# Young man charged with Ipswich murder amid wider drug crackdown



An 18-year-old man, Jake McMillan, who recently lived in Hackney, London, but was formerly from Ipswich, has been charged with the murder of 63-year-old William McNicholl in Ipswich. Alongside the murder charge, McMillan has also been accused of being involved in the supply of cannabis. He has been remanded in custody and is scheduled to appear at Ipswich Magistrates’ Court. In connection with the investigation, three others were arrested earlier in April: a 17-year-old boy, an 18-year-old man, and a 41-year-old man, all suspected of assisting an offender and involvement in the supply of Class A and B drugs. Additionally, a woman in her 50s, who was initially arrested on suspicion of murder, will face no further action.

This case forms part of a broader context of drug-related criminal activity in and around Ipswich and London. Recent years have seen significant police action against drug suppliers, with multiple arrests and convictions highlighting the region’s challenges with drug crime. For example, in Ipswich, two men were sentenced to over three years for involvement in a cannabis farm after police discovered cannabis plants at an address connected to them. Similarly, in Suffolk, ten men were jailed for roles in drug conspiracies, including a plot to supply cocaine and an industrial-scale cannabis factory where thousands of plants were seized.

In London, drug-related violence has also had deadly consequences. A notable recent case involved Jarrad Spence-Robinson, a 26-year-old sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum term of 32 years for the murder of a man in North London. His crime was linked to cannabis supply and disputes over drug debts, underlining the violent fallout often associated with drug dealing.

Beyond the immediate legal cases, there are calls for tougher legal measures to address the dangers of illegal drugs. Following the death of 18-year-old Kieron Hilling in Ipswich, which was linked to illegally obtained prescription drugs such as morphine and alprazolam, his family is campaigning for manslaughter charges against dealers whose drugs result in fatalities. The Home Office has acknowledged these concerns and stated it is working to tackle the illegal supply and misuse of drugs more effectively.

Recent police efforts also reflect a significant crackdown on drug crime in Suffolk, including a recent operation resulting in 59 arrests, seizure of over 1kg of drugs, and nearly £50,000 in cash. These activities aim to disrupt the supply networks that fuel both criminal violence and drug misuse in the region.

Jake McMillan’s case is a stark reminder of the entanglement between violent crime and drug trafficking, as authorities continue to grapple with the social and legal challenges posed by these issues across Ipswich, Suffolk, and London.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html), [[2]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[5]](https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/24547789.london-men-jailed-part-ipswich-cannabis-farm/), [[6]](https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/22029967.jailed-suffolk-disqualified-drink-driver-men-behind-industrial-scale-cannabis-factory/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.mylondon.news/news/north-london-news/drug-dealer-living-life-luxury-27280904)
* Paragraph 4 – [[3]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c74kd1p0e2po)
* Paragraph 5 – [[7]](https://www.ipswich.co.uk/articles/police-make-59-arrests-in-ipswich-crime-crackdown)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html), [[2]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/ipswich-suffolk-police-home-office-london-hackney-b1239368.html> - An 18-year-old man, Jake McMillan, formerly of Ipswich and currently residing in Hackney, London, has been charged with the murder of 63-year-old William McNicholl in Ipswich. McMillan has also been charged with being concerned in the supply of cannabis. He has been remanded in custody and is due to appear at Ipswich Magistrates’ Court. Three other individuals were arrested on April 1 in connection with the investigation, including a 17-year-old boy, an 18-year-old man, and a 41-year-old man, all on suspicion of assisting an offender and being concerned in the supply of Class A and B drugs. A woman in her 50s, previously arrested on suspicion of murder, will face no further action.
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c74kd1p0e2po> - The family of 18-year-old Kieron Hilling, who died at Ipswich Hospital on 28 February, is calling for tougher charges against drug dealers. They believe Kieron's death was caused by illegally obtained prescription drugs, including morphine and alprazolam. The family advocates for manslaughter charges in cases where individuals die after taking such drugs. The Home Office stated it is working to tackle the illegal supply and misuse of drugs.
4. <https://www.mylondon.news/news/north-london-news/drug-dealer-living-life-luxury-27280904> - Jarrad Spence-Robinson, 26, was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum of 32 years for the murder of 23-year-old Seun McMillan in Enfield, North London. The court heard that Spence-Robinson, who lived a life of luxury, was involved in the supply of cannabis and sought repayment from McMillan, leading to the fatal stabbing. He was also convicted of conspiracy to supply Class A and B drugs and conspiracy to transfer criminal property.
5. <https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/24547789.london-men-jailed-part-ipswich-cannabis-farm/> - Nikolin Marku, 31, and Aleksander Gjoni, 25, were sentenced to over three years in prison for their involvement in producing cannabis in Ipswich. The pair were linked to a cannabis farm at Cullingham Road, Ipswich, after police stopped a vehicle in Dunlop Road and connected the address to Gjoni. Cannabis plants were discovered inside the address, leading to their arrest and subsequent convictions.
6. <https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/22029967.jailed-suffolk-disqualified-drink-driver-men-behind-industrial-scale-cannabis-factory/> - Ten men were jailed in Suffolk, including four involved in a plot to supply cocaine around Ipswich. Luke Norris, Paul Adams, Ross Lane, and Shaun McGovern admitted conspiring to supply cocaine between September 2018 and January 2019. McGovern received nine years and five months, Lane eight years and four months, Norris five years and six months, and Adams four years and eight months. Additionally, four men were jailed for their roles in an 'industrial-scale' cannabis factory in Great Bricett, Suffolk, where 2,758 cannabis plants were seized.
7. <https://www.ipswich.co.uk/articles/police-make-59-arrests-in-ipswich-crime-crackdown> - In a recent crime crackdown in Ipswich, police made 59 arrests, including that of Benjamin Tigges, 25, of Belstead Avenue, who was jailed for over three years for supplying cocaine across Suffolk. Police seized over 1kg of drugs and just under £50,000 in cash during the operation. The crackdown aimed to address various criminal activities in the area, including drug-related offences.