Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 14 September 2021] p3803c-3803c Hon Tjorn Sibma; Hon Sue Ellery

CORONAVIRUS — VACCINATIONS — SCHOOL STAFF

696. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Education and Training:

I note the minister's earlier advice that school principals have been advised to assist staff access COVID-19 vaccinations "using a planned approach".

- (1) Is there an overarching plan that guides principals in this respect, or are they provided with absolute discretion in their approach?
- (2) Are there currently, or are there likely to be soon, any targets established for the proportion of school staff, including teachers, education assistants and ancillary staff, to be vaccinated either completely or partially by the commencement of term 4 in October and the commencement of term 1 in February 2022?
- (3) If yes to (2), what are these targets, and who is responsible for reaching those targets?
- (4) Presently, what proportion of staff throughout Western Australia's public school system are either partially or fully vaccinated?

The PRESIDENT: That is a long question indeed.

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Although all principals have been advised to assist staff in schools to access vaccinations, they determine how best to do this within their school and local context. They have been given entitlements, such as people can leave during work et cetera, but there is not one single planned approach.
- (2) No. In line with advice from the Chief Health Officer, school staff are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) The Department of Education does not hold this information.