




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Liberal National Party, Performance

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (2.10 pm): Well, there is hypocrisy writ large! What an extraordinary statement from the LNP: 'You cannot keep trading on fear.' That is the only way they know how to trade. That is what they do each and every day. They prey on people's fears and prejudices, and they feed those things in the community. They divide the community. During the election we saw fear campaigns around crime. It was atrocious. I saw the big billboard in my area. I think it talked about armed robbery being up 80 per cent or something. That is quite interesting when the base figure per month was zero, so if you had one armed robbery the next month it was up by 100 per cent. These are the sorts of fear they prey on and feed.

I would love to hear from the Leader of the Opposition what scare campaign he thinks we have been running for the last few months. Would that be COVID? Do those opposite think COVID is a scare campaign? Are the LNP still so ignorant about what is going on around the globe that they refer to it as a scare campaign? The only scare campaign I have seen going on is those on the opposite side over the last 18 months and the way they have behaved around COVID and our response.

One would think that would have settled down after the election, recognising that the people of Queensland had put their trust and confidence in the Palaszczuk government, in the way we had responded and kept them safe—but no. Those opposite have doubled down and keep talking about the way we are managing health. They keep saying that it is this government's fault, in the way we are dealing with pressures on the health system and where the pressures have come from, without any recognition whatsoever that every state and territory in this country is facing disruptions to their health system. Those opposite refuse to talk to their colleagues in Canberra about the long-stay younger patients—

An opposition member interjected.

Mrs D'ATH: I hear the groaning from those opposite. When the LNP members stand in front of cameras or talk to people about any delays in their health care, are they also saying that there are 575 beds being taken up by long-stay patients? Are they having that honest conversation with them? I suspect not. If they did, they would be acknowledging what is happening and what could be done by their mates in Canberra. Not once have we heard that they have picked up the phone to Greg Hunt or Scott Morrison and said, 'We need to fix this issue with long-stay young patients and also our older patients, including short-changing them in relation to aged-care packages in the budget this year.'

We also heard comments from those who believe the Premier misled the parliament today with regard to the vaccine. To be clear, the Australian government website says—

We are currently vaccinating people in Phase 1a and Phase 1b. States and territories will begin vaccinating people in Phase 2a in May, starting with all adults 50 years and over.

- From 3 May 2021, people 50 years and over can receive the AstraZeneca vaccine at ... state and territory vaccination clinics.

The state and territory vaccination clinics were for frontline workers. This was the state's responsibility. It goes on to say—

- From 17 May—

I will correct the record; today I said 18 May—

people 50 years and over can receive the AstraZeneca vaccine at a participating general practice.

The Premier said that she could get her vaccine last week. It can be through GPs. You could not go to your GP before last Monday if you were aged 50 to 69.

Mr Bleijie: We never said 'through a GP'.

Mr Mander: There is no excuse.

Mrs D'ATH: I will take that interjection.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Time has expired.