On 10 February 2018, the Queensland Government launched *Action on ice: The Queensland Government’s plan to address use and harms caused by crystal methamphetamine.*

*Action on ice* includes a suite of **56 initiatives** that contribute to **reducing the impact of ice** on the Queensland community through **actions that reduce:**

- **Supply** through law enforcement activity
- **Demand** through prevention and treatment programs
- **Harms** through supporting families, communities and frontline workers

The plan was developed through listening to individuals and families with lived experience of ice and other drug use, communities, service providers and frontline workers across the state through a number of consultation forums and online submissions.

*Action on ice* includes activity that builds on existing efforts across government agencies, as well as new initiatives to raise awareness, improve access to specialist services and support families and communities.

Making change and reducing use and harms associated with ice takes time and effort across government, industry, communities, families and individuals.

This update highlights key activity implemented by government agencies in the past 12 months. The Queensland Government remains committed to ongoing activity under *Action on ice* and will provide further updates.
Key implementation activity—reducing supply of ice

Queensland Police Service
The Queensland Police Service has led a number of successful operations targeting criminal networks involved in the production and supply of illicit drugs, including ice. Operations have also focused on rural and remote communities where ice and illicit drug use have caused the greatest harm. Strategies applied have included:

- Targeting identified transport routes for illicit drugs including ice to regional communities.
- Targeting gangs involved in organised crime including supply and production of illicit drugs.
- Targeting the emergence and footprint of organised criminal syndicates involved in ice and other illicit drugs.
- Targeting economic disruption of organised crime groups involved in the production and supply of illicit drugs including ice, obtaining restraining orders, and seizing property suspected to be proceeds of crime.
- Using a national approach to enforcing criminal drug laws, emphasising collaboration and partnerships with law enforcement agencies and other key national and local stakeholders.

Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC)

CCC hearings were held in support of police investigations of:

- A Brisbane-based organised crime syndicate engaged in trafficking methamphetamine and other drugs, sourced from a Sydney-based crime network resulting in the arrest of all Brisbane-based members of the syndicate.
- A Cairns-based network engaged in trafficking ice, MDMA (ecstasy) and cocaine who were alleged to be involved in multiple deliveries of these commodities via post and private transport companies.
- Drug trafficking and money laundering by a Brisbane-based syndicate trafficking methamphetamine, cocaine and MDMA.

Significant outcomes for CCC operations included the sentencing (9 years) of an offender in July 2018 in relation to the trafficking of methamphetamine and other drugs on the Gold Coast; and in August 2018, the sentencing (5 years) of an offender trafficking cocaine and ice.

CCC intelligence operations were undertaken in relation to:

- Criminal networks alleged to be involved in trafficking methamphetamine and other drugs in Far North Queensland, with reports provided to support police and other law enforcement operations.
- A criminal network alleged to be involved in trafficking methamphetamine and other drugs into south-western Queensland, with intelligence hearings resulting in information to support CCC crime operations.

During the past 12 months, the following restraining orders and forfeitures were made in relation to matters involving methamphetamine supply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restraining orders</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>Forfeitures/Recoveries</th>
<th>28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>matters with an approximate value of</td>
<td>$5.281 million</td>
<td>matters with an approximate value of</td>
<td>$6.289 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Action on ice
Queensland Health

A preferred site has been identified for the new 42-bed residential drug rehabilitation and treatment facility located in Rockhampton and planning work is underway with the Rockhampton Regional Council.

The Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council has been engaged to develop and deliver workshops, resources and support. This will assist up to ten Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Queensland in responding to ice and other drugs of concern (to 30 June 2020).

$10 million per annum of new alcohol and other drug treatment services delivered through the non-government sector have been established across 26 locations in Queensland, including:

- Four providers delivering more residential rehabilitation services (for pre and post treatment and withdrawal management ‘detox’).
- Four providers delivering new non-residential (day) programs.
- Eight providers delivering more counselling (for adults, young people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people).

A new website for Adis (24/7 Alcohol and Drug Support) —www.adis.health.qld.gov.au—provides information on ice and other drugs, a treatment service directory, and resources and help for individuals, families, friends and health professionals.

Since its launch in July 2018, the website has had 5688 visitors and 22,000 page views. Adis has responded to around 25,000 calls in the past year with most calls about alcohol or ice.

Queensland Health’s Insight service has developed a tailored alcohol and other drug Brief Intervention Toolkit—now available online at www.insight.qld.edu.au. The toolkit includes a comprehensive suite of new and existing tools and resources to help GPs and other health professionals screen, assess and conduct brief interventions across a range of substances, including ice.

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

On 7 October 2018, the Premier launched the Ice Help Campaign, an information awareness campaign to direct Queenslanders to accurate, factual and trusted information about ice, and information about how and where to seek further help and treatment.

The Ice Help Campaign centres on an Ice Help website at qld.gov.au/icehelp, showcasing video testimonials of people who have recovered from ice use and family members affected by ice, with access to services and support and trusted and factual information about the effects of ice. The video testimonials were also on social media, radio advertisements and health centres throughout Queensland.

While the campaign continues, results to date show overwhelming support with more than 1.023 million views of the videos and 3800 shares. One in five Queenslanders viewed the Ice Help videos, and more than 100,000 people visited the Ice Help website, with people staying on the site for an average of eight minutes.

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS)

In the past 12 months QCS has increased levels of contact and the number of individuals receiving assistance from re-entry services into the community, which includes addressing substance misuse risks—both before and after release from custody.

QCS also provides access to substance misuse intervention and treatment pathways for prisoners and offenders.

A range of group-based programs and individual interventions are available at correctional centres and some community corrections district offices, and are based on the individual needs of prisoners and offenders.

Queensland Mental Health Commission

In March 2018, the Queensland Mental Health Commission published Changing Attitudes, Changing Lives: Options to reduce stigma and discrimination for people experiencing problematic alcohol and other drug use outlining 18 options for reform.

The Commission has progressed two of these options through:

- Delivery of five Putting Together the Puzzle Anti-stigma workshops in 2018 by the Queensland Injectors Health Network to 110 health professionals and students from primary and tertiary healthcare settings in Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast and Toowoomba. Further training will be undertaken in early 2019, in Townsville, Cairns, Mackay and Mt Isa.
- Commencement of the Stretch2Engage pilot and evaluation started in February 2019 across seven sites in South-East Queensland. The pilot aims to improve and increase the meaningful engagement of people with a lived experience of problematic alcohol and other drug use, their families and significant others.
Key implementation activity—reducing harms from ice

Queensland Health

Family Drug Support has expanded service delivery in central Queensland (based in Rockhampton), and is offering workshop-based programs and information sessions for families and significant others, as well as training for health and other professionals to better help and support families affected by substance use.

Queensland Health’s Insight and Dovetail services have delivered 70 alcohol and other drugs (including ice) training events to support frontline health and related workforces across 28 locations in Queensland in the past year—attended by 1020 participants.

A range of new training and education resources for health and other professionals that focus on ice can be found at www.insight.qld.edu.au, including a new ‘Understanding Methamphetamine’ animated video.

Department of Justice and Attorney-General

The Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court (QDAC) commenced operation in Brisbane on 29 January 2018.

Referrals to QDAC are assessed through a multi-agency assessment process and suitable participants are sentenced, as an alternative to imprisonment, to a drug and alcohol treatment order. The drug and alcohol treatment order consists of two parts: the custodial part and the rehabilitation part. Under the custodial part, the individual is sentenced to a suspended period of imprisonment up to four years.

A component of the QDAC model is access to culturally appropriate support. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander participants are provided with support via a dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Liaison Officer.

Diversion programs

Agencies continue to deliver programs aimed at diverting relevant offenders to drug and alcohol interventions and treatment such as the Police Drug Diversion Program, Drug and Alcohol Assessment Referrals and Illicit Drugs Court Diversion Program.

Court Link is a bail-based court assessment, referral and support program that aims to address the underlying contributors to offending behaviour through targeted case management and judicial monitoring of defendants.

Court Link was implemented in Brisbane in November 2017 and in Cairns in June 2018. Court Link commenced in Ipswich and Southport in November 2018. Planning is underway to launch the program in Mount Isa.

Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women

The Lives Lived Well Logan Family Recovery Units were opened on 12 December 2018 and began accepting referrals in January 2019, with three families currently utilising the units.

The Breakthrough for Families program (launched October 2018) is operational in ten location clusters across the state. Service providers were procured and trained in use of the resources. Specialist resources were developed for use with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander audiences.

All sites have begun delivering community workshops/forums and providing brief support to family members as required.

Service delivery and evaluation for the trial youth residential care service in Brisbane has commenced, with placements provided to high-risk young people with mental health and substance misuse issues.

Counselling, treatment and referral services

Adis (24/7 Alcohol and Drug Support)

A free, 24/7 anonymous and confidential telephone information, counselling and referral service for anyone concerned about their own or someone else’s alcohol and other drug use, including help to find appropriate treatment services.

1800 177 833 or www.adis.health.qld.gov.au

Counselling online

A free, 24/7 counselling service for people using alcohol and other drugs, their family members and friends.

www.counsellingonline.org.au

Family Drug Support

Help and support for families affected by alcohol and other drug use.

1300 368 186 (24/7 Support Line)

www.fds.org.au

Breakthrough for Families Queensland

A free program for families affected by ice and other drugs that provides information, tailored support and connection to treatment and other services. The program is delivered in ten locations across Queensland.

www.qld.gov.au/community