

Police Protection Directions

to protect people from domestic violence

From 1 January 2026, the Queensland Police Service will be able to issue Police Protection Directions (PPD) to protect people from domestic violence. A PPD is an official document issued by police 'on the spot' and has the same effect as a Domestic Violence Order (DVO).

WHAT IS A POLICE PROTECTION DIRECTION?

A Police Protection Direction (PPD) can have conditions stopping the person accused of committing domestic violence (referred to as the respondent) from doing a number of things against another person (referred to as the aggrieved).

It can also protect other people, such as children or relatives of the aggrieved (referred to as named persons).

Every PPD will have a condition that the respondent does not commit or ask anyone else to commit domestic violence against the aggrieved and any named persons. Other conditions can include, but are not limited to, stopping the respondent from:

- living with the aggrieved and the named persons
- contacting or communicating with the aggrieved and named persons
- other similar restrictions on contact.

A PPD will be in place for 12 months and will not be recorded on the respondent's criminal history.

If you are issued with a PPD you should seek legal advice immediately.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I BREACH THE PPD?

If a person does not follow the conditions on a PPD (also called a 'breach' or 'contravention'), they may be charged with a criminal offence, with maximum sentences for the first offence being up to three years in prison, or a fine of up to 120 penalty units (currently \$20 028).

WHEN CAN A PPD BE ISSUED?

Police can issue a PPD when there is an intimate, family or informal-care relationship between the aggrieved and respondent and where domestic violence has occurred.

If police issue a PPD, they must give a copy to the aggrieved, any named persons and the respondent. As soon as possible after the PPD is issued, police must also give the respondent a written notice that has the reasons why they issued the PPD.

There are some circumstances when police cannot issue a PPD including when either the aggrieved or respondent is a child or police officer.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOTHING AND ACCEPT THE PPD?

If you do nothing in response to a PPD, the direction will be in place for 12 months. It will be a criminal offence to do anything that would breach the conditions of the PPD.



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WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS IF A PPD IS ISSUED?

If you do not think the PPD should have been made or it should have different conditions, you can try and have it removed or changed through either a:

- Queensland Police Service Internal Review (which must be lodged within 28 days of the notice being given to the respondent) or
- Magistrates Court Review (which can be lodged at any time while the PPD is in force).

You have the right to take either (or both) pathways. If you apply to the Magistrates Court for a review of the PPD, police will automatically apply for a DVO.

It is recommended you speak to a lawyer before lodging a review.

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS WHEN TALKING TO POLICE?

When questioned by police, it is important to remember your rights, and that any information you give police might be used against you later. You have a broad right to remain silent and must only answer basic questions such as your name and address. There are exceptions to this right such as in circumstances where police are investigating traffic offences. It is important to remember that interactions with police will likely be recorded by body-worn cameras, and any statements you give can be used as reasons for issuing a PPD or applying for a DVO.

LEGAL ADVICE

If a PPD is issued either against you or protecting you, and you wish to receive legal advice about it, you can contact Caxton Community Legal Centre on (07) 3214 6333.

CAXTON COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE

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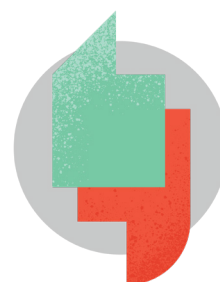
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This information is current at January 2026.



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