



# Overview of Public Consultation Process

02/09/2023

# Process Overview

- Thursday 4 May – consultation opened
- Friday 30 June 2023 – consultation closed
- Friday 14 July 2023 – submissions made available on members area of website

# Submissions received

- 794 submissions received, of which 775 were valid
- 118 submissions from organisations
- 657 submissions from individuals
- Included some video submissions.

# Quality Control

- Strong quality control processes.
- Identity verification worked very well.
- Option for submitters to request anonymisation worked very well.
- Organised campaigns by advocacy groups behind a number of personal submissions. Does not undermine the validity of those submissions.
- No widescale evidence of ‘copy-and-paste’.
- Submissions should not be regarded as a snapshot of public opinion. But they do serve very useful purposes.

# Origin of submissions

Total valid <u>Personal</u> Submissions	657
Australia	2
Canada	1
Germany	1
Spain	2
France	1
Great Britain	10
Greece	1
Ireland	633
Netherlands	3
Sweden	1
USA	2

Total valid Submissions	118
Spain	1
Great Britain	6
Ireland	110
USA	1

# Nature of Organisation or Group

<b>Nature of Organisation or Group</b>	<b>118</b>
Community/Voluntary Service Providers	32
Advocacy and Representative Bodies	53
Statutory - Community/Voluntary Partnerships	19
Public Body	9
Political Party	5

# Thematic focus of submissions from individuals

Theme identified by Secretariat	Number of Submissions	Personal Drug Use	3rd party drug use	Worked in area
Restrict supply	6	1	1	
Stricter prohibition \Maintain Status Quo	26	1	2	
Escalation of criminal punishment	15	1	0	
Therapeutic benefits of mycelium	27	10	0	
Legalisation: Therapeutic	56	21	1	5
Legalisation: Medical purposes	127	49	10	7
Legalisation Personal use/ Recreational	379	80	29	14
Decriminalisation	314	63	23	22
Regulation	265	62	24	15
Health-Based/Health-Led approach	177	30	12	9
Benefits to Country (Tax, Tourism, Jobs, Police resources)	169	36	8	8
Personal Benefits (Medical, Employment, Travel)	39	20		
Reference to other Jurisdictions	158	33	13	12
Education	147	24	12	11
Undermine criminal activity	188	33	15	7
Increase in funding for support services	19	1	1	3

# Thematic focus of submissions from organisation and groups

Areas identified by Secretariat referenced in Submissions	Number of Submissions
Poverty\Homelessness	13
Diversion	14
Spent Convictions\Adult Caution	18
Trauma Informed	27
Mapping\standard of care\Wrap around services	17
Peer led	24
Dual Diagnosis\Mental Health	25
Funding Models	13
Pay and Conditions	19
Women\Youth\Minorities	19
Families	28
Harm Reduction	24



# What next?

- Submissions continue to be available for members in the members' area of the website.
- Will assist members in understanding the rationale and objectives of advocates for different potential responses in relation to drugs use.
- Cross-references very usefully to the Workshop paper circulated in advance of the meeting.
- Finally, submissions will be published publicly following the conclusion of the Citizens' Assembly, subject to data protection checks.