

[REDACTED]

Ref: FOI-503

Sent via email only:
[REDACTED]

24 November 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

1. Thank you for your email of 25 August 2025 in which you requested information from UK Anti-Doping ('UKAD') concerning Adverse Analytical Findings ('AAFs') under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). Specifically, your request was as follows:

"I'm writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I would be grateful if you would populate and return the attached Excel spreadsheet to me.

I would like to receive the information electronically, by email".

2. On 30 October 2025, in response to a request for clarification from UKAD, you confirmed that in rows 7, 20, 33 and 46 of the spreadsheet you were requesting "*the number of AAFs arising from all samples taken*". You also confirmed that in rows 15-18, 28-31, 41-44 and 54-57 you were requesting "*the total number of Samples taken for antidoping purposes for all SARM's, and for each of Andarine, Osterine [sic] and Ligandrol, regardless of whether they were found to result in an AAF*".

Summary of Response

3. UKAD confirms that, subject to the clarifications provided below, it holds some of the information relevant to your request. Where UKAD holds the requested information, and it is not subject to an exemption under the Act, it is provided in a table annexed to this response.
4. As more particularly explained below, some of the information requested is subject to an exemption under the Act and is therefore withheld.
5. In relation to the clarification you provided in respect of rows 15-18, 28-31, 41-44 and 54-57 of the spreadsheet, it should be noted that UKAD does not collect

Samples for the purposes of detecting specific, individual substances or categories of substances as set out within your request, e.g. Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators ('SARMs') and/or andarine, ligandrol, ostarine etc. Rather UKAD collects Samples as provided for in the World Anti-Doping Agency's ('WADA's') International Standard for Testing and Investigations. Samples collected by UKAD are analysed by an accredited laboratory in accordance with WADA's International Standard for Laboratories, i.e. Samples are analysed and screened for multiple Prohibited Substances as set out in WADA's Prohibited List. Details of the total number of tests conducted under the UKAD Anti-Doping Testing Programme are published on a quarterly basis by UKAD and are available [here](#). The current version of the WADA Prohibited List is available [here](#).

Information withheld under section 31 of the Act

Section 31 – Law enforcement

6. Section 31 of the Act provides as follows:

Section 31 Law enforcement

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely, to prejudice –

...

(g) the exercise by any public authority of its functions for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2),

The purposes referred to in subsection 1(g) to (i) are –

...

(b) the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is responsible for any conduct which is improper,

7. One of UKAD's core functions is the investigation and prosecution of Anti-Doping Rule Violations ('ADRVs'). This function falls within section 31(1)(g) of the Act, as it is exercised for the purpose set out in section 31(2)(b) of the Act.
8. It is UKAD's view that disclosing the information requested in cells B7, B20, B33 and B46, and the entirety of column E, in the Annex to this response would be likely to prejudice this function. This is because one or more cases which would fall to be counted in these cells are still subject to an investigation and/or ongoing ADRV proceedings. Releasing any information in respect of them at this stage may therefore prejudice those specific investigations/proceedings.

9. Releasing the information requested in these specific cells would also be likely to prejudice UKAD's investigation and prosecution function more generally. The UK Anti-Doping Rules (the 'ADR') require that any investigation into a potential ADRV be conducted in accordance with strict requirements of confidentiality, so that all facts and information pertaining to a case remains confidential, save to the extent that they are ultimately included in any decision published at the end of the process.
10. If UKAD were to disclose information which remains relevant to any current investigation or proceedings, this would undermine the confidentiality of that anti-doping process. To do so would jeopardise UKAD's relationship with the sporting community to such an extent that it would be likely to lead to a lack of co-operation by sports, teams, or Athletes in the Testing programme and any subsequent investigations or prosecutions, if not a refusal to participate at all.
11. Having determined that disclosure of the information relating cells B7, B20, B33, B46, and the entirety of column E in the Annex to this response would be likely to prejudice the effective investigation and prosecution of ADRVs, UKAD has considered the public interest arguments in favour of disclosure. UKAD recognises the importance of transparency and accountability in general, and specifically in providing the public with more understanding of how it investigates and results manages potential ADRVs.
12. However, UKAD considers that the more important public interest lies in the maintenance of an effective investigation and prosecution process, so that UKAD can work towards its public policy objective of eliminating doping in sport. Disclosing the information requested in relation to the identified cells in the accompanying Annex would be likely to harm that process.

Conclusion

13. 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.
14. 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

UK Anti-Doping

Enc: Annex FOI-503

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Freedom of information act request				
2	Question	Year			
3		2022	2023	2024	2025
4					
5	All SARMs				
6	Number of AAF's reported	Withheld	4	0	Withheld
7	Number of AAF's reported resulting in an ADRV	6	4	0	Withheld
8	Concentration range in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
9	Mean concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
10	Median concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
11	Number of ADRVs found not to be intentional	1	1	0	Withheld
12	Number of ADRVs found with no fault, or no significant fault	0	1	0	Withheld
13	Total number of AAF samples collected from all sports	see note at para.5			
14	Number of AAF samples collected from British athletics	see note at para.5			
15	Number of AAF samples collected from the Lawn tennis association	see note at para.5			
16	Number of AAF samples collected from British cycling	see note at para.5			
17	Number of AAF samples collected from British Triathlon Federation	see note at para.5			
18	Andarine				
19	Number of AAF's reported	Withheld	0	0	Withheld
20	Number of AAF's reported resulting in an ADRV	0	0	0	Withheld
21	Concentration range in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
22	Mean concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
23	Median concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
24	Number of ADRVs found not to be intentional	0	0	0	Withheld
25	Number of ADRVs found with no fault, or no significant fault	0	0	0	Withheld
26	Total number of AAF samples collected from all sports	see note at para.5			
27	Number of AAF samples collected from British athletics	see note at para.5			
28	Number of AAF samples collected from the Lawn tennis association	see note at para.5			
29	Number of AAF samples collected from British cycling	see note at para.5			
30	Number of AAF samples collected from British Triathlon Federation	see note at para.5			
31	Ostarine				
32	Number of AAF's reported	Withheld	4	0	Withheld
33	Number of AAF's reported resulting in an ADRV	4	4	0	Withheld
34	Concentration range in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
35	Mean concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
36	Median concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
37	Number of ADRVs found not to be intentional	1	1	0	Withheld
38	Number of ADRVs found with no fault, or no significant fault	0	1	0	Withheld
39	Total number of AAF samples collected from all sports	see note at para.5			
40	Number of AAF samples collected from British athletics	see note at para.5			
41	Number of AAF samples collected from the Lawn tennis association	see note at para.5			
42	Number of AAF samples collected from British cycling	see note at para.5			
43	Number of AAF samples collected from British Triathlon Federation	see note at para.5			
44	Ligandrol				
45	Number of AAF's reported	Withheld	0	0	Withheld
46	Number of AAF's reported resulting in an ADRV	2	0	0	Withheld
47	Concentration range in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
48	Mean concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
49	Median concentration in AAF's reported	Not held	Not held	Not held	Not held
50	Number of ADRVs found not to be intentional	0	0	0	Withheld
51	Number of ADRVs found with no fault, or no significant fault	0	0	0	Withheld
52	Total number of AAF samples collected from all sports	see note at para.5			
53	Number of AAF samples collected from British athletics	see note at para.5			
54	Number of AAF samples collected from the Lawn tennis association	see note at para.5			
55	Number of AAF samples collected from British cycling	see note at para.5			
56	Number of AAF samples collected from British Triathlon Federation	see note at para.5			
57					