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New laws to tackle “legal highs”

Psychoactive Substances Act comes in to effect on 26/05/16

New legislation on legal highs (New Psychoactive Substances) is set to be launched on 26 May 2016.

The Psychoactive Substances Act will provide a blanket ban on the production, supply and importation of new psychoactive substances (NPS) – often referred to incorrectly as legal highs with a potential prison sentence of seven years.

The Act will covers any substance used for its psychoactive effects (getting high). This exclude nicotine, alcohol, caffeine and medicinal products. This legislation will fundamentally change the way that police and partners can tackle NPS and will make new drugs that appear on the market illegal quicker than ever before.

The new legislation has been welcomed by the Humberside Strategic Drugs Group which has serious concerns about the impact NPS on users and the community.

In anticipation of the new legislation police and local authority partners have been visiting head shops and other suppliers offering them the opportunity to hand over these potentially dangerous NPS products prior to the legislation being introduced.

There will also be a short amnesty till Sunday 29 May 2016 were people in possession NPS can call 101 or hand in the products at police enquiry offices. People who don't take this opportunity to dispose of any NPS and are found to be involved in the supply of these products in the future face arrest and prosecution.

Humberside Strategic Drugs Group which includes representatives North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, East Riding and Hull Councils is also promoting the changes in the law and continuing to educate users and potential users the risks of taking unknown substances.

Police Officers have been given powers to stop and search people, vehicles and vessels, enter and search premises in accordance with a warrant, and to seize and destroy NPS.

If you have any information about the supply, production or distribution of NPS call Humberside Police on 101.

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Local agencies working in this area will not tolerate anyone committing crime, causing anti-social behaviour or being responsible for environmental crime (littering, graffiti, etc) in your neighbourhood and **neither should you!**

For more information visit:

www.humberside.police.uk

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



Humberside Police



@Humberbeat

WHEN IT'S LESS URGENT
THAN 999

101 IN AN
EMERGENCY
ALWAYS
CALL 999

 **Humberside Police**
Preventing Crime, Supporting Victims, Making a Difference

 **CRIMESTOPPERS**
0800 555 111
Call anonymously with information about crime