



Speech by

Dr Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

Hansard Tuesday, 23 February 2010

TIWI PEARL PLAN; BAY VIEW STATE SCHOOL; BAYSIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVE; ONE PUNCH CAN KILL FUNDING

Dr ROBINSON (Cleveland—LNP) (9.32 pm): I rise to address four issues in my electorate that are of concern. The first is the *Tiwi Pearl* plan. The government's *Tiwi Pearl* plan for Moreton Bay is only a peewee step in the right direction of compensation for recreational fishers for loss of fishing grounds in Moreton Bay. The opposition welcomes the news that the artificial reef program for Moreton Bay will finally begin after 14 months of nonaction by the Bligh government. The minister's claim that the *Tiwi Pearl* will be a 'major extension' of the Henry Atkinson reef, however, is a farce. A 24-metre boat hardly rates as a major extension to any reef. If the other five reefs are to be peewee reefs too, then the government has severely downsized its election promise and clearly does not care about recreational fishers. The government needs to do better.

The second issue I want to address is the Bay View State School crossing. The state government's decision to build and then remove a pedestrian crossing at the newly opened Bay View State School is endangering children's lives and defies logic. In what could only be described as another bungle, the new Bay View State School in Thornlands was supplied with a world-class pedestrian crossing as part of the school's safety plan. Then, without explanation to the public, it was suddenly removed. What is left is an unsupervised remnant of a crossing that children are still using but with the added danger of having a false sense of security about the crossing. I ask the transport minister to immediately reinstate the school crossing to ensure the safety of the children.

The third issue I want to address is the Bayside Domestic Violence Initiative. Honourable members may recall that on several occasions I have spoken in the House on the subject of domestic violence against women. The BDVI provides court support at the Cleveland and Wynnum courts, among other useful services, to women who have suffered domestic violence. When the BDVI was about to fold last year due to lack of government funding, I raised the matter in the House. Gratefully, a small emergency grant was made available that helped the BDVI survive. But they now face permanent closure in June this year unless the government takes them seriously. The government needs to act soon with further funding so that we do not lose this service.

The fourth issue I want to address is the One Punch Can Kill funding. Tonight I received leave to attend the Matthew Stanley Foundation's DVD launch. The Stanley family live in my electorate. It was heart wrenching to listen once again to Paul describe how his son was killed through an act of youth violence. Matthew's death touched my family deeply, as it did for many other parents of teenagers. I commend the Easts Leagues Club in Coorparoo for its generosity in funding the DVD production. Matthew's death highlights the fact that one punch can kill. I ask the government to move swiftly to clarify what is happening with the on-and-off funding for the One Punch Can Kill. The government said that it was renewing the funding, then said it was not and then said it was with \$500,000, but no-one has seen the funding yet. I call on the government to make the funds it promised available immediately to help combat youth violence.