

WASTE LEVY

**227. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:**

By way of explanation, this is a question from 13 May. I do not know whether the minister has it; it is C127. I refer to the Minister for Environment's answer to my question on 12 May, about her department's responsiveness to one specific credible warning from industry that waste "levy avoidance in the C&D sector here in WA is largescale, systemic, organized and long standing". What intelligence gaps, or organisational, resourcing, or legal obstacles have thwarted the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's capacity to secure evidence of illegal waste dumping at a threshold "beyond reasonable doubt" to initiate prosecutions?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. This information is current as of 13 May 2021. The *Closing the loop: Waste reforms for a circular economy* consultation paper, released in 2020, acknowledges the need for additional compliance and enforcement measures under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 to minimise illegal waste activities. These measures focus on waste disposal at unlicensed premises, new chief executive officer powers to investigate illegal operations, and requiring the installation of GPS tracking systems to transport waste in vehicles. The state government will continue to develop a package of waste reforms, giving careful consideration to stakeholder feedback received as part of multiple waste reform consultation processes.