

VACCINE SAFETY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM — ANNUAL REPORTS

231. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the answer on 23 February 2023 to my question without notice 161 in which the minister acknowledged that the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations had been told that the *Western Australian vaccine safety surveillance: annual report 2021* was due to be released by the end of August 2022.

- (1) Why then was the report released only in February 2023 after follow-up parliamentary questions?
- (2) Is the minister aware that in 2020, there were 270 reports of adverse events following more than two million immunisation doses?
- (3) Is the minister aware that in 2021, there were 10 726 reports following more than five million immunisation doses?
- (4) Has the minister been briefed about this significant increase in reported adverse events; and, if so, was this before or after the report's release?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the Leader of the House. The following answer is provided on behalf of the Minister for Health.

- (1) Due to the substantially higher number of vaccinations administered in Western Australia in 2021 and the efforts to ensure accurate and appropriate evaluation of all reported actual and potential adverse events following immunisation, publication of the *Western Australian vaccine safety surveillance: annual report 2021* was delayed.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Yes. The Minister for Health was briefed prior to the report's release.