



1 July 2016

New program to curb alcohol related harm

From 11:30pm tonight a new late-night rest and recovery mobile service will be out in the Ipswich CBD to reduce alcohol related harms.

The launch of the Drug ARM Rest and Recovery Outreach Service coincides with the Queensland Government's introduction of state-wide 2am last drinks.

Drug ARM Outreach Coordinator Graham Hembrow will be leading the team out tonight on the first patrol.

"This new program will enable us to engage with people in the Ipswich CBD experiencing alcohol related harm". Mr Hembrow said.

Mr Hembrow continued, "This program will provide a safe environment for intoxicated patrons to receive welfare support, water and small snacks before they are reunited with friends or transport is arranged to take them home".

Drug ARM will link with existing services in the Ipswich CBD, including the Safe City program, to provide real-time supportive responses when disturbances or other incidents cause alarm.

Dr Dennis Young, Executive Director of Drug ARM said, "This new service is one of the latest strategies of the Queensland Government aimed at reducing alcohol related harms.

"Drug ARM welcomes the ongoing support of Jennifer Howard MP and Mayor Mr Paul Pisasale. We look forward to working with both of them on this project".

Alcohol harms in Queensland are significant, resulting in more than 1,140 deaths and 45,000 hospitalisations each year.

Dr Dennis Young emphasised. "There is wide ranging support for measures to reduce alcohol related harms."

"The latest polling shows that 80% of Queenslanders believe that more needs to be done to reduce alcohol related harms."

"We are looking forward to working with all local stakeholders including licensees, police, emergency services, transport and the community to keep the service relevant for the people of Ipswich." Dr Young said.

The Drug ARM Ipswich Rest and Recovery Outreach Service will run every Friday and Saturday night starting from 11:30pm.

People who are interested in volunteering with the service can contact Drug ARM on 1300 656 800 or email info@drugarm.com.au

Contact to organise an interview with Drug ARM:

Alexandra Davis | Manager, Communications and Relationships

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release, please



Drug ARM
Australasia

About Drug ARM: Committed to reducing harms associated with alcohol and other drug use, Drug ARM provides vital care and compassion to support people, families and communities throughout Queensland with a range of programs and services that include education, outreach, prevention and treatment.

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