Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 9 September 2021] p3702a-3703a Hon Matthew Swinbourn

CORONAVIRUS — HOTEL QUARANTINE CORONAVIRUS — HOTEL QUARANTINE — STAFF VACCINATIONS

Answer Advice

HON MATTHEW SWINBOURN (East Metropolitan — **Parliamentary Secretary)** [5.03 pm]: I would like to provide answers to Hon Martin Aldridge's questions without notice 638 and 648 asked on 7 September and question without notice 658 asked on 8 September.

I seek leave to have the responses incorporated into Hansard.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

Question without notice 638 —

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of the question.

- (1) As at 1600 hrs 07 September 2021 there are 992 guests in state managed hotel Quarantine.
- (2) 830 rooms
- (3) Novotel Perth Murray, Hyatt Regency, Pan Pacific, Intercontinental Hotel and Westin hotel. The Holiday Inn is a dedicated flight crew only hotel.
- (4) Yes
- (5) Not applicable.

Question without notice 648 —

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of the question.

- (1) 1133
- (2) 12, each of whom have had their first dose.
- (3) The access to quarantine centres direction stipulates a quarantine centre worker must have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- (4) In accordance with the Access to Quarantine Centres Directions, a quarantine centre worker must not enter, or remain at, a quarantine centre if the quarantine centre worker has not been vaccinated against COVID-19.
- (5) See tabled paper no.

 $\underline{https://www.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-05/060521-Access-to-Quarantine-Centres-Directions.pdf}$

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 2016 (WA)

Sections 157(1)(e), 157(1)(k), 180 and 190(1)(p)

ACCESS TO QUARANTINE CENTRES DIRECTIONS

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

On 23 March 2020, the Minister for Health declared a public health state of emergency with effect from 1.30 p.m. on 23 March 2020 in respect of COVID-19 pursuant to section 167 of the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA) (Act). The public health state of emergency applies to the State of Western Australia.

I, Dr Andrew Robertson, the Chief Health Officer, authorised as an emergency officer under section 4 of the Act to exercise any of the emergency powers while the public health state of emergency declaration in respect of COVID-19 is in force, consider it reasonably necessary to give the following directions to all persons in Western Australia to prevent, control or abate the serious public health risk presented by COVID-19 pursuant to sections 157(1)(e), 157(1)(k), 180 and 190(1)(p) of the Act.

PREAMBLE

1. The purpose of these directions is to prevent the importation of COVID-19 into the Western Australian community and to otherwise limit the spread of COVID-19 in Western Australia.

CITATION

2. These directions may be referred to as the **Access to Quarantine Centres Directions.**

COMMENCEMENT

3. These directions come into effect at 12.01 am on 10 May 2021.

DIRECTIONS

- 4. Subject to paragraphs 5 and 6, a **quarantine centre worker** must not enter, or remain at, a **quarantine centre** if the quarantine centre worker has not been **vaccinated** against COVID-19.
- 5. Where only part of **premises** are being used as a quarantine centre, nothing in these directions prevents a quarantine centre worker who is not vaccinated against COVID-19 from entering that part of the premises which is not being used as a quarantine centre.
- 6. Nothing in these directions prevents a person who is not vaccinated against COVID-19 from entering any part of a quarantine centre for the purposes of:
 - (a) law enforcement; or
 - (b) responding to an emergency other than COVID-19; or

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(c) performing maintenance or repairs, but only to the extent that, due to the nature of the maintenance or repairs, it is not reasonably practicable for a quarantine centre worker who is vaccinated against COVID-19 to perform the maintenance or repairs and the person who is able to perform the maintenance or repairs is not eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 at the time that the maintenance or repairs are required to be performed.

Example: a fire fighter or ambulance officer responding to an emergency other than COVID-19 would be persons referred to in paragraph 6(b)

7. A quarantine centre worker must produce for inspection evidence in the form approved by the Chief Health Officer or the State Health Incident Controller that they have been vaccinated against COVID-19, if **directed** to do so by an **emergency officer**.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these directions:

- 8. **Chief Health Officer** has the same meaning that it has in the Act.
- 9. **Direct contact means:**
 - (a) more than 15 minutes of face-to-face contact in any setting; or
 - (b) more than 2 hours in the same room.
- 10. Direction includes any direction under the Act, whether the direction is given orally or in writing, and directed includes directed by way of a direction under the Act, whether the direction is given orally or in writing.
- 11. **Emergency officer** has the same meaning that it has in the Act.
- 12. **Police officer** means a person appointed under Part I of the *Police Act 1892* (WA) to be a member of the Police Force of Western Australia.
- 13. **Premises** has the same meaning that it has in the Act.
- 14. **Quarantine centre** means any quarantine centre operated or managed by the State Health Incident Coordination Centre (including a hotel quarantine centre) or which has been arranged by the State Health Incident Coordination Centre for the quarantining of people for public health purposes in connection with COVID-19 and, where the entirety of the premises is not being used as a quarantine centre, means only that part of the premises which is being operated or managed by the State Health Incident Coordination Centre as a quarantine centre.
- 15. **Quarantine centre driver** has the same meaning that it has in the Quarantine Centre Drivers Directions or any direction that replaces or amends those directions.
- 16. Quarantine centre worker means:
 - (a) a person employed or otherwise engaged to provide at a quarantine centre:
 - (i) security services, cleaning services or reception services; or
 - (ii) food and beverage or hotel maintenance services; or
 - (b) a person who is employed or otherwise engaged to provide at a quarantine centre services that involve the provision of medical, health or ancillary services, including welfare related services; or
 - (c) a police officer who is deployed to carry out an assigned shift at a quarantine centre; or
 - (d) a member of the Australian Defence Force who is deployed to carry out an assigned shift at a quarantine centre; or
 - (e) a person who for any other reason knowingly has **direct contact** with a person in a quarantine centre who is subject to **quarantine requirements**,

but does not include a quarantine centre driver.

- 17. Quarantine requirements has the same meaning that it has in the Controlled Border for Western Australia directions.
- 18. **Vaccinated** means that the person has had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

PENALTIES

It is an offence for a person to fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any of these directions, punishable by a fine of up to \$20,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for bodies corporate.

Dr Andrew Robertson

Emergency Officer

6 May 2021 1002 hours

Question without notice 658 —

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
- June 2552 persons (plus 1148 flight Crew)
- July 2028 persons (plus 1211 flight crew)
- August 1722 persons (plus 1174 flight crew)
- Yes, these were based on approval by the incident controller and includes essential service workers, those on compassionate entry, maritime off signers, security escorts and international medical graduates.

(3)

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- June-2
- July 11
- August 74
- (4) One.