

## Public support for cannabis law reform in New Zealand is as strong as ever, the NZ Drug Foundation says, citing poll results.



### Cannabis

Of those questioned, 65 per cent believed possessing cannabis for personal use should be legalised (28 per cent) or decriminalised (37 per cent).

Foundation executive director Ross Bell says the split matches a survey a year ago when 64 per cent were in favour of change.

"The current system is broken," he said.

"Getting a criminal conviction for possessing cannabis ruins peoples' lives and creates huge downstream costs for society."

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The foundation wants political parties to make commitments to health-focused drug law during the election campaign.

The poll of 938 people, commissioned by the foundation, was conducted in July. Mr Bell said it showed cross-party support for change relating to personal use, led by voters for the Green Party (92 per cent in favour) and NZ First (68 per cent).

**Total supporting legalising or decriminalising cannabis**

For personal possession - 65 per cent

Personal growing - 55 per cent

Growing for friends - 26 per cent

Pain relief - 78 per cent

Terminal pain relief - 81 per cent

Selling from a store - 34 per cent.