



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water

Reference: CED

Hearing: 17 November 2025

In relation to: Construction and Demolition Waste

Question received: 24 November 2025

Answer Due: 02 December 2025

- (1) How many tonnes of C&D waste were landfilled across the border in 2024-25, 2023-24 and 2022-23?
- (2) How many tonnes of C&D waste were landfilled in the ACT in 2024-25, 2023-24 and 2022-23?
- (3) Is there any progress on the Circular Economy Strategy action item 3.14, “Consider initiatives around sustainable construction materials, resource recovery, flexible design and materials selection and support the share/repair economy as part of the sustainability approach for strategic development delivery projects.”?
- (4) Will the next waste policy currently under development include new initiatives to address growing C&D waste?
- (5) Has CED observed any measurable impact delivered from the circular economy principles in the Urban Design Guide? This item was an action from the Circular Economy Strategy.
- (6) Which actions in the existing circular economy strategy aim to tackle C&D waste?
 - (a) Which ones are considered complete?
 - (b) Which ones are in progress and have funding attached to them?
 - (c) Which ones have not been initiated?

Ms Suzanne Orr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) Based on the data collected from the Waste Reporting under the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act*, the tonnes of Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste landfilled interstate were:

Interstate Landfill - By waste stream	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
C&D	139,309	201,424	211,606

- 2) The tonnages of C&D waste landfilled in the ACT over the past three financial years, based on weighbridge data collected is as follows:

ACT Landfill - By waste stream	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
C&D	10,028	11,427	8,194

- 3) The Suburban Land Agency (SLA) is embedding principles of circularity and sustainable materials into the master planning and detailed design of new places like Molonglo Town Centre and Kenny to consider these elements early in design of new places.

External frameworks such as Green Star rating tools are also being considered to embed circularity, sustainable materials and processes, and reduction of embodied carbon into selected SLA developments.

- 4) Initiatives that support the diversion of C&D waste from landfill may be considered in the development of the next waste strategy. Consultation with the waste industry and community may inform potential future opportunities.
- 5) The Circular Economy Strategy included an action to include design guidance within the ACT planning system's design guides. This has been actioned through the inclusion of design advice in the Urban Design Guide DESIGN ELEMENT: 7.2 GOVERNANCE MODELS AND PROCESSES - DESIGN GUIDANCE 7.2A CIRCULAR ECONOMY.

Design guides help proponents to consider how developments can achieve better designed buildings and shared spaces that benefit the community. The Urban Design Guide outlines the ways developers can incorporate good design into public spaces and places. There are development thresholds for when a proponent will need to consider the design guides and provide a response, therefore not every development must consider the guidance in the Urban Design Guide.

Review and evaluation of the new planning system, including the design guides, is captured through the ACT Planning System Evaluation Framework 2024-29. Evaluation of the outputs of the planning system will form part of the Outcomes Evaluation (year 5 of the framework implementation).

- 6) Theme three of the Circular Economy Strategy and Action Plan contains the built environment action plan. The built environment action plan focuses on prioritising reuse, recovery and recycling in our growing built environment. This action plan includes 17 actions that directly or

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indirectly tackle C&D waste. The amount of work required to analyse and outline the detail of every action was too onerous to be able to meet the required deadline for this response.

Of the related actions, five have been completed, nine actions are still in progress, two actions have been delayed and are yet to commence and one action is no longer progressing.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several sweeping, interconnected strokes.

Signature:

Date: 03/12/25

By the Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water, Ms Suzanne Orr MLA