

NSW Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic

Hearing – 10/08/2021

Questions on notice

QUESTION 1 – Page 7

Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Minister, what percentage of New South Wales healthcare workers are fully vaccinated against COVID-19?

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I will have to take that one on notice. I do not know the answer. Do you know that one?

Dr CHANT: I think it is a very high proportion but clearly we want to make sure.

ANSWER

NSW Health continues to vaccinate its workforce across metropolitan, rural and regional local health districts. As of 2 September 2021, 84 per cent of NSW Health's workforce has received one dose of the vaccine and 77 per cent have received two doses of the vaccine. The vaccination rollout will continue in line with requirements to vaccinate the total workforce.

Under the *Public Health (COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Workers) Order 2021*, healthcare workers must have a first dose of vaccine by 30 September 2021, and be fully vaccinated by 30 November 2021.

QUESTION 2 – Page 15

The CHAIR: That is what I understood you said earlier, Minister. I suppose the difficulty I have with that is, if that is the date and the concern was spread from West Hoxton, why on 25 June was it only eastern suburbs local government areas that were the subject of the lockdown? Why was not West Hoxton being locked down at least on 23 June and definitely by 25 June? How was it that that decision was made at the time?

Dr CHANT: I think I would have to just go back to when—as I said, the initial intelligence was that the West Hoxton party was effectively controlled. Everyone had been immediately contacted within the time frame. There was subsequent emerging issues associated with that and I would be happy to reflect on the thinking at the particular time. I apologise to the Committee that I have not had a chance to go back over the notes and recollections in that regard. But I am happy to answer that on notice if that would assist the Committee.

ANSWER

On 21 June 2021, NSW Health conducted an interview with a COVID-19 case who reported attended a party at a residence in West Hoxton on 19 June 2021. The public health unit rapidly managed the exposure risk by placing all known attendees into self-isolation; however, NSW Health was later notified of additional attendees on 24 June 2021. These contacts were also rapidly placed in self-isolation.

On 26 June 2021, the *Public Health (COVID-19 Temporary Movement and Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021* ('the Order') introduced stay at home restrictions across Greater Sydney, as defined in the Order.