



Queensland  
Sentencing  
Advisory  
Council

# Stakeholder Engagement Framework

The Queensland  
Sentencing  
Advisory Council  
is committed  
to genuine  
engagement  
with our  
stakeholders.



The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council's Stakeholder Engagement Framework guides our interactions with individuals and organisations and ensures our engagement is meaningful. We proactively look for opportunities to engage with stakeholders and seek their input to our work including Terms of Reference, with the purpose of informing the Council about community views and improving community confidence in sentencing.

Our key stakeholders include communities made up of diverse individuals who have different experiences and knowledge of sentencing. The Council is committed to placing people at the centre of everything we do. The Stakeholder Engagement Framework is supported by the Council's Strategic Plan 2020-22 that outlines our vision, purpose and values, and reconfirms our commitment to stakeholders.

## Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement is the process by which the Council interacts with people and organisations who can affect or may be affected by our activities and/or work.

We engage with stakeholders across Queensland, including:

- community members - those who have knowledge of sentencing and those who don't
- legal agencies involved in sentencing and legal professional bodies
- justice advocacy groups including victims' interest groups
- regulators
- elected representatives – Local and State
- government departments including the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and government agencies including Queensland Police Service and Queensland Corrective Services
- industry and research associations
- unions
- community legal centres
- schools and the tertiary sector
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations
- media.

## Objectives

The purpose of the Council's Stakeholder Engagement Framework is to enhance the way we interact and engage with our stakeholders, building relationships based on mutual respect and understanding and that help drive the delivery of our vision.

The Council is committed to:

- engaging early with stakeholders
- working with stakeholders to identify engagement preferences
- presenting information in a clear, timely and accessible manner so that stakeholders can meaningfully participate and provide informed feedback
- ensuring our decision making and recommendations consider diverse community ideas and opinions
- keeping communities and stakeholders regularly informed
- demonstrating how engagement has been considered or included by communicating with stakeholders about how their input has been considered
- supporting Council members and staff to improve their engagement skills, identifying future opportunities and building a strong internal culture that values engagement.

# Principles for effective stakeholder engagement

## Our values



The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council's Stakeholder Engagement Framework is based on five principles

### Integrity

We will be honest and act with integrity at all times.

The Council will do this by:

- interacting respectfully with our stakeholders
- delivering honest communications
- acting ethically in how we engage with people
- respecting and protecting human rights and people's personal information
- keeping information provided on a confidential basis confidential.

### Transparency

We will share information on matters that are important to stakeholders.

The Council will do this by:

- ensuring that information is accessible and clear for all stakeholders
- presenting balanced, accurate and complete information
- clearly communicating the decision-making processes to stakeholders
- providing opportunities for stakeholders to give input and ask questions.

### Responsiveness

We will respond to stakeholders in a timely way.

The Council will do this by:

- being available to listen and respond to stakeholders in a timely way
- acknowledging and addressing stakeholders' needs and concerns
- keeping the promises we make.

### Accountability

We will monitor and report on our performance and matters of importance to stakeholders.

The Council will do this by:

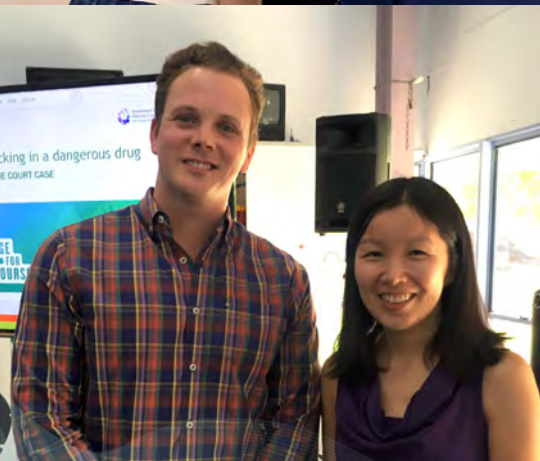
- surveying stakeholders to monitor progress towards achieving the Council's stakeholder engagement performance goals
- reporting the Council's performance in a way that is reliable and accurate.

### Inclusiveness

We will engage with stakeholders to understand, consider and respond on matters of importance to them.

The Council will do this by:

- identifying relevant stakeholders and actively seeking their involvement in engagement activities
- selecting engagement methods appropriate for particular stakeholders
- genuinely listening to stakeholders
- encouraging and being open to stakeholder feedback
- acknowledging and respecting the diversity of views and sensitivities of stakeholders
- developing and fostering long-term relationships with existing and new stakeholders.



# Stakeholder engagement activities

The Council is committed to genuine and timely stakeholder engagement that leads to improved understanding and confidence in sentencing.

Some of the key engagement activities the Council undertakes includes:

## Community engagement

With the Council's sentencing work spanning across Queensland, our dedicated team proactively engages with key community and legal stakeholders, advocacy groups and other organisations to help inform about sentencing and gather diverse views to further inform our work.

The Council is committed to engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on sentencing matters - understanding the impacts of current sentencing law and practice, and options for reform. We are supported by the advice and guidance of our experienced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel.

## Industry consultative forums

The Council hosts a range of consultative engagement forums seeking input and sharing effective, timely and transparent information. These forums facilitate robust discussions with stakeholders, producing valuable feedback which is then incorporated into the Council's decision-making and planning, and where appropriate, is referenced in our publicly available reports.

## Stakeholder research

The Council works with legal, government and tertiary sector stakeholders to conduct research that focuses on sentencing to better understand trends and contribute to improved understanding and evidence-based sentencing reform.

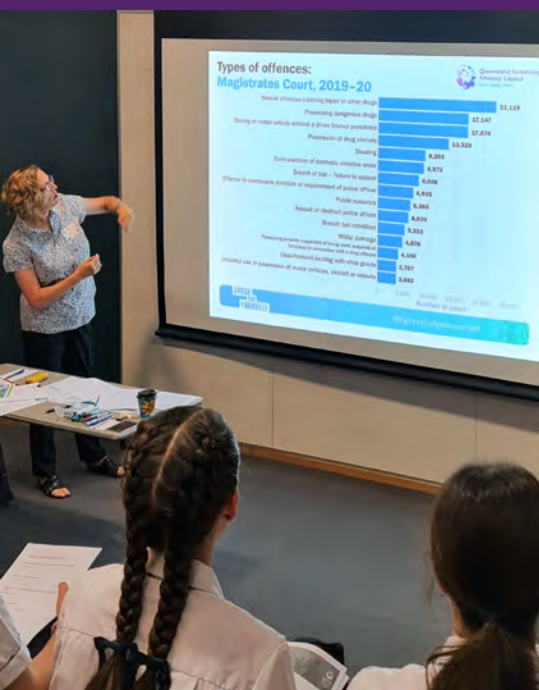
The Council also conducts an annual stakeholder survey to gain insights on stakeholder views of the Council, reputation and overall performance.

The survey provides an evidence base to support the Stakeholder Engagement Framework and inform stakeholder engagement planning.

## Education

The Council actively engages with different sectors of the community to deliver education and information about sentencing. Our *Judge for Yourself* program - available online and face-to-face - showcases real-life court cases and plays an important role in promoting community understanding about the complexities of the sentencing process.

The Council collaborates with the Magistrates, District and Supreme Court, as well as educators and legal experts to develop industry-leading free community and school education resources that promote and support a better understanding of sentencing.







## Contact Us

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(during business hours)

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Write to us at  
Queensland Sentencing Advisory  
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GPO Box 2360  
Brisbane QLD 4001

## Governance and accountabilities

To ensure the Stakeholder Engagement Framework remains relevant and responsive to stakeholder and Council's needs, the Council Chair, Secretariat Director and the Media and Engagement team take an active role in the ongoing monitoring, review and governance of the framework.

Responsible	Key Accountabilities
The Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monitors framework key actions and outcomes</li></ul>
Council Secretariat Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accountable for decision-making and overall achievement of corporate-wide framework objectives, performance measures and targets</li><li>Report progress of framework actions and outcomes</li><li>Provide oversight of framework implementation</li></ul>
Media and Engagement team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accountable for implementing framework and delivering on actions and outcomes</li><li>Report progress of actions and outcomes across the business.</li></ul>

## About the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council

The Council's role is to inform, engage and advise the community and government about sentencing in Queensland.

The Council comprises up to 12 independent members and was established by amendment to the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992* in 2016.

## Our functions

- ➔ To give information to the community to enhance knowledge and understanding of matters relating to sentencing
- ➔ To publish information about sentencing
- ➔ To research matters about sentencing and publish the outcomes of the research
- ➔ To obtain the community's views on sentencing and sentencing matters
- ➔ If asked by the Court of Appeal, to give the Council's views, in writing, about the giving or reviewing of a guideline judgement
- ➔ If asked by the Attorney-General, to advise on matters relating to sentencing.

