Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 19 September 2023] p4728b-4728b Hon Dr Brian Walker; Hon Sue Ellery

CANNABIS — JUVENILES — HOSPITAL PRESENTATIONS

1080. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to recent longitudinal studies of youth, published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, which conclude that young people are no more or less likely to use cannabis in jurisdictions that have legalised recreational use for adults, than they are in states that have not.

- (1) How many under-18s have presented to WA hospitals in the past 12 months as a direct or indirect result of cannabis use, and what percentage of presentations involving cannabis does that amount to?
- (2) Will the minister take this latest research into account when considering juvenile outcomes in any future debate on drug reform in Western Australia?

The PRESIDENT: Leader of the House, I hope you are able to attempt to answer that.

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

On behalf of the minister, I can say that to allow for a fulsome and accurate response, I request the member place the question on notice. I draw the honourable member's attention, in my capacity as Leader of the House, that asking for information in the past 12 months as a direct or indirect result of cannabis use across WA hospitals across WA is a lot of information. It is not possible to provide that in four hours.