MEDIA RELEASE

Legislative Assembly Committee extends public survey on drugs of dependence

The Committee today announced that it has extended its public survey for the Committee’s inquiry into the Drugs of Dependence (Personal Use) Amendment Bill 2021 to **Friday, 18 June 2021.**

The short survey includes questions about the harm associated with individual drugs and whether further funding in the ACT should focus on education, treatment, or law enforcement. The survey has already received over 500 responses.

The Bill seeks to amend the *Drugs of Dependence Act 1989* to lower the penalty for simple drug offences (i.e., the possession of small quantities of drugs such as MDMA, cocaine and heroin). It also provides for simple drug offences to be treated in the same way in which the Act treats simple cannabis offences.

The Committee is examining the Bill, policy best practice, the impacts of current ACT policy, and funding for drug control and harm reduction.

The Committee has published 13 submissions to date and plans to publish more submissions in future.

For further information, go to [www.parliament.act.gov.au/parliamentary-business/in-committees/committees/select-committee-on-the-drugs-of-dependence-personal-use-amendment-bill-2021/inquiry-into-the-drugs-of-dependence-personal-use-amendment-bill-2021](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/parliamentary-business/in-committees/committees/select-committee-on-the-drugs-of-dependence-personal-use-amendment-bill-2021/inquiry-into-the-drugs-of-dependence-personal-use-amendment-bill-2021).

11 June 2021

STATEMENT ENDS.

**For further information in relation to the Select Committee on the Drugs of Dependence (Personal Use) Amendment Bill 2021, please contact:**

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