

VACCINE SAFETY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM — ANNUAL REPORT

1575. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the *Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance: Annual report 2022* that has now been published by the Department of Health.

- (1) Can the minister address the concerns raised in Parliament on 15 November 2023 by Hon Brian Walker, MLC, that the reporting of COVID-19 vaccination adverse events was impeded and discouraged by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency during the 2022 calendar year?
- (2) In light of these concerns raised by Hon Dr Brian Walker and others, how can the minister assure this Council that the rate of adverse event reporting described in the WAVSS report is not misleading or inaccurate?
- (3) Will the minister commit to releasing all the raw data collected or collated by the Department of Health about adverse events following COVID-19 vaccination in Western Australia?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

- (1) The Department of Health is not aware of any evidence to suggest that reporting of adverse events by doctors following COVID-19 vaccination was impeded or discouraged during the 2022 calendar year. From the *Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance: Annual report 2022*, adverse event reporting remains higher compared with the period prior to the COVID-19 vaccination program.
- (2) The *Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance: Annual report* contains both passive and active surveillance to ensure a comprehensive and complete picture of adverse events in WA is captured.
- (3) No.
- (4) The Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance raw data contains confidential and potentially identifying patient health information.