

HEALTH — VAPE STORES — DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ADVICE

1095. Hon Dr Brian Walker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the Minister to numerous examples of verbal advice being offered by officers in the Health Department to vape store owners between 2018 and 2021, confirming that it was legal to sell composite parts of a vape under Western Australian law, and I ask:

- (a) are there any written guidelines with which the Health Department's officers are expected to comply when offering verbal advice, either in person or over the phone to Western Australian businesses in relation to the legality and permissibility of their business practices, and if there are, will the Minister table those guidelines; and
- (b) are any records of such verbal advice maintained, and if not, why not?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) The Department of Health's Tobacco Compliance Officers (TCO) refer to information publicly available on the WA Department of Health website.
- (b) The Department of Health keeps a range of records as per its record keeping policies. TCOs may not record advice that is general in nature.