




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 10 August 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Rugby League Nines

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (6.04 pm): Yesterday I had the great pleasure of joining Mayor Allan Sutherland from Moreton Bay Regional Council and local councillors Koliana Winchester and James Houghton; Neil Wharton, Head of Football, Queensland Rugby League; Petero Civoniceva; and a number of young Dolphins players to announce that the Moreton Bay region—more importantly, the Redcliffe Dolphins and Redcliffe Leagues Club—has been selected to host the Rugby League Nines in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games next year.

This is an exciting announcement that puts Moreton Bay on the map, not just nationally but also internationally. We will see 17 teams coming to Redcliffe over two days in February to play these games. I am very pleased to say that, for the first time, they will include four open women's teams and three teams with players who have physical disability.

This will be an exciting event for the whole region and north Brisbane. I am very proud to be part of a government that has supported this initiative through the Embracing 2018 program, which is about ensuring all regions across Queensland benefit from the Commonwealth Games and the thousands of visitors to this great state.

It is hoped that maybe the Rugby League Nines could be included as a future medal event as part of the Commonwealth Games. It is exciting to think that maybe this will be the next step in that important journey. This will bring thousands of people to our area. Having all those people in our local area will be a boon for local businesses—cafes, restaurants, hotels and many others. We know that we can cater for it with the wonderful new stadium and the further work that will happen at the start of this season. A state government funding contribution will go towards that further upgrade to the stadium. We have great facilities and a great region. This event will show off Moreton Bay and what we have to offer on the international stage.

I acknowledge Redcliffe Leagues Club and the Dolphins, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Moreton Bay Region Industry and Tourism and the state government for all partnering together to bring this incredible event to the Redcliffe peninsula and the broader Moreton Bay region in February next year. It is a fantastic way to launch into the Commonwealth Games. I was so excited to be there yesterday as the member for Redcliffe for the launch. I cannot wait to be there in February next year for the event.