

# Sentences for drug abusers

A look at how abusers will be dealt with for their first and subsequent drug offences.



## Admits to drug consumption

### Drug Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) 1 year average

For first-time abusers deemed to be at moderate to high risk of re-offending\*

### DRC 1.5 years average

For second-time drug abusers

**DRC**  
**2 years average**  
For third-time abusers. These abusers were previously sentenced to Long-Term Imprisonment 1 or LT1 with minimum 5 years' jail term and three strokes of the cane

**DRC**  
**3 years average, up to 4 years**  
For abusers caught the fourth time or more. These abusers were previously sentenced to LT2 with minimum 7 years' jail and six strokes of the cane

**After release, DRC inmates will be put on one of three community based programmes:**  
1) Halfway houses; 2) Day release from community supervision centre; and 3) Home supervision with electronic tagging

**This will be followed by supervision order of up to 5 years**

## Denies consuming drugs or commits other criminal offences

### Mandatory minimum sentence of 1 year

For first-time abusers

**Enhanced punishment of minimum 3 years' jail**  
For those with one drug-related antecedent

**Long-Term Imprisonment 1**  
For those with two drug-related antecedents

**Long-Term Imprisonment 2**  
For those previously sentenced to LT1

**LT detainees will be put on Mandatory Aftercare Scheme of up to 2 years, followed by supervision order of up to 5 years**

### DRC programmes:

- 1) Psychology-based correctional programmes:** Target offenders' attitudes and beliefs which support drug abuse
- 2) Family programmes:** Help offenders build strong relationships with their families
- 3) Skills training:** To train them to gain employment
- 4) Religious programmes and motivational talks:** To inspire offenders

NOTE: \*Those who are deemed unlikely to re-offend again will undergo the enhanced direct supervision order instead of the DRC.