



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by NICOLE LAWDER on 26 AUGUST 2022: DANIEL IGLESIAS took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Hansard Transcript 26 August 2022

MS LAWDER: Thank you. Can you tell me what the numbers are or the trend has been in illegal dumping over, say, the past five years? Is it more, is it less, is it about the same? Daniel can comment on the data.

Mr Iglesias: Dumping in the urban environment is something that our crews deal with on a weekly basis. They do notice from time-to-time seasonal increases in dumping behaviour. What they have recently discovered is that mattresses and whitegoods have been the subject of dumpings in the urban environment. In the last three years, in fact, our licensing and compliance team have been able to support our depots by pursuing compliance action on a small number of dumping incidents. It is a notoriously difficult activity to pursue from a compliance perspective, because, as you can imagine, the behaviour of dumping is something that is difficult to pick up.

We have issued 151 infringements in the last three years and have issued 293 warnings in addition to that. As recently as last month, we issued a large fine for the dumping of a mattress and also for a fridge. In relation to numbers, the number of infringements and the number of warnings is probably not a good indication as to the volume of dumping, because it is such a modest snapshot of what might be happening out there.

MS LAWDER: The actual illegal dumping as opposed to the infringements—the trend for that?

Mr Iglesias: It is only anecdotal evidence, Ms Lawder, but it is a seasonal thing.

MS LAWDER: But, on a count, five years ago there were 120 cases, four years ago there were 150. The total number, the trend, over five years.

Mr Iglesias: I do not believe we have got the data to be able to accurately report that.

MS LAWDER: Would you like to take that on notice?

Mr Iglesias: I will take that on notice, but I think that might be a challenge.

MS LAWDER: Thank you

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

There is no relevant data that can provide trends for the volume of illegal dumping activity for the stated period.

In 2020-2021, City Presentation received 1,301 complaints about illegal dumping. Of these 883 instances were large and medium loads that were not able to be cleared through the regular City Presentation cleaning/ rubbish collection services. Within these loads, 848 mattresses were collected and disposed of.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:



Date:

1/9/22

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