

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

Organisation Name:

Your position or role:

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria to consider::

Accessing and using cannabis, Mental health, Public health, Education, Social impacts, Public safety, Young people and children, Criminal activity

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :

Individual, Working in the alcohol and drug services sector

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Select all that apply. Do you think there should be restrictions on the use of cannabis? :

Personal use of cannabis should be decriminalised.

(Decriminalised: there are no criminal or civil penalties instead a person is referred to a drug diversion program or other health/ treatment service), Personal use of cannabis should be legal. , Sale of cannabis should be legal and regulated. , Cultivation of cannabis for personal use should be legal., There should be no restrictions.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

1. Implement health education campaigns and programs to ensure children and young people are aware of the dangers of drug use - in particular, cannabis use

After the legalisation of cannabis in Denver, United States, a report showed that 75% of the teenage respondents were discouraged from using cannabis after being exposed to the campaign (<https://www.thehighcosts.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/High-Costs-Post-Campaign-Survey-Results.pdf>).

The youth education campaign should cover the following topics:

- History of cannabis
- Cannabinoids (THC vs CBD, ECS)
- Physical and mental effects of cannabis
- Common medical uses of cannabis
- Legality of cannabis
- Possible long term mental health conditions and addiction associated with underaged cannabis use
- Dangers of driving under the influence of cannabis
- Dangers of sourcing cannabis from the black market

2. Prevent criminal activity relating to the illegal cannabis trade in Victoria

Between 2017-2018 the ACIC reported a total of 66,296 consumer cannabis related arrests in Australia. By

allowing personal use and cultivation, we will be able to keep consumers out of the criminal justice system. This will prevent life long criminal implications on medicinal and recreational users, and reduce the burden on prisons and courts (https://www.acic.gov.au/sites/default/files/illicit_drug_data_report_2017-18.pdf?v=1564727746).

As more cannabis products appear on the legal Australian market, product prices will become more competitive for consumers. By reducing the demand for cannabis products in the black market, illegal trade could potentially be minimised.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature: