

**Submission  
No 123**

## **INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Louise Whyte - McDonnell

**Date Received:** 17 May 2024

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My name is Louise and I have suffered from Fibromyalgia for over 20 years, every day 24/7 I am in pain, over the years I have tried every drug possible to relieve my pain.

In 2020 I was approved to take part in a medical cannabis oil trial. I was on the oil for 9 months. I went through a period of intense pain and nothing helped, I decided to go off all medication, including THC. The company I did the trial with gave me no support and I was left in limbo, struggling every day with my horrific pain and trying to maintain my work life.

Fortunately I found a very good Doctor and she help me get slowly back on track, but once again I was back on opioids. And dealing with a bleeding gut from the medication and constant changes in medication and increasing medication, I found where still just not giving me any quality of life.

Due to horrendous leg pain I started back on the THC oil at night, this gave me pain relief and helped immensely with my sleep deprivation.

I am under a local pain specialist in Nowra, who proscribes my oil.

My every day fear is being pulled over by police and drug tested, I know that when I drive I am not affected by the cannabis oil I take at night, however it would still show up in my blood.

I live a very active life, I have owned a waste and recycling company in Moss Vale for the past 25 year, I travel from the coast to the highlands on a regularly basis for work and to look after my elderly parents, I travel in with my caravan around parts of Australia , I have raised 3 amazing children with my ex husband and they are very independent hard working individuals.

I pride myself on being a hard working Aussie who unfortunately has been inflicted with a pain disorder, and cannabis is the best solution to my pain, so as I can be still be an active member of society.

I ask that you seriously listen to those that make submissions, in regards to needing cannabis to get through their every day life.

Thank you for the opportunity to tell my story.