



28 August 2017

Acting Committee Secretary
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

To Whom It May Concern

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Penalties and Sentences (Drug and Alcohol Treatment Orders) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017.

We acknowledge the extensive consultation process to date. The Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies represents a dynamic and broad-reaching specialist network of non-government alcohol and other drug treatment and harm reduction services across Queensland. We have 47 member organisations, representing the majority of specialist non-government AOD providers in Queensland.

Involvement of treatment services

Section 151B outlines the review team composition as the court and 'representatives of each treatment order agency'. We note that the definition of treatment order agencies excludes non-government alcohol and other drug treatment providers (which are defined separately as 'service providers'). The issue of NGO participation in the review team was raised by us throughout the consultation process and we were assured that we would be provided with a seat at the review table.

There are three residential service providers who will participate in the pilot of the new drug court program and we argue that their inclusion in the review team will be critical in the success of the program, as it will assist in building a shared understanding between the courts and treatment providers.

Training of Magistrates

The public briefing session held 23 August noted that training would be provided to Magistrates. We expresses interest on behalf of the alcohol and other drug treatment sector in Queensland in being consulted in the development of the training program.

QNADA would be happy to provide further information or discuss any aspects of this submission. Please don't hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] or by calling 07 3023 5050.

Yours Sincerely

Rebecca Lang
CEO