




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 10 May 2022

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Health System

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (2.11 pm): I am pleased that I get to follow the Leader of the Opposition. Firstly, I reflect on the comments of the Leader of the Opposition in relation to the announcements today of the government's response in relation to coercive control and the commission of inquiry. This goes more generally to the Leader of the Opposition and his leadership of the LNP. The Leader of the Opposition stated when he took over the leadership that if there were something being done right he would acknowledge it. Here today he still could not help himself but play politics with such an important issue around domestic and family violence.

They call for a review into the forensic services system but then complain that we are kicking the can down the road. It does not matter what this government does, the Leader of the Opposition will put a negative slant on everything because that is who he is and what he does. That is the leadership of the LNP that he shows. It is not that dissimilar to that of the Prime Minister of this country.

In relation to the review into the forensic services system, I am very disappointed and concerned that the Leader of the Opposition is making statements both in this House and publicly that he already knows what the findings will be of the forensic services review. He has already predetermined what that review is going to find. He is saying, 'There are Queenslanders who are being denied justice. There are Queenslanders being put in harm's way ... That is clear,' yet the review has not even commenced.

There is a coronial investigation going on into the Shandee case—reopened at my request. There are comprehensive terms of reference to look into the system. The Shandee case specifically talked about a type of testing that was being used and critical in relation to the DNA analysis service and the profiling kit used. That system will be reviewed as part of the terms of reference that I have announced. I want an acknowledgement from those on other side—because it never happens—that the DNA profiling kit that will be investigated is the DNA profiling kit and system that was introduced on 3 December 2012. I am interested in knowing whether that analysis that was put in place in 2012 is failing the people of Queensland. I want to know that too.

Those on the opposite side have again talked about our health system and patient-off-stretcher times. They have never talked about the demands on the health system. The Leader of the Opposition says that we need to look at the whole system. I could not agree more. We need to look at the whole health system in this state and in this country—not just the public hospital system, but the primary and allied healthcare system, funding from the states and Commonwealth and what we should be doing together.

As they continue to talk down Queensland and our delivery of health care to the people of Queensland, I reflect again on my comments earlier today. Their four-point plan is apparently going to fix everything. If we just followed their advice it would fix everything. What we are seeing in Western

Australia today is a 47 per cent transfer of care within 30 minutes. In Victoria 59.83 per cent of patients are seen within 40 minutes. In New South Wales they have seen a decline of 10 per cent since the April-June quarter 2020.

Jurisdictions across the country are dealing with ramping and these pressures. They are all willing to talk about the solutions that would improve the health system. It is not about shifting the blame or responsibility; it is about collaboration and cooperation with our stakeholders across the health system—our doctors, our nurses and our primary and allied healthcare workers—as well as the Commonwealth and state governments. It is this level of cooperation and collaboration that we need to see and not the political pointscoring that we see from the Leader of the Opposition.

(Time expired)