

3/6/22  
 Email constructed under advice from  
 Cathie Allen. [REDACTED]

**Lara Keller**

**From:** Lara Keller  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 June 2022 5:10 PM  
**To:** Shaun Drummond  
**Subject:** Forensic DNA testing impacts

Good afternoon Shaun

Kindly find below two options for the term-of-review process. Please note that these figures are estimates only.

**Option 1 – Process Only (Preferred)**

Revert to pre 2018 workflow – which is where all samples above a quant value of 0 are **processed through** to DNA profiling. Samples that are identified as being beneficial for concentration can be based on the DNA profile achieved, item criticality and case context.

Will increase TAT to report, plus generate approx. 6 weeks backlog per 6 months

Estimated cost of kits plus IT = \$60K

Overtime likely

**Option 2 – Concentrate and Process (Least Preferred)**

Discontinue 2018 workflow and **concentrate** all samples with a quant value between 0 and 0.0088ng/uL and then **process through** to DNA profiling stage.

Risks:

1. concentration step creates a risk of there being no DNA sample available for testing by other technologies not undertaken in Queensland, future technologies or testing requested by Defence.
2. in previous discussions, the QPS did not support an automatic concentration process, as the sample hadn't been assessed in the context of the case and may leave no sample remaining for future testing.
3. concentration step is a manual process so will impact labour and TAT

Will increase TAT to report, plus generate approx. 3 months backlog per 6 months

Estimated cost of kits plus IT = \$80K

Overtime likely

To address subsequent backlog will require 5+ HP3 staff, noting that achieving minimum competency takes 3 months, full competency takes 12 months.

Thanks and Kind Regards

Lara

**Lara Keller** B App Sc (MLS), Grad Cert Health Mgt, MAIMS, CMgr FIML  
 A/Executive Director

**Forensic and Scientific Services**  
 Prevention Division, Queensland Health

p [REDACTED]

w [www.health.qld.gov.au/fss](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/fss)