

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA Legal and Social Issues Committee

**MEDIA RELEASE** 

## Medically supervised injecting centre Bill report tabled

The Victorian Parliament's Legal and Social Issues Committee has tabled the Final Report of its Inquiry into the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Amendment (Pilot Medically Supervised Injecting Centre) Bill 2017.

The Bill proposes an 18-month trial of a medically supervised injecting centre in North Richmond, and is a response to the escalating and open sale and use of illicit drugs in that area.

"The Committee received evidence in support of a supervised injecting centre trial in North Richmond, including from local residents, organisations and medical specialists, as well as from other stakeholders who are not based in the area. We also heard from those who oppose an injecting centre trial in North Richmond, most notably local traders as well as some residents," Committee Chair Ms Margaret Fitzherbert said.

The Committee also examined existing literature on supervised injecting centres and policing policy regarding drugs both here in Victoria and overseas.

"This report makes a series of findings about the Bill and compares it to the equivalent legislation in New South Wales," Ms Fitzherbert said.

The report is available from the Committee's website.

## MEDIA QUERIES

Contact: Margaret Fitzherbert, Committee Chair, 0425 733 246

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