

DIVISION 70: ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION —

[Supplementary Information No A31.]

Question: Mr M. McGowan requested information on the number of prosecutions and successful convictions for illegal dumping over the past four years.

Answer: There is currently no offence of ‘illegal dumping’. The term ‘illegal dumping’ is a colloquial phrase used to identify the more serious or large-scale littering offences.

The substantive offence is littering under the *Litter Act* 1974, however where an offence involves littering and there is a discharge into the environment or similar, an offence of unauthorized discharge under the *Environmental Protection Act* 1986 or other relevant section is usually considered.

In the last four years there have been two prosecutions for acts of littering:

- 1 In 2005 a man dumped up to 15 disused 200 litre oil drums and other rubbish in two bush locations at Toodyay and Beechina. The man was prosecuted for a breach of the Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 and convicted. He was fined \$3,000 and ordered to pay \$500 court costs and \$6,028 clean up costs.
- 2 In 2007 a man was filmed by shop security cameras dumping 200 litres of disused cooking oil into the drain behind a shop located in Quinns Rocks. The man was prosecuted for littering under the *Litter Act* but was acquitted. The magistrate accepted the prosecution facts as presented, however found there existed a state of emergency excusing the man’s actions.

There are currently three additional prosecutions pending.

In addition to these prosecutions the Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) administers the litter reporters program and coordinates two dedicated litter investigators. The two strategies have resulted in the following numbers of litter infringements being issued:

2005/06	3173
2006/07	3477
2007/08	4313
2008/09	3241 (year to date)

New legislation will be introduced to significantly increase penalties for illegal dumping of waste in Western Australia. A new offence of illegal dumping will be created under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 with fines of up to \$62,500 for an individual or \$125,000 for a body corporate.

[Supplementary Information No A32.]

Question: Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan asked: A net increase in FTEs. I ask by way of supplementary information for a list of expected revenues to the department, which the director general said he was expecting. Can the minister provide by way of supplementary information just what those increase revenues are that the department is expecting? Obviously the appropriation from the consolidated account is less. I would like to see the contrast in each of these grant fundings or income fundings, what was budgeted for in 2008-09 and what the department is budgeting for in 2009-10?

Answer: Details of budgeted revenues for 2008-09 and 2009-10 for the Department of Environment and Conservation are as follows:

	Budget 2008-09 \$	Budget 2009-10 \$
Landfill levy fees	14,000,000	57,500,000
State Government and private grants, eg. natural resource management grants	15,000,000	16,400,000
Pollution licences and permits	13,636,000	14,765,000
Recreation income, eg. national park entrance and camping fees	10,259,000	11,304,000
Recoupable project work provided to external parties	8,480,000	10,558,000
Commonwealth grants, eg. Caring for our Country	8,500,000	8,600,000
Mining compensation	4,000,000	5,000,000
Bank account interest	2,698,000	3,708,000
Recoup for services provided to the Forest Products Commission	2,700,000	2,700,000
Waste licences	1,448,000	2,070,000

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Mr Mark McGowan; Ms Alannah MacTiernan; Mr David Templeman

Fees collected for apiary sites, forest leases, communications sites, wildlife fees	1,500,000	1,600,000
Employee housing rents	600,000	700,000
Sale of goods, eg. publications	1,090,000	600,000
TOTAL	\$83,911,000	\$135,505,000

[Supplementary Information No A33.]

Question: Mr D.A. Templeman asked whether the Peel Waterways Centre in Sholl Street, Mandurah would close due to the cessation of funding from the department.

Answer: DEC is not a party to the lease of the building at Sholl Street, Mandurah. The Department of Water is the anchor tenant for the lease in conjunction with the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council. Any further questions in relation to the future of the Peel Waterways Centre in Mandurah should be directed to the Minister for Water.