

CORONAVIRUS — VACCINATION PLAN

1213. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to the spike in Omicron cases being recorded in New South Wales and the first cases being detected in hotel quarantine here in Western Australia.

- (1) Given that medical advice in other jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom where Omicron cases are more established, is to offer booster shots from three months after the second vaccination, is the McGowan government considering a similar shortened time frame here in WA?
- (2) If no to (1), upon what medical advice is the government basing the efficacy of a five-month interval, and what advice would it require to reassess that?
- (3) What conversations, if any, are being had with either the federal government or other Australian states and territories to assess the local advice in light of the international experience?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the minister representing the Minister for Health, I provide the following answer based on the information provided to me by the Minister for Health.

- (1)–(2) The Western Australian government continues to follow the advice of the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation on such matters.
- (3) The Western Australian government is in regular contact with the Australian government about information on the COVID-19 vaccination program.