegal.

This policy is enacted by the following management system documents:

CNC/PP/0422      Reclassification of cannabis – use of cannabis warnings

<b>Document Reference</b>	<b>CNC/POL/6.6.1</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>
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