

CORONAVIRUS — MANDATORY VACCINATION POLICY

660. Ms C.M. COLLINS to the Premier:

I refer to the state government's efforts to get as many eligible Western Australians as possible vaccinated against COVID-19.

- (1) Can the Premier update the house on the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination program and how the government is making vaccinations more accessible for more Western Australians?
- (2) Can the Premier advise the house of any attempts to undermine this government's efforts to get all eligible Western Australians vaccinated?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

- (1) Thank you, member for Hillarys. About 76 per cent of eligible Western Australians aged 12 years or over have now had their first dose of vaccine. Over 58 per cent of 12-year-olds and over are now fully vaccinated. That is a terrific achievement considering we are the largest state in the world and have some of the most remote communities in the entire world, and we did not get the extra doses that New South Wales and Victoria did early on, and also we have not had the major outbreaks that they have had.

On Sunday, the Commissioner of Police, Rob Scott from Wesfarmers and I were able to open the first pop-up vaccination clinic at Bunnings. We are going to be opening, we think, at least 10 of those around Western Australia. No booking will be required. People can just arrive at Bunnings, buy their hardware, buy a sausage out the front and then get vaccinated as well. That means that people can get the job done, especially if they are time-poor like many tradies are. We are confident that this new initiative will help to drive vaccination rates up around the state.

We have also opened a new clinic at Carramar Village Shopping Centre in the northern suburbs—another opportunity for people in the north to get vaccinated. That will provide 2 000 vaccinations initially, but we expect that will increase. Additional clinics will open in Mandurah, Ellenbrook and Canning Vale in early November. Community clinics are now open at Armadale Central Shopping Centre, The Square Mirrabooka, Centrepont Midland, Claremont Showgrounds, Kwinana Supa Centre, the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, and Lakeside Joondalup Shopping Centre. There are more than 100 locations across Western Australia and regional communities whereby people can get a vaccine, or they can go to their general practitioner, pharmacy, Aboriginal medical service and GP respiratory clinics, which are managed by the commonwealth, to get vaccinated.

- (2) I have said what I had to say about Mr Goiran a moment ago. What he is doing is reckless, dangerous —

The SPEAKER: Premier, I need you to call him “the honourable”.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I have said what I had to say about Hon Nick Goiran a moment ago. What he is doing is reckless, dangerous and irresponsible. When you are questioning the health advice, you are undermining the COVID vaccination rollout, and you are giving credibility to the anti-vaxxers. All I say to the Liberal Party is this person is your shadow Attorney General, and what you should be doing, Leader of the Liberal Party, if you had any guts whatsoever, is sacking him.

Dr D.J. Honey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cottesloe, your interjections are disorderly.