ANNEX A

FOI DOF/2026-0147

Request

Please provide all recorded information held by NISRA relating to the following:

1. **Drug related death statistics**

- Total drug related deaths recorded in Northern Ireland during the period April 2022 to October 2024
- Of those, any where Naloxone was administered prior to death
- Any recorded instances where Naloxone failed to reverse overdose during that period
- Any trend data showing rate of Naloxone efficacy failure during that period

2. **Naloxone outcome data**

- Any data held on second dose administration rates during that period
- Any adverse incident reports relating to Naloxone efficacy during that period
- Any data held on injection site infections or contamination linked to sterile water for injection during that period

DoF response

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) produce statistics based on the cause of death information recorded on death certificates as collected by the General Register Office (GRO) during the death registration process.

I can confirm the Department holds some of the information requested.

1. **Drug related death statistics**

- There were 100 drug-related deaths registered in Northern Ireland during the period April 2022 to October 2024.

- None of these deaths had Naloxone recorded on the death certificate as part of the cause of death.

I can also confirm that, should any relevant deaths in relation to Naloxone occur, NISRA would not hold the following information:

1. **Drug related death statistics**
- Information on whether Naloxone was administered prior to death (unless evidenced on the death certificate via the coronial process)
- Recorded instances where Naloxone failed to reverse an overdose
- Trend data on Naloxone efficacy or efficacy failure

2. Naloxone outcome data

With regards to Naloxone outcome data the Department does not collect or record it as part of the death registration process.

Annex B - Internal Reviews

An Internal Review request examines the response based on applied exemptions, search adequacy, or response timeliness.

It is not the following, which will be treated as specified:

- Questions asking for clarification on information provided: Will be treated as part of the original FOI request.
- Additional questions about the information in the response: Will be treated as a new FOI request.
- Questions about the subject not related to the original request: Will be treated as new FOI request.
- Questions regarding how a service operates or why a decision was made: Will be treated as normal business and responded to accordingly.
- Complaints or concerns raised in response to information provided: Will be treated in line with relevant complaints procedure.

To make an Internal Review request:

- **Clearly state**: That you want an internal review of a previous FOI response and provide the necessary details.
- **Follow the timeline:** Be sure to submit your request within 40 working days of receiving the original response. If the Department has not responded at all, you have 40 working days after the original 20-day response period has passed.
- **Wait for a response:** The review is typically completed within 20 working days but can take up to 40 working days in exceptional circumstances. The Department should inform you of any delays.

What the review includes

- A fresh decision based on a reconsideration of all relevant factors.
- An assessment of whether the request was handled correctly and if exemptions were applied appropriately.
- The review will be conducted by someone who was not involved in the original decision.

If you wish to request an internal review, please email foi@finance-ni.gov.uk or write to FOI/EIR Team, Department of Finance, 2nd Floor, Craigantlet Buildings, Stoney Road, Belfast, BT4 3SX.