

August, 2017



MEDICINAL CANNABIS REGISTRATION SCHEME

PROTECTION FOR USERS AND
COMPASSIONATE GROWERS

**THE
GREENS**

Medicinal Cannabis Registration Scheme

Protection for Users and Compassionate Growers



The Greens will deliver a registration scheme for medicinal cannabis growers and users, ensuring that people can have safe and legal access to therapeutic cannabis.

The Greens strongly support reforms that allow people to access the medicine that they need, including medicinal cannabis.

Medicinal cannabis is a legitimate and reliable treatment for a variety of serious medicinal conditions. It has gained mainstream acceptance across Australia as an important intervention that can provide relief for some people with debilitating conditions.¹

There is strong community support for law reform that makes medicinal cannabis available to those who need it.²

Recent legal changes have established Access Schemes nationally and at state level. In Tasmania the CAS will make it legal for people to be prescribed medicinal cannabis products by an appropriately qualified, specialist doctor from the 1st September 2017.³

THE PROBLEM

There is currently no availability of locally sourced and supplied prescribed medicinal cannabis products, and there will be a delay before these become readily available to Tasmanians.

Many Tasmanians with a wide range of conditions already benefit from the use of medicinal cannabis.

However, users and compassionate growers currently live with the threat of prosecution for possession, or cultivation, of a prohibited substance.

They also face the prospect of having the medicine they use for themselves or their family confiscated, leaving them without a viable, safe and effective treatment for their condition.

Many of these people have developed the knowledge that has enabled them to produce and use a product that works effectively and safely for their own situation.

People who need and rely on the use of their privately produced medicinal cannabis to treat themselves and their families need protection from criminal prosecution.

OUR SOLUTION

The Greens will introduce a medicinal cannabis registration scheme that will allow legitimate registered users and personal cultivators of medicinal cannabis to be quarantined from criminal prosecution.

The registration scheme will provide guidelines around accessing GPs, types of disease and illness covered, management plans, allowable product quantities, and registration with the government that provides an ID card.

We will work towards the establishment of a legal framework to allow for the lawful personal production of medicinal cannabis products for therapeutic use, still under a controlled registration scheme.

We also support the ongoing effort both nationally and internationally to conduct research and clinical trials to deepen our understanding of the benefits of medicinal cannabis treatment on disease and illness.

INITIATIVE COST

Initiative Investment (\$m)	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year
Registration Scheme	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2
Total	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2

REFERENCES

1. [Imogen Crump, Breakthrough: Medicinal Cannabis and Severe Epilepsy, University of Melbourne, 2017](#) and [Wendy Swift, Peter Gates and Paul Dillon, Survey of Australians using cannabis for medical purposes, Harm Reduction Journal, 2005, Vol. 2, no. 18.](#)
2. [Roy Morgan Research, A massive majority of Australians support the legalisation of medicinal marijuana, Finding No. 6517, 2015.](#)
3. [Michael Fergusson, Medical cannabis Controlled Access Scheme to open on September 1, Tasmanian Government, 2017.](#)

> YOUR GREEN TEAM



> WANT MORE INFO?

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