



Speech by

Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard Thursday, 18 June 2009

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Bill; Further Particulars

Hon. CR DICK (Greenslopes—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations) (2.35 pm), by leave: During yesterday's consideration in detail debate on the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Bill and the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (Jurisdiction Provisions) Amendment Bill, I made two statements in response to questions asked that, out of an overabundance of caution, I wish to clarify for the parliamentary record.

In response to a question concerning the publication of deidentified decisions in child safety matters, I indicated that the government would not be changing the existing practice and that this practice was to not publish such decisions. I want to inform the House that the existing practice is to publish deidentified decisions and that there is no intention to change this existing practice under the amalgamated tribunal.

Second, in response to a question as to whether the proposed bill would impugn an individual's legal rights and access to justice I indicated that there would not be a restriction on judicial review. I want to clarify for the record that, while judicial review will be partially ousted in relation to decisions of the new tribunal, this will not restrict or confine the rights of citizens to justice in this state. The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal will provide for expanded appeal rights where previously no or more limited rights may have existed. As I noted yesterday, the judicial review process is a cumbersome one when compared to a more open and streamlined appeals process and, as such, the end result—ensuring the rights of citizens to an open and equitable justice system—is achieved.