



Murri Court Entry Report – Cover sheet

Information for the Murri Court Assessment Panel

This cover sheet outlines why we are collecting this information, how the information is used, and why it is important to make sure the report is completed as fully and as accurately as possible. It also provides instructions for completing the Murri Court Entry Report (MCER).

When do I use this form?

The MCER is to be conducted prior to the first Murri Court mention.

What is it for?

This form is used to:

- assess the suitability of the defendant to be referred to Murri Court;
- describe the defendant's cultural and personal circumstances;
- pinpoint those things that contribute to the defendant's offending; and
- identify the treatment and support services from which the defendant may benefit.

A defendant may be **eligible** for Murri Court, but not considered **suitable** by the Murri Court Assessment Panel. The Murri Court Assessment Panel can base their decision on a number of different factors, including whether they believe the defendant is likely to benefit from the Murri Court process, and whether the defendant has the capacity to participate in Murri Court.

The Murri Court Assessment Panel is not clinically trained and are not able to diagnose a defendant. The Murri Court Assessment Panel will provide the court cultural advice, and can only tell the court what the defendant tells them about his or her circumstances and offending. It is important that this report is completed as fully and as accurately as possible. This is because the Murri Court magistrate relies on this report to get a good understanding of the defendant. The information in this report may help the Murri Court magistrate when sentencing the defendant.

This report is also useful for the Murri Court Assessment Panel. It will tell the Panel what life is like for the defendant when they first meet him or her. When the Panel and the defendant meet again to complete the Murri Court Sentence Report, they will be able to use the information in this report to understand how the defendant's circumstances have changed, and if Murri Court has helped the defendant to make a difference in his or her life. The more information the Panel collects today, and the more accurate it is, the better able they will be to tell the Murri Court magistrate about big or small changes the defendant has made.

How do we use this report?

The Panel may choose to yarn with the defendant and then complete the report, or they may choose to step through the report with the defendant. The CJG coordinator can print this form out and write in the spaces provided or they can write notes and type in the document later.

The defendant may choose not to answer some questions. That is ok. It is important, however, that the Murri Court magistrate has useful and relevant information to assist them in making informed decisions.

What do we do with this report once it's complete?

Once the Panel has finished the report the CJG coordinator will provide a copy to the defendant or the defendant's legal representative, the prosecutor, the Murri Court magistrate, and the Murri Court Elders. This should occur at least 48 hours prior to the defendant's first Murri Court appearance. A copy of the report should also be provided to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (murricourt@justice.qld.gov.au) for the purpose of updating the central program database.

More questions?

If you have any questions please contact your local Indigenous Justice Officer or email murricourt@justice.qld.gov.au.



The artwork used here was created by Wakka Wakka man and Gilimbaa artist David Williams.

MURRI COURT ENTRY REPORT

This form is used by the Murri Court Assessment Panel to assess the suitability of the defendant to be referred to Murri Court, to identify treatment and support services from which the defendant may benefit, and to provide the Murri Court magistrate with a broader context in which to understand the defendant's offending.



Defendant's details

Surname			Given Name/s		
Date of Birth	Age	Place of birth	Gender	Male	Female
Address					
Home Phone	Mobile	Email			
Court location					

Cultural identity

This section of the report describes the defendant's connection to culture and experience of discrimination.

How do you describe your cultural identity (tick all that apply)?

Aboriginal	Torres Strait Islander	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	South Sea Islander	Other (please describe)
Do you know your mob?	No	Yes	Tribal/Clan Group Name	
			Traditional homelands	

Do you speak your cultural language Yes
 ↓
 No

Please name language

Would you like to learn more about your Tribal/Clan Group? No Yes Why/why not?

Do you feel connected to culture? No Yes If no, why not:

How often do you meet with your Elders? Never Sometimes Often Always Don't know

How important is it to you to feel connected to culture? Not important A little bit important Important Very important Don't know

What makes you feel connected to culture OR What would make you feel connected to culture? (eg going to NAIDOC, going to country, talking with Elders)

Do you believe you have ever been refused a job, entry to a shop/agency, not been given play time in football etc. because you are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? No Yes

If yes, please describe your experience/s:

Have you been punished for your current charges by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander lore/law? No Yes
 →

Defendant name:



Defendant's family background

This section of the report describes what life was like for the defendant growing up.

Who took care of you growing up? (e.g. mother, uncle, foster carer)

Who did you take care of? (e.g. brothers, sisters, cousins)

	No	Yes ➔	How often?	Once or twice	Regularly	Permanently
When you were young, were you ever removed from your family by child safety?						
Did you stay in one place growing up or move around?	Stayed in one place	Moved around ➔				
Did you grow up in a home where there was domestic violence and neglect?	No	Yes ➔				
Did you grow up in a home where family members struggled with drugs, alcohol or other substances?	No	Yes ➔				
Were you physically, emotionally, verbally or sexually abused by anyone when growing up?	No	Yes ➔				
Is anyone in your family from the stolen generation?	No	Yes ➔				Don't know
Was there anyone you really looked up to when you were growing up?	No	Yes ➔				
Is there anything else you would like to tell us about what life was like for you growing up?	No	Yes ➔				

Are you a member of the stolen generation? No Yes
➔ How has that affected your life?

Are you currently:	Single	Defacto	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Other
Are you experiencing domestic violence in your current relationship?					No	Yes	
Have you experienced domestic violence in previous relationships?					No	Yes	
Are you dealing with any personal grief at the moment (eg the loss of someone)?					No	Yes	

If yes, what are you doing to help manage your grief?

Do you have any children?	No	Yes ➔	How many children do you have?	Living with you now	Living elsewhere
			How old are your children?		
			How often do you see your children?		

Have any of your children ever been removed by child safety?	No	Yes	How often?	Once or twice	Regularly	Permanently
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How many of your children have been removed by child safety?

Defendant name:



Defendant's personal history

This section of the report asks about the defendant's education, job, accommodation and health.

Education

Can you read and write English?	No	Yes	Partial/Broken		
What grade did you leave school?	Grade	Age	Did you complete this grade?	No	Yes
Have you ever enrolled in:	Traineeship	University	TAFE	Apprenticeship	None of these
	Other (please describe)				
Have you ever completed:	Traineeship	University	TAFE	Apprenticeship	None of these
	Other (please describe)				

Please describe what courses/traineeships/apprenticeships you have completed or enrolled in

Enrolled in

Completed

Please describe any courses/traineeships/apprenticeships you **would like** to enrol in

Employment

Are you currently:	Not capable of looking for work (eg. diagnosed disability) go to next section		Capable of looking for work	
If you are capable of looking for work, are you currently:	Not working and not looking for work	Not working, but looking for work	Not working, but studying	
	Working part-time/casual	Working full time	➔ Where are you currently working?	
	Other (please describe)			

Only ask these questions if the defendant is currently **unemployed and capable of looking for work**

Have you ever had a job?	No (go to next section)	Yes	➔ How long has it been since you had a job?
What were you doing in your last job? (include company name if known)			
Why did you stop working at your last job?			

Income and spending

We are collecting this information to help the magistrate understand your current financial situation and living expenses.

Do you have enough money to meet all your expenses each fortnight?	No		Yes	
What is your main source of income?	No income	Employment	Supported by family	Receiving benefits (eg Centrelink)
	Other (please describe)			

Defendant name:



Income and spending continued...

What is your income each fortnight?

How much do you spend each fortnight on:	Rent:	Don't know	Food:	Don't know	Mobile:	Don't know
	Loans:	Don't know	Child support:	Don't know	Electricity:	Don't know

Do you have a SPER debt?	No	Yes		How much money do you owe to SPER?				
		➔		Do you have a SPER payment plan?	No	Yes		Don't know
				How much do you spend each fortnight on your SPER Payment Plan?		↓		Don't know

The Murri Court Elders and CJG should contact their Indigenous Justice Officer if they would like more information regarding a defendant's SPER debt.

Accommodation

What kind of place are you living in at the moment?	A house/unit you rent or own	Caravan park	Someone else's house
	Hotel/backpackers	A shelter/emergency housing	Public housing
	Boarding house/hostel	Motor vehicle	On the street/ no fixed address
	Couch surfing	A house/unit your parents/family rent or own	
	Other (please describe)		

How long have you been living there?

Who lives there with you (eg friends, family)?

How do you feel about your current living arrangements?	Very unhappy	Unhappy	Mostly happy	Very happy	Extremely happy	Don't know
Are your current living arrangements temporary?	No	Yes	➔ Where do you think you will move to?			Don't know
Are you currently on the Public Housing waiting list?	No	Yes	➔ When did you register?			Don't know
Are you receiving rent assistance from Centrelink?	No	Yes	➔ How much do you receive per fortnight?			Don't know



Health (this information is what the defendant reports, and is not a diagnosis from the assessment panel)

Do you have any **physical health** conditions (eg diabetes, back pain, disability)? No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe:

Do you have any **mental health** conditions (eg depression, anxiety)? No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe:

Do you have a **cognitive impairment** or **brain injury**? (eg FASD, from a car accident) No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe:

Do you take any **prescribed medication**? (eg anti-depressant, heart medication) No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe the type of medication and what it is for:

Have you been in **hospital** in the last year? No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe what you have been in hospital for:

Do you currently have any **substance misuse issues** (eg alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription medication)? No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe type of substance and how often:

In the next 3 months, how easy or difficult do you think it would be to cut down your drinking or drug taking? Very difficult A bit difficult Easy Extremely easy Don't know

Have you had any **substance misuse issues in the past**? (eg alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription medication) No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe type of substance and how often:

When did you stop using drugs and/or alcohol?

Do you have a **gambling habit** or **other addiction**? No Yes Don't know

If yes, please describe

What do you do to take care of your health (physical, mental, emotional and spiritual)?



How would you describe your **physical health** over the last month? (eg extent of physical symptoms and bothered by illness)

How would you describe your **mental health** over the last month? (eg feelings of anxiety, depression, and problem emotions)

How would you describe your **quality of life** over the last month? (eg able to enjoy life, get on with family and partner, satisfied with living conditions)

Defendant name:



Defendant's offending

This section of the report asks about the defendant's offending and the factors thought to contribute to his or her offending.

What are your offences before the court? (tick all that apply)

Why did you commit the offences before the Murri Court?

Don't know

What impact do you think your offences had on the victim and/or community?

Don't know

Do you have someone to support you when you go to Murri Court?

No

Yes

Who will support you?



Treatment and other support services

This section of the report describes what treatment and support services the defendant is involved with, or would like to be involved with.

What treatment or other support services are you **currently** involved with? (include any services provided by Youth Justice or Probation and Parole through a current community-based order)

I am not currently involved with any treatment or support services

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details	Reason for attending e.g. relationship, anger, substances	Are you finding this service helpful?	
				No	Yes
				No	Yes

What treatment or other support services have you **gone to before**?

I have not been to treatment or support services before

relationship, anger, substances	Reason for stopping e.g. finished treatment, moved, didn't work/didn't like it	Do you think it would be helpful to go there again?		Why/ Why not?
		No	Yes	
		No	Yes	

What issues would you like assistance with through Murri Court?

None

Is there anything that might stop you from attending treatment or other support services? (tick all that apply)

Lack of transport

Language difficulties

Ill health

Caring for family

Financial difficulty

May be facing prison/detention for other offences

Other (please describe)



Murri Court Support Plan (add more lines if required)

Talk to the defendant about his or her personal goals for the future, the actions required to achieve those goals and the services/people available to assist the defendant.

Goal 1:

Services/people that will walk with me and help me achieve my goal:

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details	Reason for attending e.g. relationship, anger, substances	Frequency of attendance (eg weekly, fortnightly, monthly)/ Appointment dates (if known)

Goal 2:

Services/people that will walk with me and help me achieve my goals:

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details	Reason for attending e.g. relationship, anger, substances	Frequency of attendance/ Appointment dates (if known)

Goal 3:

Services/people that will walk with me and help me achieve my goals:

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details	Reason for attending e.g. relationship, anger, substances	Frequency of attendance/ Appointment dates (if known)

I Defendant to print name

agree, to the best of my ability, to attend the support services listed in my Murri Court Support Plan.

Defendant signature

Defendant name:



Murri Court Assessment Panel outcome (PANEL USE ONLY)

This section of the report is for the Murri Court Assessment Panel to provide recommendations to the Murri Court magistrate.

Murri Court Elders' / Respected Persons' Recommendations

In the Murri Court Assessment Panel's opinion, what are the underlying contributors to the defendant's offending?

In the Murri Court Assessment Panel's opinion, what services are **most** likely to assist the defendant to address his or her offending?

In the Murri Court Assessment Panel's opinion, are there services that may help the defendant that are **not currently available** in the community?

No Yes Don't know



Please describe

Defendant suitability

Does the defendant meet the following suitability criteria?

- | | | |
|--|----|-----|
| 1. Does the defendant identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? | NO | YES |
| 2. If no to Question 1, does the defendant have a kinship or appropriate connection with an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community? | NO | YES |
| 3. Is the defendant willing to fully participate in the Murri Court process and referrals to treatment and other support identified in the Murri Court Entry Report? | NO | YES |
| 4. Do the Assessment Panel feel able to support the defendant, whether directly or indirectly through referrals, to address the underlying contributors to his or her offending? | NO | YES |

Is the defendant assessed as suitable for Murri Court? NO YES
 (to be suitable defendant needs 3 yes responses from the 4 questions above)

If you would like to make further comments regarding a defendant's suitability, please do so here:

Comment if assessed as **unsuitable**

Do all the Assessment Panel members agree? NO YES

Reasons for disagreement between Assessment Panel members

Defendant name:



Murri Court Assessment Panel appraisal of the defendant

This section of the report describes the stages of change a defendant may move through when working to address the underlying causes of his or her offending. Ratings on this scale reflect the Murri Court Assessment Panel’s opinion. It is important to remember that the Murri Court Assessment Panel is not clinically qualified, and that their views reflect a personal judgement based on their prior experience.

In your opinion, at what stage of change is the defendant:

Stuck: not feeling able to face problem/s or accept help

Accepting help: hopes to address problem and wanting someone to assist to sort it out

Believing: starting to help themselves

Learning: starting to initiate problem solving strategies themselves

Self-reliance: managing without help from services, but may still need assistance

Has the defendant expressed remorse? No Yes Don’t know

If yes, please describe what the defendant has done to express remorse:

Murri Court Assessment Panel endorsement of this report

In signing, the Murri Court Assessment Panel members agree that they were present during the assessment and that this report accurately reflects the information told to them by the defendant.

Panel member name	Conflict of interest to declare	No	Yes
Signed <input type="text"/>	Date	Describe conflict	
Panel member name	Conflict of interest to declare	No	Yes
Signed <input type="text"/>	Date	Describe conflict	
Panel member name	Conflict of interest to declare	No	Yes
Signed <input type="text"/>	Date	Describe conflict	

If only one panel member present, what is the reason for this:

Murri Court Assessment Panel operational statistics

Assessment date Assessment start time Assessment finish time

Court File number (if known)

Next Murri Court mention date

Defendant name: