

18 February 2025

The Hon Dan Purdie MP  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services

**By email:** [REDACTED]

**Subject: Drug diversion eligibility**

Dear Minister

We refer to our meeting of 11 February 2025 regarding the drug diversion laws and subsequent joint letter sent to your office on 14 February 2025.

During the meeting, we discussed eligibility for the drug diversion program, specifically your enquiry regarding persons arrested with multiple other substances or with a criminal history of supply, trafficking or production. We confirm our advice to you in the meeting that people are **excluded** from the program in these circumstances.

The relevant provisions are set out in [Division 5 of the Police Powers and Responsibility Act 2000](#) and the [Queensland Police website](#) states clearly that only the following people are eligible for the program:

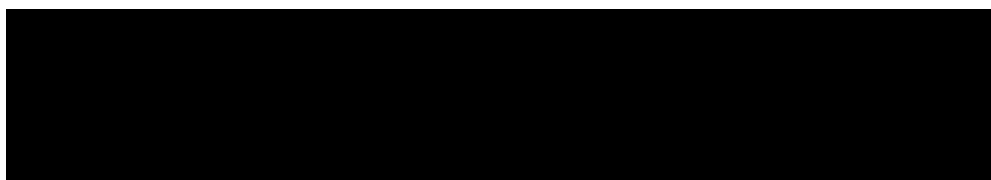
- *they have been arrested for, or questioned about, a minor drugs offence defined under s 378B Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000*
- *they **have not committed another indictable offence in circumstances that are related to the minor drugs offence** (an indictable offence related to the minor drugs offence, **for example**, would be **if the person possesses another dangerous drug** or S4 or S8 medicine of a quantity that is more than the prescribed quantity for a minor drugs offence)*
- ***they have not been previously sentenced to serve a term of imprisonment for supply, trafficking or production** of a dangerous drug or precursors*
- ***a police officer reasonably believes the minor drugs** the subject of the minor drugs offence **was** [sic] **for personal use**.*

In reference to our conversation, we again respectfully submit diversions of persons not fitting these criteria are likely due to a training issue given the recency of the legislation. Ensuring police officers are appropriately trained in applying the eligibility requirements will address your concerns.

We reiterate our call for the program to continue until May 2026 when it is due to be comprehensively evaluated. That evaluation will give you the information you need to determine if the program is delivering effective health interventions and cost savings to police and the justice system while simultaneously maintaining community safety.

If you wish to meet to discuss these issues further, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Dr Nick Yim  
**President**  
**AMA Queensland**

Dr Brett Dale  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**AMA Queensland**

Copied to:  
Steve Gollschewski APM, Commissioner of the Queensland Police Service