




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 10 September 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Redcliffe Electorate

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (6.35 pm): It is the honour to be the last person to speak in the 56th Parliament. In doing so, and as we head towards the election on 31 October, I once again restate my love and support for my beautiful community of Redcliffe, which I have represented for a number of years in my capacity as a federal member and a state member. I look forward to an election campaign of positivity and vision for the future of not only our Redcliffe community but also our great state. However, I do have to talk about one disturbing issue. That is, my LNP opponent, who continues to be negative in her approach, has gone one step further and has decided to whip up fear in our community and particularly politicise a tragic event in our community.

It is particularly disturbing that the LNP candidate for Redcliffe and the member for Toowoomba South, the shadow Attorney-General, have politicised the death of a young person and criticised me for not making public statements about this matter. However, they both should know better. They both should know that, as the Attorney-General, I cannot make statements in or outside of this House about the matter. The role of the Attorney-General occupies an important position in the legal system. Making public comment about an ongoing prosecution as the Attorney-General would be extremely reckless. I do, however, want to send my condolences to Angus's parents, Michelle and Ben. I know that this is an extremely difficult time for them, but we cannot allow Angus's death to be used as a political tool in the upcoming election.

On a much more positive note, I am thrilled that the Palaszczuk government continues to invest in my local community—with our hospital, with our public transport and with our education system, just to name a few. There is over \$115 million into the Redcliffe Hospital including our new car park, which opens in a few weeks; a new MRI machine, which will be operational later this year; a new building being constructed to house this new life-saving medical equipment; and upgrading the emergency department. We will also see a backup CT scanner delivered next year, thanks to the record investment by the Palaszczuk government. We will see every state school in Redcliffe having classrooms, libraries and staffrooms air-conditioned by mid-2022, far quicker than the LNP's commitment. I am pleased to say that all of our state schools in the Redcliffe community are progressing well, with each school at various stages and solar panels going on roofs as well.

In closing, I want to acknowledge my ministerial colleagues Minister Jones, Minister Lynham and Minister O'Rourke, who are leaving us at the end of this term. I thank them for their collegiality. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with them. I wish them all the best in whatever they choose to do going forward. I wish everyone all the best at the end of this parliamentary term.

(Time expired)