

11. Drugs Policy

**BUDGET CONTRACT
DISTRIBUTION LTD**

**FULLFLOOD ROAD
HAVANT
HAMPSHIRE
PO95AX**

Issued by: Ian Burrans
Date: 01.05.2015

02392 470 386

STAFF INFORMATION AND ADVICE

New Drug Driving Rules – Spring 2015

The intention of this letter is to remind all staff of the Company's zero tolerance policy toward drug and alcohol use in the workplace and to bring to your attention recently introduced rules which can impact on the use of prescription drugs.

There is a new offence of driving with certain controlled drugs in the body, including some prescription drugs, above specified limits.

The new rules will make it an offence (like drink driving) to be driving while over the specified limits for each of the 16 drugs identified.

It sets limits at very low levels for 8 drugs commonly associated with illegal drug use, such as cannabis and cocaine, to tackle illegal drug use and driving.

The law also includes 8 drugs commonly associated with medical use that are sometimes abused. These have been set at higher limits based on the available evidence on the road safety risk and to reflect their use as medicines.

Of the drugs specified, the following are most associated with medical use:

Clonazepam, Diazepam, Flunitrazepam, Lorazepam, Oxazepam, Temazepam, Opiate / Opioid based medication such as Methadone / Morphine, Amphetamine and Selegiline.

Taking any of the above medication will not necessarily result in a conviction for the offence. The new law does not seek to criminalise legitimate users of these medications – rather to catch those who abuse medicinal drugs or who take illegal substances.

Our advice to employees is that, should you be taking prescription medicines, it is in your best interest to carry proof with you that they are being used legitimately.

This could be in the form of either a GP's note or a copy of the relevant prescription.

If you require any further information, please visit the following website or contact your line manager.

<http://think.direct.gov.uk/drug-driving.html>