

ROADSIDE LITTERING

226. Hon DIANE EVERS to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

The government is encouraging tourism as the “road trip state” and WA’s highest litter load area in accordance with the 2017–18 National Litter Index report is major roads and highways.

- (1) How much has the government spent on roadside litter clean-up each year, in the past five years —
 - (a) across the state; and
 - (b) in the south west region?
- (2) How much has the government provided to the Keep Australia Beautiful Council to engage people in roadside litter pick up?
- (3) How many hours are undertaken by volunteers to clear litter on roadside verges and how many volunteers do this work?
- (4) How many fines have been issued in connection with roadside littering in the past five years?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Main Roads’ roadside litter clean-up expenditure information is collected under a broader category of roadside and miscellaneous costs.
 - (a) The total spend for roadside and miscellaneous costs are: \$3.75 million in 2014–15; \$3.49 million in 2015–16; \$3.7 million in 2016–17; \$3.13 million in 2017–18; and \$2.36 million in 2018–19.
 - (b) The roadside and miscellaneous spend in the south west region is: \$560 000 in 2014–15; \$590 000 in 2015–16; \$580 000 in 2016–17; \$61 000 in 2017–18; and \$61 000 in 2018–19.
- (2) In 2019–20, the state government provided \$861 000 to the Keep Australia Beautiful Council through the waste avoidance and resource recovery account, and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation gave a grant of \$112 000 for a range of education and engagement programs on litter prevention and mitigation, including roadside pick-ups. The Keep Australia Beautiful Council also retains litter infringement fines, which totalled \$375 000.
- (3) The Keep Australia Beautiful Council has had 35 000 registered volunteers in the adopt-a-spot program since 2009. During 2019–20, 871.78 volunteer hours were undertaken.
- (4) Between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2019, 9 351 infringement notices for roadside littering were issued.