

# Animal medicine seizure notice: Canine Fertility Centre, Jarrow, Durham



VMD Building

This notice is published following the conclusion of an investigation case undertaken by Defra Investigation Services (DIS).

The following products were seized by a DIS officer as part of an investigation case and under the execution of a search warrant:

- 1 x part used bottle labelled Metacam 1.5 mg/ml Oral Suspension for Dogs
- 2 x part used blisters labelled Clavaseptin 250mg Capsules
- 2 x unused 20ml vials labelled Propofol-Lipuro Vet 10 mg/ml

These medicines are Prescription Only Medicine – Veterinary (POM-V). They are treatments for cats and dogs, and are an anti-inflammatory, antibiotic and an anaesthetic.

Unauthorised possession of POM-V veterinary medicines are offences under Regulation 7 (Classification, supply and possession of the product) of the VMR.

- 1 x part used 15ml bottle labelled Surolan (not the UK authorised veterinary medicine)

This is a non-GB veterinary product which can only be administered to animals under Schedule 4 (Administration of a veterinary medicinal product outside the terms of a marketing authorisation) of the VMR by vets who have the animals under their care and have obtained a Special Import Certificate (SIC) to obtain the product.

The possession of this product is an offence under Regulation 26 (Possession of an unauthorised veterinary medicinal product) of the VMR. The administration of this product is an offence under Regulation 8 (Administration of the product) of the VMR.

- 1 x part used blister labelled Bells Health Care Allergy Relief 10mg Film-Coated Tablets

- 1 x part used 5ml bottle labelled Maxitrol Eye Drop Suspension (Cetirizine hydrochloride)
- 1 x unused blister labelled Doxycycline 100mg Capsules
- 1 x syringe containing clear liquid
- 1 x unused blister labelled Doxycycline 100mg Capsules
- 4 x 100g bottles labelled Tris (Hydroxymethyl) – Aminomethane
- 1 x empty box labelled Doxycycline 100mg Capsules (50 capsules)

The majority of these products are human medicines. Human medicines can only be administered to animals if prescribed under Schedule 4 (Administration of a veterinary medicinal product outside the terms of a marketing authorisation) of the VMR by vets who have the animals under their care.

The administration of these products to an animal without a prescription by a vet is an offence under Regulation 8 (Administration of the product) of the VMR.

Published 22 March 2021

Last updated 24 March 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 24 March 2021

Clarification added: Part used 15ml bottle labelled Surolan was not the UK authorised veterinary medicine

2. 22 March 2021

First published.

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## [UK-Kenya Economic Partnership Agreement enters into force](#)

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# Scottish Secretary comments on Scotland's January GDP Estimates

Press release

Scottish Secretary Alister Jack's response to the gross domestic product (GDP) for Scotland falling 2.3% in January according to statistics announced today.



Scottish Secretary Alister Jack said:

Today's figures reflect the challenges facing our economy.

The UK Government has helped all parts of the UK throughout the pandemic, and will lead our economic recovery as we build back better.

We have supported the jobs of nearly a million people in Scotland, provided the Scottish Government with more than £14 billion in additional funding, and business loans and VAT cuts are giving assistance to those in the hardest-hit sectors. The success of the UK Government-funded vaccine programme is paving a way for a brighter future after Covid-19.

The UK Government is investing directly in local economies throughout Scotland through city deals and a new package of UK-wide investment programmes. Our Plan for Jobs will help create new jobs and help people get back into work.

At this time, we need to be focussed entirely on ending the pandemic and driving our economic recovery. To contemplate another independence referendum, as the Scottish Government wants, is simply a distraction.

## Background

- The UK Government's furlough scheme has been extended until the end of September 2021, paying up to 80 percent of wages. The self-employed support scheme has also been extended to the end of September 2021 with eligibility extended to 600,000. So far these schemes have supported more than 930,000 jobs in Scotland.
- More than 90,000 businesses in Scotland have been supported from UK Government business loans worth £3.4 billion.
- The UK Government is investing billions to help people of all ages back into work, including our £2 billion Kickstart scheme for young people, sector work programmes and recruitment of thousands of additional Work Coaches.
- The UK Government has provided billions in extra funding for the welfare system for those unable to access other forms of support. This includes £20 Universal Credit uplift which has also been extended until the end of September 2021.
- This support is on top of more than £14 billion in additional funding for the Scottish Government since the start of the pandemic.
- These measures are on top of direct UK Government investment in Scotland's jobs and economy, including £1.5 billion in growth deals across Scotland and our new Levelling Up, Community Renewal and Community Ownership Funds.
- The UK Government also continues to provide the bulk of Covid testing in Scotland and is supplying vaccines for people in all parts of the UK.

Published 24 March 2021

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## [Baglan group of companies: information for creditors and interested parties](#)

On 24 March 2021, winding-up orders were made against Calon Energy (Baglan Bay) Limited, Baglan Generating Limited, Baglan Pipeline Limited, and Baglan

Operations Limited and the court appointed the Official Receiver, Gareth Jonathan Allen, as Liquidator.

The court has appointed David John Pike and Michael Robert Pink from KPMG as Special Managers to assist the Official Receiver with the liquidation.

The Official Receiver will wind-down the Baglan group of companies, whilst acting in the best interests of creditors. The Official Receiver also has a duty to enquire into the conduct of current and former directors

## **Baglan group of companies**

- Calon Energy (Baglan Bay) Limited (Company number 08249830)
- Baglan Generating Limited (Company number 03689741)
- Baglan Operations Limited (Company number 03882153)
- Baglan Pipeline Limited (Company number 03841830)

## **Information for employees**

If you are an employee of Baglan Operations Limited and you have been told that you are being made redundant, the information in this section provides advice about claiming money you're owed and where you can seek support.

### **Who is eligible?**

You can apply to the Insolvency Service for redundancy and other payments if:

- you worked for these companies under an [employment contract](#)
- you live in England, Scotland or Wales

### **How to apply**

The Special Managers will give you details about how to apply and will also give you a case reference number (for example CN12345678).

Once you have this information you can [apply online](#).

### **What you can apply for**

What you can apply for depends on your circumstances. The Insolvency Service can pay:

- redundancy pay: if you've worked for Baglan Operations Limited for at least 2 years
- pro rata holiday pay (known as 'holiday pay accrued'): the leave you were entitled to take between the start of your leave year and the date you were made redundant
- holiday pay taken (HPT): if Baglan Operations Limited hasn't paid you for annual leave you took before being made redundant
- money you're owed by Baglan Operations Limited, for example unpaid wages, overtime and commission
- statutory notice pay: if you've worked for Baglan Operations Limited for

at least 1 month

There are caps on what we can pay you for each type of claim. [Find out how much we can pay you.](#)

### **Paying your claim**

On average the Insolvency Service's Redundancy Payments Service pays redundancy and related claims within 14 days of receipt of information.

Find more information about [what we can pay.](#)

[Redundancy: help finding work and claiming benefits](#)

Please avoid contacting us about how to claim or to check the status of your application. This will help us deal with everyone's application as quickly as possible.

### **Information for creditors**

You will need to [register as a creditor](#) in the liquidation if:

- you have not been paid for goods or services you've supplied to the Baglan group of companies (in liquidation)
- you have paid the Baglan group of companies (in liquidation) for goods or services that you have not received

To register as a creditor you will need to complete a [Proof of Debt form](#) which you should then email to [Baglansuppliers@kpmg.co.uk](mailto:Baglansuppliers@kpmg.co.uk).

Once you have registered and the Special Manager receives your [Proof of Debt form](#) they will add you to the list of creditors and include you on future correspondence about the case.

### **Information for customers**

If you are a customer of the Baglan group of companies, please contact the Special Managers via email: [Baglancustomers@kpmg.co.uk](mailto:Baglancustomers@kpmg.co.uk).

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## **Secretary of State statement:** **Liverpool City Council**

### **Introduction**

Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. With permission, I wish to make a statement about Liverpool City Council.

Merseyside Police have been carrying out an investigation involving a significant link to Liverpool City Council.

Last year, this led to arrests on suspicion of fraud, bribery, corruption, misconduct in public office and witness intimidation.

On 17 December, I informed the House that, additionally, persuasive evidence had been presented to me regarding the Council's planning, highways, regeneration, property management functions and associated audit and governance arrangements.

In light of that evidence, I commissioned Max Caller, to conduct a Best Value inspection of the council. I want to thank Max and his assistant inspectors, Vivienne Geary and Mervyn Greer, for their thorough and evidence-based review.

I have today placed a copy of their report in the Library of the House.

## **Inspection report findings**

It paints a deeply concerning picture of mismanagement, the breakdown of scrutiny and accountability, a dysfunctional culture putting the spending of public funds at risk and undermining the city's economic development.

The Report identifies multiple apparent failures by Liverpool City Council in complying with its Best Value Duty.

This includes:

- A failure of proper and due process across planning and regeneration, including worrying lack of proper record keeping. Indeed, documentation had sometimes been created retrospectively, discarded in skips, or even destroyed.
- A lack of scrutiny and oversight across highways, including dysfunctional management practices, no coherent business plan, and the awarding of dubious contracts.
- A failure of proper process relating to property management, including compliance with the Council's own standing orders, leading to a continued failure to correctly value land and assets, meaning tax payers frequently lost out. When selling land, the Report states that securing Liverpool City Council's best interests were not on the agenda.
- Poor governance arrangements for Council-operated companies.
- An overall environment of intimidation, described as one in which "the only way to survive was to do what was requested without asking too many

questions or applying normal professional standards.”

- The review finds there was a fundamental failure by Members to understand and appreciate the basic standards governing those in public service and – with no regular ethics or standards committee and no means of monitoring complaints effectively – there was no established way to hold those falling below those acceptable standards to account.

As a whole, the report is unequivocal that Liverpool City Council has failed in numerous respects to comply with its Best Value Duty.

It concludes that the Council consistently failed to meet its statutory and managerial responsibilities and that the pervasive culture “appeared to be rule avoidance”.

It further concludes that changes need to be radical, delivered at pace, and there was no confidence that the Council itself would be able to implement these to any sensible time-scale.

There may also be further issues of which we are not yet aware, and the Report is careful not to speak to matters that might compromise the ongoing police investigation.

I want to underline the report is not a verdict on all the staff working at Liverpool City Council – in fact, the report commends the hard work and dedication of many.

The report is also clear that the current Chief Executive Tony Reeves and statutory officers have taken positive remedial steps – and I wish to thank Tony for his dedication and service.

Neither does it comment on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, on Mayor Steve Rotheram, or other councils in Merseyside.

Despite the good work undertaken by Mr Reeves, there is a clear picture that there has been a serious breakdown of governance at the council.

If unchecked, it will allow improper conduct to persist, further undermining public confidence, putting public services at risk and damaging the city’s ability to attract investment from reputable developers and investors for regeneration and to take full advantage of new economic opportunities, such as the recent successful application for freeport status.

## **Proposed actions**

Expressed in formal terms, I am satisfied that the council is failing to comply with its best value duty. Therefore I need to consider exercising my powers of intervention to secure compliance with the duty.

To that end, in line with procedures laid down in the Local Government Act 1999, I am writing today to the council asking them to make representations –



both on the inspectors report and on a proposed intervention package.

This package is centred on putting in place Commissioners who I will appoint to exercise certain and limited functions of the council as required, for a minimum of 3 years.

I am also proposing that the Council will – under the oversight of the Commissioners – prepare and implement an Improvement Plan.

This would require the following provisions:

- Within 6 months, to approve a suitable officer structure providing sufficient resources to deliver the Council's functions in an effective way, including the Improvement Plan and its monitoring and reporting.
- Within 12 months, to review and change the Council's constitution.
- Within 24 months, to conduct a review of the roles and case for continuing with each subsidiary company of Liverpool City Council.
- To create a detailed structure and strategy for the Highways function.
- To establish a plan to deliver an effective file management system.
- To implement a programme of cultural change so both Members and Officers understand their roles and the way the Council's activities are regulated, governed, and breaches are rectified swiftly.
- To require the consent of Commissioners before either Member or Officer level agree Heads of Terms for any property transaction and subsequent consent before any legally binding commitment is entered into.

I also propose to direct that prior agreement of Commissioners must be obtained to any dismissal or suspension of Statutory Officers or the Assistant Director of Governance, Audit and Assurance, or equivalent.

Furthermore, any appointments to positions designated as a statutory officer or the head of internal audit must be conducted under the direction of and to the satisfaction of the Commissioners.

I hope and expect Liverpool City Council to take the lead in this path to improvement.

However, given the gravity of the inspection findings, I must consider what would happen if the Council fails to deliver the necessary changes, at the necessary speed.

I am, consequently, proposing to direct the transfer of all executive functions associated with regeneration, highways and property management at the Authority to the Commissioners.

These are for use should the Council not satisfy the Commissioners in their improvement processes.

As I say, I hope it won't be necessary for the Commissioners to use these powers, but they must, in my view, be empowered to do so to deliver the reforms that are required. The Commissioners will report to me at 6 monthly intervals on progress being made.

## **Changes to elections**

Mr Deputy Speaker, the report also considers the impact of the Council's cycle of elections, where every year is an election year, concluding this system reduces scrutiny and inhibits long-term focus.

It recommends that the council should move to "'all-out' elections and for the Council size to be reconsidered.

Accordingly, I am also proposing to use my powers under the Local Government Act 2000 to provide for Liverpool City Council to hold whole council elections for the first time from 2023.

This will be in addition to proposals for a reduced number of Councillors elected on single member wards , which the Report also recommends.

I also believe it would be preferable to move to single member wards at the earliest available opportunity.

## **Representations period**

I am now seeking representations from the council on the report and the decisions I am proposing to take by 24 May. The forthcoming elections will proceed as planned, and Liverpool City Mayor will be elected on 6 May and the Cabinet will have time to provide their views.

If I decide to intervene along these lines, I will then make the necessary statutory directions under the 1999 Act and appoint the Commissioners. And I will update the House on any conclusions in due course.

## **Conclusion**

Mr Deputy Speaker, this is a rare occasion when central intervention is required.

In addition to the measures I have proposed today, the government will work closely with the political, the business and the cultural leadership of the city and with the wider region, including with Steve Rotheram, the Mayor of the Liverpool City Region.

We will do all that we can to support the city, as it recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, and to give confidence to those who want to invest in the city to contract with the council, and to do business in Liverpool.

As the son and grandson of Liverpudlians I know Liverpool and appreciate the sense of humour, loyalty, and warmth of its residents.

I also understand the city's independent spirit, and so I am clear that we are embarking on will be a partnership – to mend a politics that for too long has been rooted in a pervasive and rotten culture.

I am hopeful that this is the start of a new chapter for Liverpool City

Council, because in all of this, it is the residents of Liverpool who are being let down, whose regeneration is being undermined, whose taxpayers' money is being wasted, and whose city is being besmirched rather than cited with municipal pride.

Mr Deputy Speaker – despite the rare cases like Liverpool City Council – as a whole councils in this country have a good record of transparency, of probity, of scrutiny, and accountability. It is a reputation worth protecting. I will take whatever steps are necessary to uphold the good name of local government and to weed out practices that do it down.

I commend this statement to the House.