



# 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: BRUCE FITZGERALD took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Hansard Transcript 26 August 2022

**MS LAWDER:** Thank you. I wanted to ask a bit about income from waste taken to the tip. How much is it estimated to be collected in 2022-23 from waste taken to the tip?

**Mr Steel:** Andrew Pedersen?

**MS LAWDER:** Take that on notice if you—

**Mr Steel:** Yes, we will take that one on notice, thanks.

**MS LAWDER:** Sure. I have got a couple of follow on and some you may be able to answer, some you might take on notice. So of that income, I was interested to know how much would come from the dumping of construction and demolition waste.

**Mr Steel:** Yes, we can take that on notice.

**MS LAWDER:** And is dirt, including beneficial reused material, drillers, mud, storm water waste, sediment from ponds, dredging spoil and contaminated soil, is that considered part of construction and demolition waste?

**Mr Fitzgerald:** It is my understanding that yes, it is.

**MS LAWDER:** And so how much income would be made from dumping of that dirt in all its categories expected this year and also how much was collected last year, '21-22, from dirt? And I was also interested to know why does it cost about twice as much to dump sediment from ponds and dredging spoil than contaminated soil containing asbestos?

**Mr Fitzgerald:** We will take that one on notice.

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

It is estimated that the Territory will collect \$26 million (GST inclusive) in the 2022-23 Financial Year for waste disposal to landfill and for recycling at ACT Government owned three Resource Management Centres (Mugga Lane, Mugga 2 and Mitchell).

Of the \$26 million in estimated revenue it is anticipated that approximately \$2.34 million will be in relation to the disposal of Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D).

Waste disposal fees at ACT Government waste facilities are set by way of Determination made pursuant to the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act 2016*. The most recent Determination is the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Fees) Determination 2022 (No. 1)*.

The categories for the purposes of waste disposal fees under a fees determination are not necessarily aligned with data reporting categories as they fulfill different purposes.

For data reporting purposes waste may be classified in multiple dimensions, such as in terms of its source/sector (e.g. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), construction and Demolition (C&D) and Commercial & Industrial (C&I)) but also categorised in terms of the type of waste (e.g. tyres, plastics, metal, concrete, timber, food, etc). For example, timber and metal as waste categories may be generated by the MSW, C&D and C&I sectors.

For the purpose of disposal fees, waste is broadly categorised as household waste and non-household waste and broken down further into sub-categories. These fees reflect various factors including the facility in which they are required to be disposed. Mugga 2 is only authorised to accept certain types of inert waste. The Mugga Lane and Mugga 2 landfills are not authorised to accept liquid waste, therefore drillers mud, stormwater waste, sediment from ponds and dredging spoil must be dried before they can be accepted.

Waste disposal fees are as follows:

- Beneficial Reuse Material (BRU) is charged under Item 7.1 at \$22.10 per tonne and must be disposed of at Mugga 2 landfill;
- Asbestos contaminated soil (ACM) is charged under Item 7.2 at \$99.85 per tonne must be disposed of at Mugga 2 landfill; and
- Dried drillers mud, stormwater waste, pond sediment and dredging spoil are charged as general C&I waste under Item 3.2 at \$179.20 per tonne and must be disposed of at the Mugga Lane landfill.

The difference in disposal fees relates to a number of factors including:

- The differences in construction and operating costs between the two landfill sites. The Mugga Lane landfill is engineered and approved to accept a broader range of waste including waste with significant organic content.
- Limited alternate options for BRU and ACM noting the material contributes to the rehabilitation of Mugga 2 and its eventual reincorporation into the Mount Mugga Mugga Nature Reserve.
- The Territory sets its C&I disposal fees at a level that incentivises reuse and recycling where possible as well as prudently preserving the long-term capacity of the Mugga Lane landfill.

The table below displays the revenue collected for BRU and contaminated soil in 2021-22 and estimates for 2022-23.

<b>Material</b>	<b>2021-22 Actuals (incl GST)</b>	<b>2022-23 Estimates (incl GST)</b>
BRU	\$ 227,651	\$237,200
Contaminated soil	\$ 24,028	\$25,026

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

Signature: 

Date: 5/9/22

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