• A clinical assessment will take approximately 2 hours and includes a health check, a full alcohol history and a biopsychosocial assessment of the person.
• A qualified Alcohol and other Drug clinician conducts assessments.
• The assessment will determine what therapeutic support is best suited to each person’s situation.
• A person does not have to undertake an assessment or the recommended therapeutic support.
• Not undertaking the recommended therapeutic support means certain bans cannot be reduced.
• A person may access an assessment at any time even if they are not on the BDR.

What is involved in a clinical assessment?
A clinical assessment will involve taking a person’s full alcohol use history as well as undertaking a biopsychosocial assessment and health check of the person. This can include health checks such as blood tests, cognitive tests and consideration of underlying chronic health conditions, and seeking information on the home and support system of a person.
The assessment takes around 2 hours to complete.

When is a clinical assessment required?
A person who goes onto the BDR will be able to access an assessment through the BDR Registrar’s office, if they would like to consider undertaking a therapeutic support and/or having their ban time reduced.
A person can choose to undertake an assessment at any time even if they are not on the BDR or have already completed a ban.

What if a person refuses to undertake an assessment?
A person will not be forced to undertake an assessment. In the case of authorised person referrals, not attending the assessment will not prevent a person from being put on the BDR if the BDR Registrar determines on the weight of the evidence that they should.

What is therapeutic support?
Therapeutic supports can include a range of psychosocial interventions therapies from counselling to residential rehabilitation. Therapy can include motivational interviewing, cognitive behavior therapy, relationship counselling; relapse prevention and coping skills training, anger management courses, social and emotional wellbeing programs.
The clinical assessment will determine what therapeutic support is best suited to each person’s situation and recommend suitable therapy.
Assessments and therapeutic supports

Person receives BDO

Banned person requests assessment through BDR Registrar.

BDR Registrar liaises with clinicians and banned person to organise an assessment.

Banned person sees clinician for assessment.

Clinician makes recommendation back to BDR Registrar about suitable therapeutic support.

BDR Registrar makes decision and referral.

Banned person accesses therapeutic support.

Can potentially reduce ban length upon completion.

Banned person does not access therapeutic support.

Remains on BDR for full ban length.