



Hon Yvette D'Ath MP  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services  
Leader of the House

20 MAY 2021

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Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliament  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3490-21, tabled in Parliament on 20 April 2021, in relation to decriminalising psychedelics for use in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy.

The Queensland Government is committed to the provision of evidence-based treatment and care for mental illness in alignment with established National and State legislation, regulations and safety and quality standards.

Research is currently being undertaken through highly controlled clinical trials in Australia and internationally into the potential therapeutic utility of psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy in the treatment of mental illness in adults. The evidence base for this treatment is emerging, but currently limited.

Further research is required to assess the efficacy, safety and effectiveness of psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy in order to inform potential future use. Additionally, the Australian Government would need to establish treatment methodologies, training and accreditation for therapists, and an ethical and legal framework to provide appropriate safeguards.

The Australian Government is responsible for regulation of substances used in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy, such as psilocybin and MDMA, through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). The TGA is awaiting the results of an independent expert review into the therapeutic value, risks and benefits to public health outcomes for these substances. Updates are available on the TGA website at [www.tga.gov.au](http://www.tga.gov.au).

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

**YVETTE D'ATH MP**  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services  
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