



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2014-2015**

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter MLA (Deputy-Chair),  
Giulia Jones MLA, Yvette Berry MLA



**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE  
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS  
ESD No 22**

Asked by Giulia Jones, MLA on 24 June 2014: Minister Corbell, MLA, for the Environment and Sustainable Development took on notice the following questions:

Ref: Hansard Transcript, Select Committee on Estimates 2014-2015, 24 June 2014. , pgs 114-115.

**MRS JONES:** Yes, well, can you let us know if you have any data on the appearance of the heavier non-recyclable [fabric] bags and if you have any information on whether they can be recycled in Australia?

**Minister Corbell, Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–**

Estimates on the number of reusable bags going to landfill are presented in the *Review of the Plastic Shopping Bags Ban*, released in June 2014. The Review assumed a low turn-over of these types of bags due to their longevity and only 30% is sent to landfill. As a result, it is estimated that 4.6 tonnes of reusable bags were interred in landfill in the period 1 May 2013 to 31 October 2013.

The Territory and Municipal Services Directorate plans on conducting an audit of the Mugga Lane landfill in 2014. This audit should provide more information on the proportion of reusable bags in the landfill.

The Directorate has been advised that these bags can be recycled through existing recycling programs being conducted by the major supermarkets in the Territory.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2014-2015

Signature:

Date:

1.7.14

By the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, MLA

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANSWERING QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE (QTON):**

- Answers to QTONs should be lodged in signed hard copy (not emailed) to the Committee Support office within **5 working days of the hearing day when the question was taken on notice**. Day 1 is the first working day after the day of the hearing in which the question is taken on notice. **Example:** *If the question is taken on notice on*

*Monday, the answer should be submitted by close of business the following Monday (even if the hearings for the portfolio stretch across several days).*

2. Where an answer provides a referral to sources of information in published documents, the answer should include the name of the document, the author and / or agency publishing the document, page number/s, and a hyperlink to the document, if applicable.