



I, Councillor Dick Gross, give notice that I intend to move the Motion outlined below at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 01 February 2017:

That Council:-

1. Requests officers to assist in facilitating and advising on how this Council might work with the State government to pilot the provision of pill testing facilities at consenting clubs, festivals and dance parties in the City of Port Phillip to minimise the harms associated with illicit drugs in a pill based form;
2. Calls on the State government to pass the requisite legislation to enable these pilot facilities;
3. Communicates these proposed pilot facilities to all residents and visitors to the City;
4. Given this is a State responsibility, the Council receives sufficient funding for the provisions of these pilot measures;
5. As this is a matter of urgency, the strategic planning, legislative amendment and financial accommodation is finalised before the end of the financial year.

Supporting Information

- A significant number of visitors to festivals and venues in Port Phillip will take unlawful drugs contained in pills;
- These pills may contain contaminants, adulterants and uncertain strengths that lead to avoidable morbidity and mortality;
- These harms could be minimised if pill testing is deployed;
- According to annual research among 1,000 ecstasy users, 70% of these pills are taken in a public setting at clubs, festivals and dance parties of the sort that are offered in Port Phillip;
- 82% of young people surveyed would use pill testing if it were provided.
- Local government is well placed to facilitate pill testing. Local governments provide or facilitate this service in several European countries including the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Spain and France.