

Andrew Little
Leader of the Opposition



15 March 2017

David Johnston
david@eyesofablacksheep.com

Dear David

Thanks for writing about the decriminalisation of cannabis.

Labour's key priorities are housing, health, jobs and education and that's where our focus is.

I'm personally very uncomfortable about increasing access to cannabis, particularly to young people. The scientific and medical evidence I've seen says that most of the cannabis available in New Zealand has high THC content and for still developing brains, that poses health risks. Finding a formula for decriminalisation that means you could mitigate those health risks would be extraordinarily difficult. We will not make holding a referendum on cannabis a priority when in government.

We firmly support cannabis products being available for medicinal use, however, where its use is prescribed by a GP or specialist where a person has a terminal illness or chronic pain.

Thanks for writing

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Little".

Andrew Little
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