



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Youth Detention Centres**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.20 am): I find the comments of the member for Mansfield extraordinary. Only last night, the member for Everton said that we should stop worrying about the youth in detention centres and their underlying circumstances. He said that it is all about treating them tough. Now the member for Mansfield is saying, 'You're treating those poor youths too tough.' They cannot make up their minds as to how to treat youths in detention centres.

The fact is that a number of the reports that were released last week are not factually accurate about what is happening in those centres. Unlike those opposite, we respond to any queries we have in relation to those incidents. When they were in government, did we hear how many roof incidents there were? No, because they did not release that information.

**An opposition member:** We didn't have any.

**Mrs D'ATH:** I take that interjection: they did not have any, allegedly. Even when it came to damage in the centres, those opposite did not report it separately. It was just put in to maintenance: 'We're just fixing the place up a bit; that damage is just general maintenance at the centres.' They have no idea what transparency and accountability actually mean. They have no strategy for youth. They should come clean to the people of Queensland about their policy on youth justice. Do they intend to simply bring back all of the Newman government changes? I ask them to please be honest with the people of Queensland and tell us if they are going to bring back all of the Newman government changes, which did not lead to any reduction in recidivism.

**Mr Mander:** Many of them.

**Mrs D'ATH:** I take that interjection. The member for Everton said, 'Many of them'. Does that include boot camps? Shall we waste another \$16 million on failed boot camps? Is that what we should do? Members opposite have no credibility.

I find it interesting that the member for Mansfield is speaking about this today, because last night he chose not to speak on the motion on this issue. Maybe the member for Mansfield is starting to feel a little anxious about the electorate of Mansfield, as our candidate, Corrine McMillan, is a wonderful community champion who would make a fantastic representative for the people of Mansfield. She has credibility. She will stand up for people in her community. She knows what it means to have early intervention and to look after young people in the community. As a school principal, she understands that you have to look after—

*(Time expired)*