

PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS

1233. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the ministerial council the minister hosted in Perth earlier this month. What progress has been made in respect of the control of plastic shopping bags going into the nation's waste stream?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the honourable member for the question.

A determination was made by the subcommittee group for a particular section relating to the national aspect to not be further progressed. I expressed my view to the council that I did not think that was appropriate; however, work continues on biodegradable bags and the like. In my view, there needs to be a very strong focus on continuing the work of changing consumer behaviours and utilising more green, purple, pink and other types of bags.

The PRESIDENT: The honourable Green —

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: It is late in the year! My apologies, Hon Giz Watson!

Hon Giz Watson: Green shopping bags are excellent!