1. Between 2007 and 2009 the Queensland Police Service (QPS) evaluated the vehicle impoundment scheme under the *Police Powers and Responsibiliti*es *Act 2000* (the Act). While the type 2 vehicle impoundment scheme was initially the subject of the evaluation, amendments are also made to the type 1 vehicle impoundment scheme where analogous provisions exist.
2. Eight recommendations were made by the QPS to improve the current vehicle impoundment scheme. These recommendations aim to streamline the current processes for the impoundment and forfeiture of motor vehicles where drivers commit and continue to commit type 1 impoundment offences and type 2 impoundment offences. Amendments will be made to the Act to give effect to these recommendations.
3. The amendments to type 1 and type 2 vehicle impoundment schemes include increasing the initial impoundment periods to 7 days and allowing for automatic impoundment for up to 28 days where a first repeat and subsequent type 1 impoundment offence or a second repeat and subsequent type 2 impoundment offence has occurred. A court will have the capacity to make a forfeiture order where a second repeat and subsequent type one offence or third repeat and subsequent type 2 impoundment offence has occurred.
4. Amendments to the Act will allow police to take action against offending drivers by infringement notice, rather than arrest or the issuing of a Notice to Appear for a first type 2 impoundment offence. The current application times are also increased under the proposed legislation allowing police up to 7 days to make an application to a court for impoundment and forfeiture.
5. The Bill will extend the current range of type 2 impoundment offences to include high end speeding (over 40km per hour). Other changes to type 2 impoundment offences include allowing different type 2 offences to apply to impoundment or forfeiture. Non owner drivers will also be the subject of enforcement action where they commit type 2 offences in another person’s vehicle.
6. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Police Powers and Responsibilities (Motor Vehicle Impoundment) Amendment Bill 2011 into the Legislative Assembly.
7. *Attachments*
* [Police Powers and Responsibilities (Motor Vehicle Impoundment) Amendment Bill 2011](Attachments/Att%201%20Police%20Powers%20and%20Responsibilities%20%28Motor%20Vehicle%20Impoundment%29%20Amendment%20Bill%202011.PDF).
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Att%202%20Police%20Powers%20and%20Responsibilities%20%28Motor%20Vehicle%20Impoundment%29%20Amendment%20Bill%202011%20explanatory%20note.PDF)