

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

1250. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Environment:

Noting the minister's weekend announcement regarding the phasing out of single-use plastics in Western Australia, I refer to Premier's Circular 2018/03 headed "Reducing the Use of Disposable Plastic".

- (1) Have agency-level sustainable procurement practices been monitored by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation in the two years following the publication of the Premier's circular?
- (2) In particular, has performance against the two minimum criteria —
 - (a) replacing commonly purchased single-use plastic products with recyclable, compostable or re-usable alternatives; and
 - (b) reviewing existing agency contracts to achieve better pricing and discussing opportunities with suppliers to substitute plastic products with re-usable and compostable products been measured?
- (3) If yes to (1) and (2), what are the results?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank Hon Tjorn Sibma for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(3) The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Department of Finance have been implementing the Premier's circular across government agencies and government-owned facilities. New common-use agreements have been established to ensure that the Premier's circular is incorporated into new tender processes across government. It is the responsibility of directors general or chief executive officers to monitor compliance with the circular's direction. DWER is developing guidelines to assist procurement managers to avoid single-use or problematic plastics. Our Plan for Plastics, released this week, will also provide a consistent approach to support reductions in single-use plastics, and DWER will work with government agencies in its phased implementation.