

INQUIRY INTO LAW REFORM ISSUES REGARDING SYNTHETIC DRUGS

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Date Received: 26/04/2012

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20 April 2012



Inquiry into Law Reform Issues Regarding Synthetic Drugs

Further to our previous submission, dated 3 April 2012, we believe we have identified one more area that requires revision to ensure the effective implementation of laws that will prohibit synthetic drugs.

Recent incidents have shown that it can be very difficult to obtain the evidence to prove that a synthetic substance 'has a substantially similar pharmacological effect' as a prescribed dangerous drug.

NSWMC believes a further improvement to legislation to prevent this loophole would be to prohibit substances intended, or apparently intended, to have a substantially similar pharmacological effect as substances that are already prohibited.

This type of regulation will capture those substances being marketed as a synthetic alternative to a prohibited drug without having to actually establish that there are similar pharmacological effects.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Galilee
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER