

Notice to Practitioners
Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List

Sittings

1. Practitioners are advised that the Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List (DASL) came into operation on 3 December 2019.
2. Commencing on 28 January 2020, unless the Court otherwise directs, the DASL will operate each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
3. On each day when there is a DASL, unless the Court otherwise directs, case conference meetings will commence at 9.30 and the Court will sit from 11 AM.
4. Barristers need not robe for participant review hearings but must robe for sentence hearings.

Procedure

5. Subject to other arrangements that may be made by the Court, the following procedures will apply.
6. When an offender wishes to be assessed for a drug and alcohol treatment order under s 12A of the *Crimes (Sentencing) Act 2005* or the DPP seeks such an order:
 - a) The offender (or their legal representative) and the DPP must sign the [standard threshold eligibility assessment form](#).
 - b) On receipt of the form, the Court will refer the offender to the next suitable Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List (DASL).
 - c) Threshold eligibility assessment will precede this appearance.
7. An offender who seeks to undertake a drug and alcohol treatment order must sign the Court's [standard form consent to information sharing](#) between the agencies that support the DASL.
8. On the offender's first appearance in the DASL, the presiding judge will determine whether the offender is:
 - a. referred for a full assessment in accordance with the Court's [suitability assessment protocol](#) and the matter will be listed for sentence approximately six weeks later; or
 - b. not suitable for further assessment and set the matter for sentencing before the Supreme Court or remit the matter to the Magistrates Court
9. In supervising an offenders' (participant's) drug and alcohol treatment order, the presiding DASL judge will be supported by the Court's treatment team, to whom the Court's [treatment team protocol](#) applies.
10. A participant will be required to attend frequent DASL participant review hearings at which the presiding judge will consider the participant's compliance with their order.

11. Prior to each participant review hearing, the presiding DASL judge will discuss the participant's progress with members of the Court's treatment team.
12. At a participant review hearing, the presiding DASL judge may reward or sanction a participant. In deciding whether and how to reward or sanction a participant, the presiding judge will consider the Court's [behavioural contract protocol](#).



Amanda Nuttall

Registrar

19 December 2019