

CORONAVIRUS — VACCINATION STATUS — DUMAS HOUSE VISITORS

**51. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. Why is the Premier unable to confirm that there is no policing of vaccination status of visitors to Dumas House when small businesses and junior hospitality staff across the state are having to police the vaccination status of customers, and the same demand is not enforced at Dumas House?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

My understanding is that a range of people—I think most of the ministerial officers, in fact, probably all—are vaccinated and have not been required to be, or are encouraged but may not be required to be vaccinated —

**Ms A. Sanderson:** Mandated.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Mandated to be vaccinated. I do not think the front desk of each ministerial office has a requirement for people to show their vaccination status. I do not think that that is a requirement under the existing directions.

In terms of hospitality businesses and the like, there is a requirement under the existing directions, which were drafted based upon health advice for obvious reasons. That is the rule. I understand the Parliament's rules are largely because the Parliament resolved to do this as an institution, but not following directions by the Chief Health Officer. That is my understanding.

**Ms A. Sanderson** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** We comply with the law and the directions that are in place. We put in place mandates because, as I have explained before, otherwise we would have very low rates of vaccination because we have not had major outbreaks. Not having major outbreaks is a good thing. I went through 18 months or so of attacks, particularly from the eastern states, over our vaccination levels. Firstly, we did not have as many vaccines given to us as New South Wales and Victoria and, secondly, we did not have mass outbreaks, encouraging people to get vaccinated. Now our vaccination levels are at least as good as all the other states. Perhaps we might be level pegging with Tasmania and maybe the ACT is slightly ahead, but the ACT is a city state and has a very compliant population. Our measures have worked to get people vaccinated.

In terms of the requirement to show a vaccination certificate, a range of venues have that requirement under the existing directions. My understanding is that that is not required in an office environment. I do not think the member's question has a great deal of relevance.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, that concludes question time.