

WASTE AUTHORITY — LANDFILL LEVY

673. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

Does the minister agree with the Waste Authority's recent statement that an increase in the landfill levy is needed to support a viable recycling industry?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

The Waste Authority's role is to provide advice to the Minister for Environment. It will investigate and provide its recommendations to government on the landfill levy in order to achieve the objectives of the waste strategy. The strategy includes an economic assessment of the relationship between landfill cost and waste disposal and requires a five-year plan for the use of the levy funds. The government has not increased the landfill levy for the 2012–13 year and is not considering any increase.