What is the BDR?
The BDR is a system that stops people buying takeaway alcohol when they have been banned. If a person wants to buy takeaway alcohol, they need to scan their ID at the takeaway outlet. The computer tells a person if they can buy alcohol or not.

A person on the BDR can have an assessment and then undertake therapeutic support to help them with their alcohol problem. They do not have to have an assessment or undertake therapeutic support but if they don’t, they will stay on the ban for the full amount of time.

Bans can be extended if people are caught drinking alcohol while they are banned, if they get taken into protective custody or commit an alcohol related offence or receive an infringement while already banned.

People can also have their income managed if they are on a ban for more than 12 months. This means their welfare money cannot be used to purchase alcohol.

What will interpreters be needed for?
During the assessment process – where a clinician talks with the referred person about their alcohol use and their health. An Interpreter may be needed to help the clinician talk with the person and ask them questions. It is important that people answer the questions as truthfully as they can so they can get the help they need for their health issues.

During the therapeutic support process – where a person gets treatment, an Interpreter may be needed to help the clinicians and the support workers talk to the person about their treatment goals. It is important that people know they do not have to stay, but if they leave their ban will not be reduced.

During the review process – where a person who is not happy with being placed on the BDR applies to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) to get the decision reviewed, an Interpreter may be needed to help the person talk to the Tribunal members and answer questions. It is important that the referred person understands the questions being asked by the Tribunal in order to be able to respond.