

Ref: FOI-445

[REDACTED]
Sent via email only:
[REDACTED]

24 September 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 27 August 2024 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Specifically, your request was as follows:

'...

1. *I would like to know the number of therapeutic use exemptions issued to players playing in the Premier League last season (2023/24).*
2. *I would like to know what those therapeutic exemptions were for by drug class.*
3. *How many of those therapeutic exemptions were for Beta 2 agonists?*
4. *I want to know how many TUEs were for anabolic steroids.'*

2. UKAD wrote to you on 30 August 2024 to seek clarification as to what was meant by 'drug class' at Part 2 of your request. You responded on the same date as follows:

'...By drug class I meant - type of substance. For example: beta 2 agonists; hormone/metabolic modulators; anabolic steroid etc...'

Response

3. UKAD confirms that, subject to the clarifications explained below, it holds and discloses the information requested at Parts 1 - 4 of your request.
4. In respect of Part 1 of your request, 10 TUEs were granted by UKAD to Premier League players during the 2023/24 season.

5. Please note, following your response to UKAD's request for clarification, UKAD has taken '*drug class*' to mean the specific substance classifications provided within the World Anti-Doping Agency's 2023 Prohibited List.
6. In respect of Part 2 of your request, those 10 TUEs fall within the S7 – Narcotics and S9 Glucocorticoids substance classifications.
7. In respect of Part 3 of your request, 0 (zero) TUEs for S3 Beta-2 Agonists were granted by UKAD to Premier League players during the 2023/24 season.
8. In respect of Part 4 of your request, 0 (zero) TUEs for S1 Anabolic Agents were granted by UKAD to Premier League players during the 2023/24 season.

Clarifications

9. For the purposes of these TUE statistics, the 2023/24 season is deemed to have commenced on 1 July 2023 and ended on 30 June 2024.
10. Please note that UKAD does not hold details of any TUEs granted by the Union of European Football Associations ('UEFA') or the Fédération Internationale de Football Association ('FIFA'). Players who at the time of their TUE application are competing in a UEFA or FIFA competition, i.e. International-Level players, are required to apply for a TUE directly to UEFA or FIFA.
11. The data does not include information on TUEs granted to U21 players or scholars registered to Premier League clubs.
12. TUEs are granted for specific time periods (e.g. one-off, seven days, three months, six months, one year, two years, etc). This means that some TUEs may need renewing on more than one occasion during a season depending on the timing of when the TUE was granted and duration of approval.
13. The competition level assigned to each player is based on the club they were registered to at the point that they applied for a TUE. This means that any player who was loaned to a club outside of the Premier League during the 2023/24 season will still be counted as if they were playing for their parent club at the time of their application.

Conclusion

14. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed via email

to foi@ukad.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.

15. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



UK Anti-Doping