

Information Notice
Practice Direction No 3 of 2024
SEXUAL VIOLENCE CASE MANAGEMENT

Practice Direction No 3 of 2024 – Sexual Violence Case Management – was issued today.

Its main purpose is to outline best practice principles and introduce a new case management process to better manage sexual offence proceedings. The new protocol is intended to support early identification and resolution of issues, minimise delays to the Court process, provide greater certainty for all court users and improve the experience of witnesses.

The Practice Direction was developed by a working group made up of representatives from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Legal Aid Queensland, Queensland Law Society, Bar Association Queensland, Office of the Interim Victims Commissioner, First Nations Justice Office, Victim Assist Queensland, Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Supreme District and Land Courts Service.

The Practice Direction will commence on **2 September 2024**. Part A will apply to all sexual offence proceedings in the District Court commenced by an indictment presented on or after that date. Part B will apply only to sexual offence proceedings in the Brisbane and Ipswich District Courts commenced by an indictment on or after that date.

The Practice Direction is complemented by forms to support the case management protocol. The forms will be available to access from the Queensland Courts website from the commencement date at <https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/courts/district-court/sexual-violence-case-management-district-court>.

To support practitioners in readying themselves for commencement, the Court is holding information sessions on Thursday 15 August 2024 and Tuesday 20 August 2024, 4:30pm to 6:30pm in the Banco Court, QEII Courts of Law (Brisbane) and Tuesday 27 August 2024, 4:30pm to 6:30pm at the Ipswich Courthouse.



Brian Devereaux SC
Chief Judge
19 July 2024