

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 8 May 2024

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Partially  
Confidential

I would like to propose decriminalisation of cannabis in Australia, with age restrictions and limits to public consumption; an accurate test for drivers determining intoxication levels likely to impair safe driving, not the current broader punitive model.

Rather than direct funding toward the current levels of relevant policing and incarceration I would propose education and medical services for those with psychological addiction or psychiatric difficulties, especially to avoid "self-medication" for other issues. Taxation of cannabis products could open up a new revenue stream to fund these social programs.

Keeping people from becoming criminals and being forced to associate with criminals to procure cannabis could be a benefit to society and a disincentive to those who profit from inflated prices under prohibition. It could also limit users' exposure to more harmful drugs in the market place.

A legal, regulated supply of cannabis products and the ability to legally grow cannabis might also be a safer option for those who currently buy on the black market from a physical and mental health standpoint, with control over quality and potency.

On a more general note, there are many lifelong users who enjoy cannabis with no harm, benefiting from the many potentially positive aspects of intoxication in moderation, including relaxation, creativity, lateral thinking in problem solving, meditative focus, increased libido, improved sleep, pain relief and, of course, good old fashioned fun with friends. Yes it can be harmful, but that's not the whole story, and maybe decriminalisation could be the path to harm reduction.

Thank you for your time.