

**2022 No. 176**

**DANGEROUS DRUGS**

**The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) (Revocation) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 2022**

*Made* - - - - *23rd May 2022*

*Coming into operation* - *14th June 2022*

The Department of Health(a), makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 7, 10, 22 and 31 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971(b) as adapted by sections 7(9), 31(4) and 38 of that Act and now vested in it(c) and after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs in accordance with section 31(3) of that Act.

**Citation and commencement**

**1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) (Revocation) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2022 and shall come into operation on 14th June 2022.

**Revocation**

**2.** The Misuse of Drugs (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021(d) are revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health on 23rd May 2022.

(L.S.)

*Cathy Harrison*  
A senior officer of the Department of Health

---

(a) Formerly the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety; see 2016 c. 5 (N.I.), s. 1(5)  
(b) 1971 c. 38, as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (c. 13)  
(c) S.R. & O (N.I.) 1973 No. 504, Article 5(a) and S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1), Article 3(6)  
(d) S.R. 2021 No. 342

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations revoke the Misuse of Drugs (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 (“the 2021 Regulations”).

The 2021 Regulations removed regulation 4B of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 (“the 2002 Regulations”), that made it lawful to import, export, produce, supply, offer to supply or possess Gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) and 1,4-Butanediol (1,4-BD) in certain circumstances. The 2021 Regulations also added 1,4-Butanediol (1,4-BD) and Gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) to Schedule 1 to the 2002 Regulations. The Schedule in which a controlled drug is placed affects the extent to which the drug can be lawfully imported, exported, produced, supplied or possessed. The controlled drugs placed in Schedule 1 to the 2002 Regulations are those subject to the tightest controls, requiring a Department of Health licence in order to access such drugs.

Revocation of the 2021 Regulations means that the exemption in regulation 4B of the 2002 Regulations will remain in force and 1,4-Butanediol (1,4-BD) and Gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) will not be placed in Schedule 1, so a Department of Health controlled drugs licence will not be required in order to lawfully import, export, produce, supply or possess these drugs.

---

© Crown copyright 2022

Printed and published in the UK by The Stationery Office Limited under the authority and superintendence of Jeff James, Controller of Her Majesty’s Stationery Office being the Government Printer for Northern Ireland and the Officer appointed to print Acts of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

£4.90

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/nisr/2022/176>

ISBN 978-0-33-801964-6



9 780338 019646