



Cannabis Trades Association

Press Release

Friday, 14 February 2020

Cannabis Trades Association addresses the FSA statement and suggests that questions remain to be answered

On the 13th of February 2020, the FSA released a public statement for the first time, concerning the debate about the legislation of CBD extracts and products. Although the Cannabis Trades Association (CTA) duly welcome a Route to Compliance for the industry and its members, we are still of the opinion that natural (not isolates or synthetic forms) CBD products do not fall under the scope of the Novel Food schedule.

The CTA fully supports regulation as it ensures consumer safety and gives clarity to the processes required for its members' products to remain on in stores across the country. We are continuing a full review process including legal aspects and avenues into the current and proposed regulations for CBD in the UK, whilst maintaining close relationships with relevant authorities and stakeholders. In reality, not all members will be affected by the proposed legislative changes.

Further to the highlighted safety concerns, the CTA agrees that CBD as a food supplement should not be administered in high daily doses (above 200mg), and consumers should always seek approved medical guidance if taking other medications or during pregnancy. We also maintain our position that CTA members products are compliant and continue to pose no safety concerns to those consuming within the set guidelines.

In summary, although we do not agree in full with all that is being proposed, we believe it is a positive step towards ensuring consumer safety and that CBD will be on the shelves for many years to come. As an association, we will continue to work tirelessly to maintain relationships with all the official agencies to ensure our members, their products and the entire industry maintains a Route to Compliance and will issue further statements and guidance outlining the steps the CTA are undertaking.

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Notes to Editors

1. More information on the CTA can be found at <https://cannabistrades.org/>
2. The CTA is the largest cannabinoid centric association in the world, made up of over 1200 members and 6500 sellers. Established in 2016 it has grown from 7 founder members in the UK it now has members in 35 countries, deals with over 100 government departments and its members sold over £2.7bn worth of products in 43 countries last year in the cannabinoid industries.
3. Last year the UK membership of the CTA sold around £140m worth of products and employed almost 800 staff. The CTA itself is fully staffed by 9 full time staff, representatives from 5 legal firms and is the only association working to ensure the membership operate in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations.

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The Hemp Trades Association (trading as the Cannabis Trades Association UK) is a not for profit company limited by guarantee without share capital in England and Wales No. 10472540 incorporated in November 2016.