



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2016

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Alcohol Fuelled Violence**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (12.14 pm): We know that the member for Redcliffe, the Attorney-General, is out of her depth. She has too much on her plate and cannot make a decision. We saw indecision from the Deputy Premier about setting up agencies for Cross River Rail. We saw the Attorney-General, who is responsible for Jobs Queensland, only recently appoint a full-time board to the position. We know the Attorney-General is overworked and cannot handle everything on her desk. We know things are sitting on her desk. We know that she is not up to the job. As I said, her record speaks for itself. We know that the time for her to commit to her portfolio is just too onerous for the member for Redcliffe. Whether it is the training sector, law and order, our courts or our democracy, time and time again we have seen example after example of a bungling Attorney-General who is overwhelmed by all these portfolio responsibilities.

Today I want to focus on another area of bungling and incompetence and that is in relation to the government's alcohol fuelled violence laws. Those opposite say they are comprehensive, yet implementation has been, as one would describe, not so good. I do not know what the member for Stafford thinks about his grand plan for alcohol fuelled violence and the chaotic implementation of this policy. He must be shaking his head in shame at the policies, although we have seen him turn and tumble on their alcohol fuelled violence policy. He was advocating for lockdown laws and now he opposes them and says they do not work. He manages to get them introduced—

**Dr Lynham:** Rubbish!

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Last time in the parliament I tabled his comments where he said lockdown laws do not work. He said it himself. I tabled the document in parliament. Now I want to quote another doctor—not the member for Stafford, who introduced the Labor policies. I want to quote from the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital emergency specialist Dr David Rosengren. The article states—

... David Rosengren, who has practised in emergency departments for more than 20 years, said anyone who thought the laws would have a major impact on emergency departments was "naive and ignorant".

'Naive and ignorant', the doctor says—not the doctor opposite, but this doctor, Rosengren—'anyone who thought these laws would work is naive and ignorant'. I quote from this story, which I will table. It states—

The legislation was never going to have a major impact on the number of people that we see turn up in our emergency departments, the workload or the patterns of behaviour.

However, that is exactly what the doctor opposite said would happen; it would all reduce. He said lockdown laws would fix all this, yet we have not seen hospital admissions decline since the laws were introduced. Now we have seen doctors come out and oppose these laws and say that people were naive and ignorant if they thought they would work. I table a copy of that article.

*Tabled paper:* Article from the *Courier-Mail* online, dated 22 August 2016, titled 'Queensland lockdown laws: Hospital presentations remain constant' [\[1821\]](#).

Now we have the LNP's strong stance on alcohol fuelled and drug related violence in relation to ID scanners. Then the Labor Party said they were reviewing them; they were looking at it. They then introduced their legislation which included that ID scanners would be implemented across Queensland. Now I table an article from the *Courier-Mail* entitled 'Queensland lockout laws: Nightclubs in limbo as State Government halts ID scanner rollout'.

*Tabled paper:* Article from the *Courier-Mail* online, dated 5 September 2016, titled 'Queensland lockout laws: Nightclubs in limbo as State Government halts ID scanners rollout' [1822].

Now we are seeing ID scanners rolled out. I am also going to table a little secret email from the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation to all licensees. It states—

The outcomes of this consultation—

on ID scanners—

are still under consideration and the Attorney-General has stated that while the ID scanning legislation commenced on 6 September 2016, licensees' obligations under the provisions will not be enforced ...

They introduce legislation for ID scanners that started on 6 September and yet the Attorney-General has decided that the laws are in, the legislation is there, but they are not going to enforce them. What is the point of having a policy? What is the point of having lockout laws? What is the point of having ID scanners if the Attorney-General is not going to implement the laws? I table a copy of that.

*Tabled paper:* Email, dated 22 August 2016, from the Manager, Media and Strategic Communications, Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Ms Helen Ainsworth, circulating correspondence sent to licensees located in safe night precincts [1823].

The Attorney-General should implement the laws because the good old doctor opposite has relied on the New South Wales experience. Every speech he has made in this place has been along the lines of 'lockout laws work in New South Wales, Kings Cross' and the other parts of New South Wales. Perhaps they should read the recent September report of the Kings Cross ID Scanner Review. I bet they do not refer to this report from New South Wales which said under 'key findings'—

Overall stakeholders consulted by the review consider ID scanners to be an appropriate and effective way to reduce alcohol-related crime and violence in Kings Cross.

It goes on—

NSW police confirmed that ID scanners play an important role ...

I table a copy of this report.

*Tabled paper:* Document, dated September 2016, by Liquor and Gaming New South Wales titled 'Kings Cross ID Scanner Review Report' [1824].

Members opposite cannot have it both ways. They cannot say the New South Wales laws are great and copy them and then not implement them or introduce them in this state. Only the LNP have the most comprehensive way to deal with alcohol fuelled violence, not the Labor Party.

*(Time expired)*