

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

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Submission to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee

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

My name is Tim Robinson and I live in the Brisbane region. I am an active volunteer with Rosies Friends on the Street, supporting people experiencing homelessness and social isolation through evening outreach services. My experience in community outreach provides a practical perspective on how these laws interact with vulnerable people in real situations.

Community safety is an important responsibility of government. Many Queenslanders are concerned about repeat offending, anti-social behaviour and drug-related harm. Laws that hold serious offenders accountable are necessary, and people should feel safe in their communities. In outreach areas such as Logan and Beenleigh, I regularly see how complex social challenges can intersect with community safety concerns.

At the same time, many people who come into contact with the criminal justice system are dealing with addiction, mental health issues, homelessness or social isolation. Effective policy should consider prevention, rehabilitation and support alongside enforcement.

One experience from my outreach work illustrates this clearly. On 8 November 2025 I led a Rosies outreach with a small volunteer team serving around fifteen patrons. Two new patrons attended, one of whom said he had recently been released from prison. During the evening, one of the two newcomers experienced what appeared to be epileptic seizures after eating. I called 000 and followed the dispatcher's instructions until his condition stabilised. Before leaving we were able to provide sleeping bags to help the two newcomers through the night. Despite rain and difficult conditions, the outreach concluded safely through calm cooperation among volunteers.

Experiences like this highlight how many people on the margins are navigating extremely difficult circumstances without stable housing or support networks. Long-term community safety depends not only on enforcement but also on helping people stabilise their lives.

Recommendations

1. **Drug diversion programs (Clause 5 and sections 378C–378O):** Ensure adequate funding and availability of diversion programs so individuals with minor drug offences have a genuine opportunity to access treatment and rehabilitation.
2. **Police banning notices (Clause 29 – section 602C):** Consider oversight or review mechanisms to ensure banning notices are used proportionately and do not unintentionally prevent vulnerable people from accessing essential services.
3. **Designated business and community precincts (Clause 32 – section 808D):** Ensure safeguards allowing access to support services such as food programs, outreach services, healthcare and public transport.

I support efforts to improve safety for Queensland communities while recognising the importance of dignity, prevention and support in reducing long-term crime.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Tim Robinson

Queensland resident and community volunteer