

CANNABIS — LEGALISATION

**135. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:**

I note that it is now more than 12 months since the Labor–Green coalition in the ACT effectively legalised the possession of small amounts of cannabis for personal, recreational use. I also note the WA state Labor Party’s longstanding, and entirely laudable, commitment to a return to the decriminalisation measures introduced in the Cannabis Control Act 2003 by the Gallop government, and revoked under the Barnett Liberal administration.

Is the McGowan government willing to work alongside pro-cannabis parties in this place to, at the very least, realise its own state party policy, if not to follow the example of its progressive colleagues in the ACT; and if not, why not?

**Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question and note that this is his first question in the house; congratulations on reaching that early milestone.

The Misuse of Drugs Act, which is the legislation that includes offences relating to prohibited drugs and plants, is within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Police. However, I can advise on this occasion that the government does not support the decriminalisation of cannabis.