1. In May 2009, the Social Development Committee was directed by the Legislative Assembly to conduct an inquiry (the Inquiry) into addressing cannabis-related harm in Queensland and report back to Parliament by 23 April 2010.
2. The Queensland Government is greatly concerned about the impact of illicit drug use and supports whole-of-government action to address the harms of cannabis use for the Queensland community.
3. The Queensland Government submission to the Social Development Committee’s inquiry strongly aligns with the ‘Queensland Drug Strategy 2006-2010’, and national action under the ‘National Drug Strategy’ and ‘National Cannabis Strategy’.
4. Leading Queensland Government initiative to address cannabis-related harm in Queensland include:
* Drug education (through the Queensland Department of Education and Training) including provision of policies, procedures, guidelines and curriculum statements relating to school drug education.
* Controlled operations, provided by the State Drug Investigation Unit (Queensland Police Service), targeting high-level drug syndicates and individuals.
* Roadside Drug Testing for cannabis, methylamphetamine and MDMA (ecstasy).
* An Illicit Drugs Court Diversion Program, implemented state-wide from July 2005, which targets both adult and juvenile offenders who appear in any Queensland Magistrates or Children’s Court charged with possession of small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use.
* Community-based treatment services, ranging from brief interventions of one or two sessions through to 3 to 6 months as a resident of a rehabilitation program.
* A culturally relevant diversion program that targets both alcohol and cannabis, providing a 20 week treatment and recovery program for Indigenous people referred by the Court or Child Safety.
1. Cabinet endorsed the Queensland Government submission to the inquiry into addressing cannabis-related harm in Queensland.
2. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Government submission to the inquiry into addressing cannabis-related harm in Queensland](Attachments/Qld%20Govt%20submission%20in%20inquiry%20on%20cannabis%20related%20harm.pdf)