




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Alcohol Fuelled Violence

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.00 am): The Palaszczuk government has made a commitment to tackling violence in our communities. Whether it is domestic and family violence in our homes or whether it is violence on our streets, we oppose all violence in our communities. This government took a comprehensive plan to tackle alcohol fuelled violence to the election, and we will deliver on it. Our plan is based on the advice of experts in the field and the evidenced experiences of other jurisdictions. This policy has got the balance right. It allows our clubs and venues to continue to trade and for Queensland to have a vibrant night-life at the same time as making our communities safer. I consulted for eight months with a wide range of stakeholders. I always said that I was more happy to explain the rationale behind the government's policy than to have to sit down with parents to explain why their child has died as a result of alcohol fuelled violence.

This week I will introduce a comprehensive package that will see the implementation of statewide last drinks at 2 am. This is an improvement on our election commitment based on consultation and research. For every hour that alcohol is served post midnight, the risk of assault increases. Safe-night precincts will have the opportunity to apply for a lockout at 1 am, with last drinks at 3 am. All venues within the precinct would be subject to that lockout of 1 am. This approach provides choice to local precincts. The service of high-alcohol rapid consumption drinks from midnight will be prohibited, the definition of which will be contained in regulations and will be developed with stakeholders. Licensed premises can apply for up to 12 special event licences per year, allowing them to extend their hours for alcohol service for one-off events such as sporting events and New Year's Eve. This policy ensures from the date of this statement that no trading hours for the sale of takeaway liquor beyond 10 pm will be granted. Any decisions about the implementation of mandatory ID scanners will be deferred until September 2016 subject to further consultation and agreement with stakeholders.

A review will be conducted after two years from 1 July 2016, which is the planned commencement date of these provisions. Our plan is a comprehensive package to tackle alcohol fuelled violence and reduce harm in our communities.