Prisoners' Legal Service

Prison News

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PEOPLE IN PRISON IN QLD
PRISONERS' LEGAL SERVICE INC
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Parole accommodation

To be released onto board ordered parole or released after a parole suspension you will need a suitable address. The Parole Board (the Board) will decide whether the address is suitable.

How do I get my address considered?
To have your address considered you should submit a *Form 176 Accommodation Risk Assessment*. You can get this form from Sentence Management.

On the form, you should list the address and contact details for the person who lives there or looks after it (eg. property manager). Once you have completed the form, you should give it to Sentence Management.

How long will it take to assess my address?
Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) will write a report about the address for the Board and make a recommendation about whether it is suitable for your release on parole. This report should be completed within 3 weeks of you submitting the address. However, the 3 week timeframe is only a guideline and cannot be legally enforced.

This report will then be sent to the Board for consideration. The Board does not have to follow the recommendation in the report from QCS. Your address will be considered by the Board when your parole application or suspension is listed for consideration.

What will be considered?
Some things that will be considered when deciding if your address is suitable are:

- Your criminal history and the nature of your offences;
- Your relationship with the person living at the address and how long you have known them;
- How many people live at the address, will you have your own room or will you be sharing one;
- Are there children living at the address;

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- Location and how easy it will be for you to access services, such as the parole office, counselling and other professional services;
- Whether the people who live at the address are willing to have parole officers contact them or visit the address;
- Whether the person who has offered you accommodation is aware of your criminal history;
- Whether there is a Domestic Violence Order (DVO) or any other court orders between you and anyone else living at that address;
- Whether the address offers rehabilitation services (for non-private addresses), or if a private address will the people there provide you support;
- Any concerns about how close the address is to your victim; and
- Any other factors relevant to your situation.

The address you submit will be considered against your individual circumstances. Just because it has been suitable in the past, does not mean it will be suitable this time. There is no such thing as a pre-approved address. Just because someone else was able to go there does not mean you will be able to.

What if I cannot find a suitable address?
If you cannot find a suitable address, you can speak to the re-entry team at your prison who may be able to help you find accommodation. There are several boarding houses and residential rehabilitation centres that are willing to accept people on parole.

The re-entry team and your prison will often have referral processes in place with accommodation providers that are willing to accept people on parole.

If you have run out of options and had multiple addresses deemed unsuitable, you may wish to seek legal advice. PLS may be able to provide you with advice about your parole accommodation.

PLS Christmas Closure

PLS will be closed for two weeks from close of business on 22 December 2023 and will re-open on 8 January 2024.

Our prison advice line will be closed from 12 December 2023 and will begin running again on 16 January 2024.

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