

Question on Notice

No. 1524

Asked on 10 December 2025

HON G GRACE ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES
(**HON T NICHOLLS**)—

QUESTION

With reference to the government's decision to end pill testing services—

Will the Minister advise (a) what traces of nitazenes have been detected through wastewater testing in inner-city Brisbane since January 2025 and (b) how is the government ensuring community safety in the absence of pill testing?

ANSWER

Pill testing sends the wrong message and it is dangerous to mix messages on drug safety. There is no safe way to take drugs. The Crisafulli Government does not support the illegal operation of drug dealers and has amended the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* (Qld) to discontinue drug checking in Queensland – a policy position aligned with the Western Australian, South Australian, Northern Territory, and Tasmanian Governments.

I refer the Member to the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission who is responsible for the National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Program across Australia with their latest report released in August 2025 and available online.

The Crisafulli Government provides a number of specialist alcohol and other drug services through Queensland Health's Hospital and Health Services and non-government organisations funded under service agreement.

This includes services like withdrawal management, counselling and residential rehabilitation, specialist youth services as well as 'Adis', Queensland Health's statewide telephone service operating 24 hours a day, 7 days week for anyone concerned about their own or someone else's substance use.

Queensland Health also delivers and continues to develop an early warning system with involvement from key agencies like the Queensland Police Service and Forensic Science Queensland (Department of Justice).

As part of this system, experts analyse and assess detections and issue warnings across the service system, to at-risk groups and the public about dangerous substances circulating in the Queensland community.