



## COMMISSIONER INSTRUCTION 08/2022

### Access to ACT correctional centres for inspection purposes

The Office of the Inspector of Correctional Services, the ACT Human Rights Commission, and the ACT Ombudsman have collectively been designated by the ACT Government as the ACT's *National Preventive Mechanism* (NPM) to ensure compliance with the United Nations' *Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture* (OPCAT).

The OPCAT and NPM functions require these officials to regularly monitor correctional and other closed facilities. They may choose to visit an ACT correctional centre without notice and may develop reports that support the work of the NPM.

If at any time any of the above entities seek access to an ACT correctional centre to exercise their authority as part of the NPM and wish to inspect facilities, or speak with any staff member or detainee, staff must allow access and provide assistance except if doing so would risk the security and good order of the centre or in exceptional circumstances. If access is to be refused on these grounds, it must be approved at Duty Manager level or higher.

Ray Johnson APM  
Commissioner  
ACT Corrective Services  
08 September 2022