



Speech by

Hon. Rachel Nolan

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH

Hansard Thursday, 8 October 2009

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Further Answer to Question; Citytrain

Hon. RG NOLAN (Ipswich—ALP) (Minister for Transport) (2.30 pm), by leave: Yesterday on ABC Radio I was interviewed about chroming on trains. The interview related to a specific incident, which had earlier been discussed on radio, in which a young woman had felt intimidated by a group of people on a train, and to the broader issue of chroming generally. I table the transcript of the interview I conducted yesterday.

Tabled paper: Transcript of an interview of Hon. Rachel Nolan, Minister for Transport, by Madonna King on 612 ABC on Wednesday, 7 October 2009 regarding chroming on trains [\[1050\]](#).

This morning in question time the Deputy Leader of the Opposition asked me a question that related to my ABC Radio interview. In the question he said—

Yesterday on radio the minister claimed that an offender was fined \$4,000 for sniffing glue on a train but could provide no details. Will the minister now provide details ...

In response to the question I stated that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition had misled the House. With the benefit of reading *Hansard*, it is clear that I misunderstood the Deputy Leader of the Opposition's original question. When he said that 'the minister claimed that an offender was fined \$4,000 for sniffing glue on a train,' I took the words 'an offender' to mean that he was referring to the specific case I was interviewed about. But it is reasonable on reading *Hansard* to take the question as referring to any case. As such, I correct the record and apologise to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and unreservedly withdraw any comments that may have caused confusion or offence. I think it is clear from *Hansard* that this was a genuine misunderstanding of the question. That that was always my understanding is borne out by my words.

In relation to the broader issue, I can report to the House that in the 12 months to September 2009 some 3,013 people were fined for causing a nuisance on the public transport network. While figures are not available for how many of them specifically related to chroming, I am advised by Queensland Rail that transit officers have issued notices under section 143AF to persons creating a nuisance or disturbance on a railway whom they suspected or were told had been chroming. This clearly substantiates my broader point made on radio that the act does provide a power—which is utilised—for persons caught chroming on a train to be dealt with under the nuisance provision.