Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 22 February 2022] p477c-477c Ms Mia Davies; Mr Mark McGowan

CORONAVIRUS — RESTRICTIONS

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

I refer to the introduction of level 1 restrictions that were introduced on Monday, 21 February, and the Premier's advice that level 2 restrictions will be required, according to modelling that he still has not released.

- (1) What are the case numbers and/or other factors that will trigger level 2 restrictions?
- (2) On or around what date will the restrictions be implemented?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

(1)–(2) The modelling she is referring to has been released publicly and is currently up on the website, but I will table it for the Leader of the Opposition to look at. The health advice upon which we acted, provided by the Chief Health Officer, has also been released publicly, but I will table it here for members to look at as well.

[See papers <u>962</u> and <u>963</u>.]

Mr M. McGOWAN: Obviously, level 2 restrictions are something that we are reluctant to head towards. We currently have what are called level 1 restrictions in place. That is the two-square-metre rule, some restrictions on gatherings in the homes, restrictions on public gatherings and a reduction in the number of people attending events such as football games, stadia, concerts, theatres or things of that nature, which is similar to what has been put in place in the eastern states, although perhaps not as severe. The reason it is not as severe as some of the restrictions in some of the eastern states is that we have extremely high levels of vaccination. We are now at rates of around 99 per cent first dose, around 96 per cent double dose and approaching 60 per cent third dose. By delaying the border reopening, we have been able to get to those very high levels of third-dose vaccination and also very high levels of children's vaccination, prior to having a major seeding event in Western Australia. That is the position. As I said, we are reluctant to head towards the level 2 restrictions, which is the four-square-metre rule, but we will continue to monitor. The thing about COVID is making hard and fast decisions, and setting dates and times and so forth can often be influenced by circumstances. That is why it is ill-advised to be too prescriptive, because circumstances can change.