



Speech by

Barbara Stone

MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD

Hansard Wednesday, 25 November 2009

LAW, JUSTICE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Report

Ms STONE (Springwood—ALP) (10.26 am): I lay upon the table of the House report No. 73 of the Law, Justice and Safety Committee.

Tabled paper: Law, Justice and Safety Committee, Report No. 73—Inquiry into Alcohol Related Violence Interim Report [[1478](#)].

This is an interim report on the progress of the committee's inquiry into alcohol related violence—an area of great importance and interest to the community. The committee has received over 140 submissions. It has undertaken extensive consultation, including public hearings in Townsville, Cairns and Brisbane and several meetings with stakeholders and inspections of venues and entertainment precincts in Brisbane and in regional Queensland. The committee has discussed the issues with a diverse range of stakeholders. The committee also launched a Facebook page for the inquiry—the first parliamentary committee to do so in Queensland, if not in Australia.

The interim report highlights some of the issues which have emerged in this inquiry. Many of these have been the subject of significant community debate—matters such as the use of glass, trading hours and lockouts, enforcement and prevention and the use of illicit drugs. The committee believes that there needs to be a cultural shift in the attitudes to drinking, particularly binge drinking, and an important focus on the committee's future considerations will be developing recommendations to achieve lasting attitudinal change in this regard.

The extent to which the use of illicit drugs contributes to the levels of public violence has been raised on a number of occasions during the committee's consultation. The committee believes that this is an area requiring detailed examination and consideration. It falls outside the terms of reference of the committee's inquiry, and the committee has recommended that this be the subject of a further parliamentary inquiry.

The scourge of alcohol related violence involves wide-ranging and complex problems which require considered and wide-ranging solutions. I thank committee members and staff for their tireless dedication and enthusiasm in this inquiry. We look forward to our further deliberations before providing a final report with all recommendations to the parliament by 18 March 2010.