

CORONAVIRUS — INTERSTATE BORDER RESTRICTIONS

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

I refer to the Chief Health Officer's advice to the Premier dated 19 January in which the Chief Health Officer advised that consideration should be given to opening the borders when Western Australia reaches a community daily case load above a threshold level. What is the community daily case load threshold level to which the Chief Health Officer referred?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

It is currently under consideration as part of the review. As we said at that point in time, we are undertaking a review. Had we arbitrarily set another date back on 20 January, it may well have been that the review found that the date was incorrect. Setting a date in the COVID environment is often fraught. That is what I have found, and I think other state governments have also found that. I suspect that other state governments have found to their detriment that setting a hard date and following through with it despite what has occurred was a mistake. There were no easy choices and there were no easy answers with all of this; however, we did the right thing for the right reasons. Although it has caused a degree of grief and unpopularity, doing difficult things is what we should all be about.