

Drug and Alcohol Court

Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court – Update (COVID-19)

This communique is to update key stakeholders in relation to the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court's response to the impact of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

Referrals to QDAC will be suspended for a period of three months effective immediately. This decision will be reviewed based on ongoing advice being provided.

At present, QDAC will maintain current sitting days. Defendants currently undergoing assessment for admission to a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order (Treatment Order) will be processed as normal through the eligibility, suitability and sentence process. Participants currently subject to a Treatment Order will continue to be supervised by the court in a modified capacity. Participants must continue to comply with the conditions of their Treatment Order including engaging in the recommended treatment, case management and urine/breath testing. Failure to comply may result in appropriate action by the court.

Any further charges should continue to be adjourned to QDAC as per paragraph 26 of Practice Direction no. 1 of 2018 (amended). Further, as per paragraph 27 of this Practice Direction, section 151ZB warrant apprehensions must continue to be adjourned to the next QDAC sitting day with no provision for bail.

We thank you for your understanding as we respond to this evolving health situation and work to protect the health and well-being of our staff while maintaining adequate service delivery.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Webber, Director, Specialist Courts and Referral Services on 3738 7228 or via email at julie.webber@justice.qld.gov.au.