

CORONAVIRUS — MANDATORY VACCINATIONS — PUBLIC SECTOR

1217. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the government's requirement for mandatory vaccination for potentially 80 per cent of the state's public sector employees.

- (1) How many public servants captured by the mandate, and who require it, have chosen not to be vaccinated with their first dose by 1 December 2021?
- (2) How many of those public servants in (1) have —
 - (a) been dismissed; or
 - (b) resigned?
- (3) How many of those public servants have taken leave and thus their status is unknown?
- (4) How many public servants are required to have their first dose under the mandate by 31 December and be fully vaccinated by 31 January 2022?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(4) There are 77 552 government sector employees included in group 1 of the state government's mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for WA workforces. As of 1 December 2021, 2.5 per cent of those 77 552 employees had not yet met the requirements and are therefore excluded from the workplace. Of those 77 552 employees, 1.1 per cent are on long-term leave and unable to be contacted.

Employers are able to take measures including disciplinary action against impacted employees who are yet to meet the requirements. There is a two-week grace period for employees to reconsider their position. After this, disciplinary action may commence, which could result in termination of employment. Employees who cannot access workplaces because they are not vaccinated will not be paid. The exception is employees of the Western Australia Police Force, who will immediately be subject to a disciplinary process while they are paid.