



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

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Misuse of Drugs Amendment Regulations 2026

Portfolio Associate Health (Hon David Seymour)

On 23 April 2026, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that in November 2025, the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee agreed that all activities related to hemp which currently require a licence will be allowed without the need for a licence, subject to conditions [EXP-25-MIN-0099];
- 2 **noted** that these conditions are that persons intending to cultivate hemp notify Police and the Ministry for Primary Industries within the 12 months prior to beginning any cultivation activity and that this notification has occurred within the last 12 months, and that the THC content of the hemp plants being cultivated is less than 1% of the dry weight of the plant;
- 3 **noted** that existing regulations which limit the supply and quantity of hemp plant material and seeds to medicinal cannabis licence holders will be revoked;
- 4 **noted** that the issuing of import and export licences for hemp and hemp products remains unchanged, subject to Medsafe processes and a criminal record check;
- 5 **noted** that the Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis) Amendment Regulations 2026, the Misuse of Drugs (Industrial Hemp) Regulations Revocation Order 2026, and the Misuse of Drugs Amendment Regulations 2026 will give effect to the decision in paragraph 1 above;
- 6 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the:
 - 6.1 Misuse of Drugs Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 28726/16.0];
 - 6.2 Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis) Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 28737/12.0];
 - 6.3 Misuse of Drugs (Industrial Hemp) Regulations Revocation Order 2026 [PCO 28738/6.0].

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Attendance (see over)

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon James Meager
Hon Mike Butterick
Stuart Smith MP
Todd Stephenson MP
Jamie Arbuckle MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG

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