

SCHOOL CANTEENS — DIETARY GUIDELINES

**24. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Health:**

I refer to the decision of the Department of Health to ban ham in school canteens —  
Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Members, I just pointed out that it is 2.25 pm and we have had only four questions. Every time I have to pause the house because other people and I cannot hear the person asking the question, we are just building in more and more delays. I am going to ask people to not interject on the people asking the questions. We have ministers who are more than capable of responding to the question that is asked. I do not need commentary every time from another 30 or more people on the quality of the question being asked. It is not for you to adjudicate.

**Mr P.J. RUNDLE:** I refer to the decision of the Department of Health to ban ham in school canteens, reclassifying the protein from amber to red, placing it in the same category as chocolate and soft drinks. I also note the minister's comments that guidelines are good but common sense is better.

- (1) Is it common sense to ban an accessible protein from our school canteens?
- (2) What does the minister say to the families who are bearing the brunt of the government's inability to alleviate the cost-of-living burden and who will now be forced to purchase more expensive protein alternatives?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please! The members for Perth and Bunbury. I would like to be able to give the call to the Minister for Health.

**Dr A.D. Buti** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister for Education, if I were your teacher, I would not be very happy with you.

**Ms A. SANDERSON replied:**

- (1)–(2) Yes, that is some kind of sandwich question. The WA health department has not banned ham in school canteens. The member knows that is absolutely not the case. The national Australian dietary guidelines were updated and every state and territory updated their guidelines in response. The national guidelines are developed by national experts. Every state then adopts those public health measures and that advice then goes out. There is no ham ban. I suggest that the member gets across the detail, shows some common sense and understands the actual question that he is asking.