

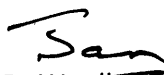


Minister for Police; Emergency Services; Road Safety
Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly

Our Ref: 31-13371
Your Ref: EH321



Dr Janet Woollard MLA
Chairman
Education and Health Standing Committee
Parliament House
Perth WA 6000


Dear Dr Woollard

Inquiry into the Adequacy and Appropriateness of Prevention and Treatment Services for Alcohol and Illicit Drug Problems in Western Australia

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the recommendations contained in Report No. 9 *Changing Patterns in Illicit Drug Use in Western Australia* all of which are interesting from a holistic viewpoint but only one of which is relevant to the Police portfolio.

“Recommendation 2

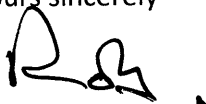
Given the dangers of young cannabis users being impacted by psychosis, the Minister for Police should ensure that the 12 month review for the Cannabis Law Reform Act 2010 assesses in particular the impact of the legislation on young cannabis users aged up to 25 years of age.”

The 12 month review of the *Cannabis Law Reform Act 2010* will look generally at how the new Cannabis Intervention Requirements scheme is operating. It will also examine the level of attendance at Intervention Sessions and the take-up rate of people using the informal referral system via Corrective Services to programmes addressing other needs such as personal development.

Given the nature of drug induced psychosis, I am advised that it may be difficult to gain any meaningful information after just 12 months from legislation. However I understand that West Australian Police Legal and Legislative Services will meeting with representatives from Corrective Services and Drug and Alcohol Office later next month and I have asked that the recommendation of the report be given consideration at that time.

I will be happy to respond more fully to the recommendation following those discussions.

Yours sincerely



ROB JOHNSON MLA
MINISTER FOR POLICE; EMERGENCY SERVICES; ROAD SAFETY

02 JUN 2011 20th Floor, 197 St Georges Terrace, Perth Western Australia 6000
Telephone: +61 8 9222 9211 Facsimile: +61 8 9321 6003 Email: Minister.Johnson@dpc.wa.gov.au