1. On 21 December 2017, the Commonwealth Government ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT). OPCAT aims to prevent torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of persons deprived of their liberty through a two-part system of independent monitoring of places of detention, which requires ratifying state parties to:
   * accept periodic visits by the United Nations (UN) Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (UN Subcommittee) to places of detention for the purposes of preventing torture or other ill-treatment of persons detained and engage with the UN Subcommittee to establish effective National Preventative Mechanism (NPMs); and
   * nominate a domestic oversight body or bodies to act as a NPM to inspect and monitor the treatment of persons in places of detention under Australia’s jurisdiction and control.
2. The Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Bill 2022 (the Bill) delivers on the Queensland Government’s commitment to address current legislative barriers that restrict the UN Subcommittee’s physical access to particular facilities in Queensland.
3. The Bill provides a legislative framework for UN Subcommittee visits under OPCAT to specific places of detention in Queensland, namely: community corrections centres; prisons; works camps; youth detention centres; inpatient units of Authorised Mental Health Services; the Forensic Disability Service; court holding cells; police facilities; vehicles primarily used to transport detainees; and other places (other than a private residence) prescribed by regulation.
4. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Bill 2022 into the Legislative Assembly.
5. *Attachments*:
   * [Monitoring of Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Bill 2022](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/Nov/OPCATBill2022/Attachments/Bill.PDF)
   * [Explanatory Notes](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/Nov/OPCATBill2022/Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
   * [Statement of Compatibility](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/Nov/OPCATBill2022/Attachments/SoC.PDF)