

**Ref: FOI-411**

6 November 2023

[REDACTED]

Sent via email only: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 15 May 2023 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

Your request was as follows:

*"I Would like to request the following information*

*1. How many Premier League and WSL footballers returned adverse analytical findings during the 2022/ 23 season.*

*2. A breakdown of the banned substances which caused the 'adverse analytical findings'.*

[Dealt with together as Part 1 of your request – see below]

*3. How many Therapeutic Use Exemptions were granted/still valid for Premier League and WSL footballers during the 2022/23 season"*

[Dealt with as Part 2 of your request – see below]

## **Response – Part 1**

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2. UKAD confirms that it holds information in respect of your request as follows:

*1. How many Premier League and WSL footballers returned adverse analytical findings during the 2022/ 23 season.*

One (1) Women's Super League ('WSL') player.

No (i.e. zero) Premier League ('PL') players.

2. *A breakdown of the banned substances which caused the 'adverse analytical findings'.*

#### Tamoxifen

3. For the purposes of these statistics, the 2022/23 season is defined as starting on 1 June 2022 and ending on 31 May 2023.
4. Please note that UKAD does not hold information relating to the particular league each and every player's club belonged to at the date of Sample collection. However, UKAD has answered this part of your request in good faith, by cross-referencing the information it holds, with information that is otherwise available in the public domain.

#### Response – Part 2

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5. The table below sets out the number of Therapeutic Use Exemptions ('TUEs') granted to/still valid for players affiliated to football clubs playing in the PL and WSL during the 2022/23 season:

Competition	Number of TUEs granted in 2022/23	Number of TUEs granted in a previous season that were still valid in 2022/23	Total
Premier League	8	0	8
Women's Super League	11	3	14*
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>

\*There were 14 TUEs granted to 10 WSL players across the reporting period. This relates to players who renewed their TUE at some point in the 2022/23 season to treat the same medical condition that their original TUE was granted for.

- 5.1. For the purposes of these statistics, the 2022/23 season is defined as starting on 1 July 2022 and ending on 30 June 2023.
- 5.2. 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 PL or WSL during the 2022/23 season will still be counted as if they were playing for their parent club at the time of their application.

- 5.3. The data does not include information on TUEs granted to International-Level players who are required to obtain TUEs through UEFA and/or FIFA. International-Level players are typically players competing within UEFA (e.g., Champions League) or FIFA (e.g., World Cup) sanctioned competitions. These players are considered to be International-Level until their team is eliminated from the competition.
- 5.4. The data does not include information on TUEs granted to U21 players or scholars registered to PL clubs.
- 5.5. 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 the duration of approval.

## Conclusion

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6. 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 the response to your request and should be addressed via email to: [foi@ukad.org.uk](mailto:foi@ukad.org.uk). Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.
7. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commission for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "UK Anti-Doping".

**UK Anti-Doping**