



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 1 – PREMIER AND FINANCE

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 March 2024

An Upper House committee will conduct an inquiry into the impact of the regulatory framework for cannabis in New South Wales.

The committee will examine the history and implementation of cannabis regulation, as well as its socio-economic impact.

The Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC, Chair of Portfolio Committee No. 1 stated: 'This inquiry is the first of its kind for New South Wales and is long overdue. Cannabis is an issue that traverses so many parts of our community, from health, law enforcement and youth to the elderly, the criminal justice system, the judiciary and Treasury itself. Prohibition has not worked so it is time to look at alternate approaches.'

The Chair continued: 'Importantly the committee will analyse the impact of cannabis regulation on minority communities, including Aboriginal people, the LGBTIQ+ community, multicultural communities, regional and lower socio-economic communities.'

Mr Buckingham added: 'The committee will also consider the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Amendment (Regulation of Personal Adult Use of Cannabis) Bill 2023, which seeks to legalise possession and cultivation of small quantities of cannabis by adults for personal use'.

The Chair concluded: 'The inquiry will also consider alternatives regimes of cannabis regulation. It is hoped this inquiry will guide a meaningful whole-of-government response to the issue of cannabis regulation in New South Wales.'

For more information about this inquiry, including the committee membership and the terms of reference, see the [inquiry webpage](#).

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC, on 02 9230 2651