




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 24 October 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Free, Mr S

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (9.47 am): I rise to make a ministerial statement in relation to the sentencing of Sterling Free. I understand there has been significant community interest in this matter. It is important that I afford the Director of Public Prosecutions the time necessary to properly consider matters when preparing a brief in consideration of appealing any matter, especially one that involves a child. Any decision I make about an appeal is based on legal principles.

I can inform the House today that I have now received advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions. I have thoroughly considered that advice. I have decided to appeal the sentence on the basis that it is manifestly inadequate. As the matter will continue to be before the courts, I will not be making any further comments on this matter.