

CORONAVIRUS — INTERSTATE BORDER RESTRICTIONS

659. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Thank you, Premier. With calls from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA, Business Council of Australia and now Master Builders Association for a clear road map for WA to rejoin the nation and to end lockdowns and travel restrictions, why can the Premier not share the details of a plan that reflects the conditions that we have here in WA, whatever that date may be for reopening?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

I have just explained to the Leader of the Opposition everything that is happening, but I will explain it again. When we get a vaccination rate of between 80 and 90 per cent, we can provide a defined date. If we provide a date now, it might move because of the vaccination levels or because of what happens in the eastern states because of an outbreak over there. Look at what is happening in Britain today—mass outbreaks; lots of people are dying. We are trying to avoid that. I have gone through this for two years, with all these demands all the time from everyone: “Do this! Do that! Do this!” We are going to do what is right for the health and welfare of Western Australians. We are not going to be pushed and pulled in whatever direction depending upon the whim of some press secretary from the opposition who wakes up that morning and says, “Here’s a good question to ask.” And we are not going to be cowed by people like Nick Goiran in the Liberal Party, who are supporting the anti-vaxxers out there with their commentary. It is sick! It is irresponsible what the Liberal Party is doing; it is irresponsible to the health of Western Australians. I tell you what, the Liberal Party will not stand up to him because he runs the Liberal Party. The reason he is doing this is because it is a recruiting tool to get members into Liberal branches. That is why he is doing it. What we are saying to all members of Parliament is to be responsible, support the health advice and make sure we get people vaccinated as quickly as we can. The grossly irresponsible behaviour of Nick Goiran should be condemned by everyone, especially members of the opposition.