

Question on Notice

No. 252

Asked on 1 April 2014

MR JUDGE asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice (Mr JARROD BLEIJIE) –

QUESTION:

Given Australian Attorneys-General supported a national approach to match fixing in November 2011 and in October 2013 I introduced a consistent private members bill—

Will the Attorney-General explain why he has failed to keep pace with the national agenda and introduce important laws targeting corrupt betting and organised crime?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Yeerongpilly for his question.

There are already two existing offences in Queensland which could apply to conduct described as match-fixing. The offence of ‘cheating’ in section 217 of the *Wagering Act 1998* and the offence of ‘fraud’ in section 408C of the Criminal Code each capture some of the match-fixing conduct that has been legislated for in other jurisdictions.

As I have already publically announced, I will be proposing amendments to the Criminal Code in the near future to provide specific match-fixing offences. These amendments will include new offences to keep up with the growing sport wagering market and to ensure Queensland offences sufficiently cover the breadth of match-fixing conduct that can occur. These new offences will go even further than the existing offences in securing the integrity of Queensland’s vibrant and growing sporting industry and bring Queensland into line with other jurisdictions.