

Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026

Explanatory Notes

FOR

Amendments to be moved during consideration in detail by the Honourable Laura Gerber MP, Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services

Title of the Bill

The short title of the Bill is the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026.

Policy objectives of the Amendments

The Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026 (the Bill) seeks to prescribe new Adult Crime, Adult Time offences; repeal the current Police Drug Diversion Program and introduce the new Illicit Drug Enforcement and Diversion Framework; and introduce new and expanded police powers within prescribed Designated Business and Community Precincts.

The Bill amends a range of legislative instruments including the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2012* (the 2012 Regulation) to accomplish its policy objectives. At the time of the Bill's introduction into the Queensland Parliament on 3 March 2026, the 2012 Regulation was in force and was therefore correctly referenced in the Bill. However, the Governor-in-Council subsequently made the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2026* (the 2026 Regulation) which has superseded the 2012 Regulation.

The amendments provide technical updates to the Bill by substituting references to the 2012 Regulation with references to the 2026 Regulation. This ensures the Bill is accurate and accommodates the substantive changes in the law, mitigating the risk of legal uncertainty or error.

Achievement of the policy objectives

The amendments to be moved during consideration in detail will update the Bill to reference the 2026 Regulation instead of the 2012 Regulation, including updating relevant section numbers and references for alignment. The amendments to the Bill ensure it continues to reflect its original policy intent to give effect to the new Illicit Drug Enforcement and Diversion Framework which establishes distinct diversionary pathways for a minor drug offence and minor cannabis offence. The technical updates to the Bill ensure the original changes to the 2012 Regulation are mirrored in the 2026 Regulation and do not contain any new policy changes.

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

There are no alternative ways of achieving the policy objectives other than by legislative reform.

Estimated cost for government implementation

There are no costs to government to implement the amendments.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Bill has been drafted with due regard to the fundamental legislative principles outlined in the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

The Explanatory Notes for the Bill address issues of consistency with fundamental legislative principles raised by several of its provisions. The amendments proposed during consideration in detail do not raise additional matters for consideration.

Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with stakeholders during the Parliamentary Committee process and before introduction of the Bill as outlined in the Explanatory Notes for the Bill.

The amendments proposed during consideration in detail are minor and technical in nature and further consultation was not undertaken.

Consistency with legislation of other jurisdictions

The Bill is specific to the State of Queensland and is not uniform with, or complementary to, the legislation of the Commonwealth or any other State.

Notes on provisions

Amendment 1 updates the heading of part 6 of the Bill to note that it amends the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2026* (the 2026 Regulation) instead of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2012* (the 2012 Regulation).

Amendment 2 updates clause 35 of the Bill to identify part 6 of the Bill as amending the 2026 Regulation instead of the 2012 Regulation.

Amendment 3 updates the heading of clause 36 of the Bill (Amendment of s 20H (Prescribed quantity for minor drug offences—Act, s 378B) by omitting reference to section ‘20H’ and replacing it with section ‘10’. This substitutes a reference to a provision in the 2012 Regulation with the corresponding provision within the 2026 Regulation.

Amendment 4 amends clause 36 of the Bill by omitting reference to section ‘20H’ and replacing it with section ‘10’ on page 40, line 18. This consequently updates section 10 of the 2026 Regulation by omitting reference to section ‘378B’ and replacing it with new section ‘378F’.

Amendment 5 updates the heading of clause 37 of the Bill (Amendment of sch 1B (Prescribed quantity of dangerous drugs, S4 medicines and S8 medicines) by omitting reference to schedule ‘1B’ and replacing it with reference to schedule ‘1’. This substitutes a reference to a schedule in the 2012 Regulation with the corresponding schedule in the 2026 Regulation.

Amendment 6 amends clause 37 of the Bill by replacing a reference to schedule ‘1B’ with a reference to schedule ‘1’ on page 40, line 23. This consequently removes cannabis from schedule 1 of the 2026 Regulation.

Amendment 7 amends clause 37 of the Bill by replacing a reference to schedule ‘1B’ with schedule ‘1’ on page 40, line 25. This consequently removes the legislative note in schedule 1, part 2 of the 2026 Regulation.

Amendment 8 amends clause 37 of the Bill by replacing a reference to schedule ‘1B’ with schedule ‘1’ on page 41, line 1. This consequently removes the legislative note in schedule 1, part 3 of the 2026 Regulation.

Amendment 9 updates the long title of the Bill to capture amendments to the 2026 Regulation instead of the 2012 Regulation.