1. The Police Power and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 amends the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000*, the *Child Protection and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004*, the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001,* the *Criminal Code,* the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012,* the *Justice and Other Information Disclosure Act 2008* the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992,* the *Prostitution Act 1999,* the *Public Safety Preservation Act 1986,* the *Weapons Act 1990*, the *Weapons Regulation 2016*, the *Weapons Categories Regulation 1997* and the *Youth Justice Act 1992*.
2. The Bill contains significant, evidence-based reform that takes a health-led approach to the harm caused by drugs in our community. The Bill achieves this through the introduction of drug diversion warnings and the expansion of the police drug diversion program for minor drug offences involving any type of dangerous drug and unlawful possession of pharmaceuticals.
3. The Bill clarifies the terminology in powers, which permit police under pre-requisite circumstances to require access information (eg a password or encryption code) to a digital device (eg a lap-top computer or mobile phone). This clarification of terminology assists in future-proofing the provisions so that perpetrators who conceal evidence of offences on digital devices cannot escape detection and prosecution.
4. Additionally, the Bill contains amendments that will provide clarity to legislation where needed, create efficiencies for the Queensland Police Service (QPS), and deliver benefits for the Queensland community. These amendments would:
* update the definition of ‘controlled activity’ to cater for modern communication methods;
* broaden the level of approval required for the authorisation of controlled operations;
* enable the voluntary transfer of the ownership of a vehicle to the State to alleviate situations where impoundment costs exceed the value of the vehicle;
* clarify that a surveillance device warrant for a named person also captures a vehicle;
* enable a search under s.134A of the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* (DFVPA) of a person who is given a direction to move and transported by police;
* broaden delegated persons regarding information sharing provisions in the DFVPA;
* repeal sober safe centre trial laws (which ceased in 2015);
* reduce the QPS costs of holding found property by removing the minimum holding time, but maintaining the minimum notice requirement to the owner of 30 days;
* modify the definition of ‘magazine’ in the *Weapons Act 1990* to establish consistency;
* expand the period for which a weapons licence can be suspended from 30 days to 90 days;
* obligate armourers who are modifying a firearm to ensure the owner is licensed to possess a firearm of the new category, and to notify Weapons Licensing of the modification;
* rectify the three-year ineligibility period for brothel licensees who have not paid annual fees;
* authorise the Prostitution Licensing Authority to enter, search and seize at a licensed brothel and not be obstructed in their duties, in the *Prostitution Act 1999*; and
* make the offence of contravening a condition or restriction of a licensed brothel a simple offence.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)