

ASBESTOS — LANDFILL

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

- (1) In the last 12 months —
  - (a) how much asbestos sheeting was dumped in bushland and other sites in the metropolitan area;
  - (b) how much asbestos sheeting was accepted by landfill sites charging the landfill levy;
  - (c) how much did the government collect in landfill levy from asbestos sheeting deposited at landfill sites;
  - (d) how much soil contaminated with asbestos-containing materials was accepted by landfill sites charging the landfill levy; and
  - (e) how much did the government collect in landfill levy from soils contaminated with asbestos-containing materials deposited at landfill sites?
- (2) How much will the transitional program covering the cost of levies on waste asbestos sheeting cost in 2013?
- (3) Is the minister aware of any stockpiles of soil contaminated with asbestos-containing materials in the metropolitan area; and, if so, how much contaminated soil is stockpiled and what plans exist for its safe disposal?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
  - (a) No data is available on the quantities of asbestos that have been illegally dumped. The minister acknowledges that illegal dumping is a concern and this is why the government has recently increased fines for illegal dumping.
  - (b) Landfill operators have reported that 19 355 tonnes of asbestos waste, including sheeting, was accepted by metropolitan landfill sites from 1 January to 31 December 2011.
  - (c) The landfill levy collected during this period for asbestos waste as reported by the landfill operators was \$273 021.
  - (d)–(e) The answers are not available in the time required and I request that the honourable member place the question on notice.
- (2) An amount of up to \$273 021 has been allocated to the asbestos levy subsidy scheme in 2013 to accept asbestos products, not including asbestos-contaminated soils.
- (3) Approximately 3 000 cubic metres of a mixture of soil and crushed construction and demolition waste, which may be contaminated with asbestos-containing material, is stockpiled at a property in Bullsbrook, and approximately 4 800 cubic metres of soil contaminated with ACM is stockpiled at a property in Upper Swan. The Department of Environment and Conservation has issued environmental field notices and advice to both properties requiring interim management of the stockpiles while management plans for the safe removal of stockpiles to approved facilities are developed.