



Speech By Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

ID Scanners, Review

Hon. YM D'ATH (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (10.04 am): This government is committed to keeping our community safe, and one of the key components of that commitment is tackling alcohol fuelled violence. Since the introduction of ID scanners in July 2017, more than 664 contraventions have been detected. That is 664 times dangerous patrons have been kept away from licensed venues in safe night out precincts. However, it is not just about those trying to get in being turned away. Importantly, it is about those who are no longer even trying to access our licensed venues.

I am advised that 512 people are currently on a banning order in Queensland. Only five attempted to enter a venue last week. Some may say that these numbers are insignificant. However, this is about deterrence. For the sake of comparison, there were 3.1 million RBTs and roadside drug tests in 2016-17, with 17,344 detections. That is a hit rate of 0.005 per cent. When reduced to a statistic like this, random breath testing seems ineffectual, but I do not see anyone arguing for us to stop this vital safety measure. Only one life needs to be saved for ID scanners to be considered a success.

This government is committed to evidence based policy, and that is why we have committed to a full evaluation of the measures introduced that includes the 3 am last drinks policy in safe night out precincts, a ban on rapid intoxication drinks after midnight and other violence prevention measures. Deakin University, working with the University of Queensland, James Cook University and La Trobe University, was chosen to undertake the independent evaluation following an open tender process. In response to a request from these evaluators, their final report will now be delivered on 2 April 2019 to allow the consideration of further key data.

The extended time frame will ensure the independent evaluation team is able to consider all critical administrative data sets such as hospital admissions, court data, fatal and non-fatal crash data and comparative site data. This means they will provide a comprehensive document that can guide government decision-making into the future. The revised due date will not come at any additional cost. I will continue to work with stakeholders to address any concerns but without compromising community safety and understanding that we need to provide them with certainty. We are committed to a vibrant, safe night-life in Queensland.