

STATES OF JERSEY



CANNABIS: DECRIMINALISATION OF PERSONAL POSSESSION AND RECREATIONAL USE (P.31/2024) – THIRD AMENDMENT (P.31/2024 AMD.(3)) – CHILDREN’S RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**Presented to the States on 18th June 2024
by Deputy T.A. Coles of St. Helier South**

STATES GREFFE

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT (CRIA)

PART 1: SCREENING

Name and title of Duty Bearer:	Deputy T.A. Coles of St. Helier South
Type of Duty Bearer: (Minister, Elected Member or States Assembly Body)	Elected Member
Assessment completed by (if not completed by duty bearer):	Members' Resources Team
Date:	18th June 2024

<p>1) Name and brief description of the proposed decision</p> <p>The subject of your CRIA may be a proposed law, policy or proposition and in accordance with the Law is referred to in this template as the 'decision'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the problem or issue the decision is trying to address? • Do children experience this problem differently from adults? <p>The amendment seeks to remove the term "persons over the age of 18", due to the inclusion of the age limit having the unintended impact of potentially creating a "Status Offense", meaning that only people under the age of 18 would still be criminalised as a result of cannabis possession.</p> <p>This is unacceptable and would contravene the UNCRC (United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child) articles 2, 4, 6 & 9; therefore, the removal of "persons over the age of 18" would remove a direct, and unintended, impact on children.</p>
<p>2) Which groups of children and young people are likely to be affected?</p> <p>Groups of children could include early years, primary or secondary education; young adults; children with additional learning needs; disabled children; children living in poverty; children from particular ethnic backgrounds; migrants; refugees; care experienced children and LGBTQ+ children</p> <p>The amendment would affect all children, as it would remove a direct, and unintended, impact on children.</p>
<p>3) What is the likely impact of the proposed decision on children and on their rights?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify any potential positive OR negative impacts and include indirect impacts on children and their rights as described in the UNCRC • Will different groups of children be affected differently by this decision? <p>The amendment would remove a direct, and unintended, impact on children.</p>
<p>4) Is a full Children's Rights Impact Assessment required?</p> <p>If you have identified impacts on children and their rights, a full CRIA should be completed. If no impacts are identified then a Full CRIA is not required, but please explain your rationale and how you reached this conclusion</p> <p>There is no requirement under Article 6(2) of the Children (Convention Rights) (Jersey) Law 2022 to complete a full assessment.</p> <p>It is noted that the impact of the amendment would remove an unintentional direct impact on children.</p>