

## Question on Notice

No. 1016

Asked on 2 September 2021

**MR S ANDREW** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

### QUESTION

With reference to recent reports that people will be freed from future lockdowns and the state of emergency will be lifted, when Queenslanders are 80 percent vaccinated—

Will the Minister advise the government's plan if Queensland reaches 80 percent vaccinations and the transmission rates do not drop?

### ANSWER

Queensland continues to do its part to support the national rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine.

I am advised that as at 3 October 2021, 67.58 per cent of Queenslanders have received at least one dose of vaccine and 48.67 per cent are fully vaccinated.

Our best path forward to permanently easing restrictions is widescale vaccination against COVID-19.

Queensland is working to meet the vaccination thresholds under the National Plan as quickly as possible, however it is important to note that ongoing public health measures will be needed to minimise cases in the community even after vaccination targets are met.

This is consistent with the Doherty Institute's modelling that indicates at 70 per cent of the adult population being fully vaccinated, minimising cases in the community will be through ongoing low-level restrictions, effective track and trace, and possible targeted lockdowns.

At 80 per cent, ongoing baseline restrictions adjusted to minimise cases without lockdowns, and highly targeted lockdowns only are indicated.

It is critical that we continue to balance the need to protect Queenslanders from the risks associated with COVID-19 while supporting the social and economic wellbeing of our communities, by not allowing complacency to settle in as new evidence emerges around variants and their impact and the vaccination rollout progresses.

Queensland will continue to make decisions based on the public health advice and best evidence available at the time.