

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

Submission No: 032

Submission By: [REDACTED]

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11/03/2026

Nigel Dalton
MEMBER FOR MACKAY
Mackay QLD

Dear Nigel,

Re: Community concerns regarding repeat offending and early intervention

I am writing as a member of the Mackay community to raise concerns about the impact that repeat offending is having on local families, neighbourhoods, and community confidence in the systems designed to protect them.

It appears that a relatively small group of repeat offenders are responsible for a significant portion of disruptive and damaging behaviour within the community. In many cases, these incidents are not isolated. Instead, they occur over extended periods and often escalate before meaningful intervention occurs. This pattern places ongoing stress on families, property owners, and neighbours who are left dealing with the consequences while waiting for the situation to reach a threshold where stronger action is taken.

By way of example, I am aware of a situation involving an individual struggling with severe substance abuse who repeatedly damaged a family-owned property and engaged in threatening and destructive behaviour toward their own relatives. Incidents included property damage, flooding, intimidation, and threats of arson. Despite the seriousness of the conduct and the clear risk to others, it took a prolonged period before the situation was addressed in a meaningful way.

Situations like this raise legitimate questions about whether earlier intervention mechanisms are being applied effectively. Waiting until a situation escalates repeatedly before decisive action is taken places families, communities, and even the individuals involved in increasingly dangerous circumstances. Early intervention, structured supervision, and appropriate support services should ideally be implemented well before matters reach a crisis point.

I recognise that complex social issues such as substance abuse, family conflict, and youth offending require balanced solutions that include both accountability and access to rehabilitation. However, it is equally important that communities feel safe and that systems respond promptly when patterns of harmful behaviour become evident.

I would welcome any information you can provide regarding what measures are currently in place to address repeat offending and whether there are plans to strengthen early intervention strategies in our region. In particular, I believe there would be strong community support for policies that focus on preventing escalation through timely action and coordinated support.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I appreciate the responsibility carried by those in public office and hope that continued discussion and leadership will lead to improved outcomes for both the community and those who require intervention.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]