



Department
of Health &
Social Care

39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

Our ref: DE-1412988



By email to: mail@thesanskaraplatform.co.uk

22 August 2022

Dear ,

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 June about guidance on the verification of legally prescribed cannabis-based products for medicinal use (CBPMs). I have been asked to reply.

The department appreciates your concerns.

I would like to confirm that the Home Office and Department of Health and Social Care do not endorse the Cancard scheme, or any other third-party scheme that seeks to legitimise the possession of illicitly obtained controlled drugs. There are already sufficient means for an individual who is lawfully in possession of a CBPM to demonstrate legitimate medical use. This includes proof of a prescription and ID, or furnishing the dispensing label attached to the medicine.

Anyone who cannot furnish this information and claims to be using cannabis 'medicinally', without a lawful prescription for CBPMs through the relevant supply route, is breaking the law. Any patients who have concerns about the correct way to identify themselves as a patient with a legal prescription for medicinal cannabis, may also wish to review the guidance published on the Gov.uk entitled 'Bringing medicine containing a controlled drug into the UK'. This states that patients travelling with a medicine containing a controlled drug will require a letter of proof from the prescriber.

I hope you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

J Rawlinson
Ministerial Correspondence and Public Enquiries