Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 19 March 2024] p1013c-1014a Dr David Honey; Amber-Jade Sanderson

HEALTH — DELOITTE AUDIT

163. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the minister's commitment to release the Deloitte audit into staffing establishment levels in the Western Australian health system for registered nurses, midwives, enrolled mental health and enrolled mothercraft nurses that was due in March 2023. Is the minister's continued refusal to release the Deloitte document because her government is concerned that it will reveal the true extent of the state's public hospital staffing levels?

Ms A. SANDERSON replied:

That audit was subject to industrial negotiations with the Australian Nursing Federation and was agreed to as part of the government's commitment to rolling out historic nurse-to-patient ratios across Western Australia. I am interested to understand the Liberal Party's position on nurse-to-patient ratios and whether it supports those ratios. Essentially, the audit was untaken to understand the staffing profile across the system and how to apply ratios. That audit is complete, and the government's commitment remains. We continue to work through, and we will be establishing, as required under the industrial instrument, a steering group to implement nurse-to-patient ratios across the Western Australian health system.

I do not recall undertaking to make that report public. It was party to the steering group. That is certainly my understanding; I am happy to be corrected on that. But we are certainly working through the implementation and we continue to be committed to implementing ratios.