

ENVIRONMENT — WASTE LEVY

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

I refer to the minister's answer of 2 June to my question on notice concerning the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's responses to accusations of systemic waste levy avoidance.

- (1) Of the 39 complaints or suspicions raised with DWER between 2017 and 2021, how many resulted in —
- (a) investigations undertaken by DWER solely or jointly with other law enforcement agencies;
 - (b) enforcement actions undertaken in accordance with DWER's compliance and enforcement policy; or
 - (c) successful prosecutions?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

- (1) (a) Each of the 39 complaints or suspicions raised were investigated either independently by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation or jointly with other law enforcement agencies.
- (b)–(c) No offences have been identified to date as a result of these suspicions. However, some investigations are ongoing. Given the complex nature of waste levy avoidance, the department is currently undertaking consultation and development of significant reforms into the waste management sector and waste-derived materials.