




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 30 August 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Youth Justice

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.01 am): I also want to briefly touch on the coverage in the *Courier-Mail* this morning to clarify for the record that neither I nor my office were contacted about the story or given a right of reply, despite the obvious and dishonest attempt to attack my credibility. I have made it clear when speaking on youth justice matters that my role is as the minister responsible for youth justice and youth detention centres.

I have made it clear, including in the face of criticism from others, that our modern youth justice system is based on trauma informed care and deals with young people in very difficult circumstances, often victims of abuse themselves. It is Labor Party policy to remove 17-year-olds from adult prisons and Labor is committed to achieving this aim. I will continue to stand up for a youth justice system that aims to turn around the lives of young people to give them a better chance to return to school or get into the workforce and in the process create a safer community for everyone. I do not expect to be verballed on the front page of a newspaper for doing so.