1. In response to the Queensland Government’s election commitment to legislate against coercive control, in March 2021 the independent Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce (the Taskforce) was established to examine coercive control, the need for a specific offence of domestic violence and the experience of women across the criminal justice system.
2. The Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 (the Bill) delivers the second tranche of legislative reform arising from recommendations made by the Taskforce. This builds on the groundwork established by the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection (Combating Coercive Control) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023*, which was introduced into Parliament on 14 October 2022 and passed on 22 February 2023. The Bill also responds to two related recommendations from the Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service Responses to Domestic and Family Violence.
3. The Bill repeals the *Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 1978* and makes amendments to the *Bail Act 1980*, the Criminal Code, the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012*, the *Evidence Act 1977*, the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992*, the *Security Providers Act 1993*, the *Youth Justice Act 1992* and other related legislation, including amendments to:

* introduce a new criminal offence of coercive control;
* move Queensland to an affirmative model of consent and expressly reference stealthing conduct as vitiating consent;
* progress a range of reforms for sexual offence proceedings, including imposing a duty on the court to disallow improper questions, introducing jury directions and evidence reforms;
* establish a court-based domestic violence perpetrator diversion scheme;
* introduce a new offence for engaging in domestic violence on behalf of a respondent, which will be a disqualifying offence for security providers;
* amend the reasonable excuses for the failure to report offence;
* establish a pilot expert evidence panel for sexual assault proceedings;
* clarify the law regarding publishing sexual offence proceedings to give complainants a right to self-publish, and to allow complainants to have their stories told by others with informed, written consent (with a special safeguard to protect children); and
* require consideration of additional factors when making bail and sentencing decisions, such as primary caregiver responsibilities and cultural considerations.

1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*:

* [Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared Documents/General/Proactive Release/ToBeProcessed/2023/Oct/CoerciveControlBill/Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared Documents/General/Proactive Release/ToBeProcessed/2023/Oct/CoerciveControlBill/Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Statement of Compatibility with Human Rights](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2023/Oct/CoerciveControlBill/Attachments/SoC.PDF)