1. The Queensland Government accepted all six recommendations from the Findings of Inquest into the death of 22-month-old Mason Jet Lee delivered by Deputy State Coroner Bentley of the Coroners Court of Queensland on 2 June 2020.
2. In accepting recommendation 6, related to adoption for children in care, the Queensland Government committed to working with stakeholders to progress the recommendation, including legislation.
3. To build on the significant reforms to improve permanency outcomes for children involved in the child protection system, the Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 will amend the *Child Protection Act 1999* (CPA) to:
   * enhance the approach to permanency under the CPA;
   * clarify that adoption is an option for achieving permanency for children in care, as part of the suite of alternative long-term care options available; and
   * clarify the importance of and promote alternative permanency options for children subject to a child protection order granting guardianship to the chief executive.
4. Together, these amendments strengthen and clarify Queensland’s permanency framework to ensure timely and appropriate permanency outcomes are achieved for children that meet their best interests now and throughout their lives.
5. This achieves the intent of the Deputy State Coroner’s recommendation 6(b).
6. Legislative amendments will be complemented by a substantial practice response to enhance permanency outcomes for children in care, including an overarching Permanency Strategy to achieve relational, physical, cultural and legal permanency for children in the child protection system and set out Child Safety’s vision to ensure Queensland’s children have lifelong, strong and stable family and community connections.
7. The Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 also includes an unrelated technical amendment to the *Adoption Act 2009*. This is required following previous machinery of government changes to ensure that a small number of intercountry adoptions may be finalised.
8. The Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 was introduced into the Legislative Assembly in July 2020 and was referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee. In August 2020, the Committee recommended that the Bill be passed.
9. The Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 was not debated before the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly prior to the State election and lapsed when the caretaker period commenced.
10. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 into the Legislative Assembly.
11. *Attachments*
    * [Child Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
    * [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
    * [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)