



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Ms Jo Clay MLA on 18 July 2023: Mr Bruce Fitzgerald took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Uncorrected Proof Transcript 18 July 2023, Page 91

In relation to:

MS CLAY: So we have had a new federal government in for some time, when will we see those mandatory industry requirements to not reduce packaging waste that we cannot recycle?

Mr Fitzgerald: So, as part of the last environment minister's meeting there was correspondence that was provided to our code, via the federal minister, requiring them to come back with a timeline. That certainly stating their displeasure in their inability to meet the targets that had previously been set.

So, the request from the commonwealth is to retain the targets and provide a new timeline as to how they can be met. As to the specific timeline, I would have to take that on notice.

MS CLAY: So commonwealth is still not looking at mandatory, they are just asking the industry to voluntarily meet?

CHRIS STEEL MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

At the Environment Minister's Meeting (EMM) on 21 October 2022, Ministers agreed to reform the regulation of packaging by 2025, to ensure that all packaging available in Australia is designed to be recovered, reused, recycled and reprocessed safely in line with circular economy principles.

At the most recent EMM on 9 June 2023, Ministers agreed to mandate obligations for packaging design as part of a new packaging regulatory scheme based on international best practice, to make industry responsible for the packaging they place on the market.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Chris Steel".

Date: 26/7/23

By the Minister for Transport and City Services, Chris Steel MLA

