

WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING FACILITIES — COMMON-USE AGREEMENT

575. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Finance:

I refer to common-use agreement 36309 for general waste disposal and recycling services.

- (1) What is the total amount of waste generated by Western Australian public authorities and collected under CUA 36309?
- (2) What are the rates charged by the contractors listed in the CUA for a recycling service?
- (3) What are the rates charged by the contractors listed in the common-use agreement for a service that disposes to landfill?
- (4) Apart from these rate differences, what incentive is provided by the CUA to divert waste from landfill?
- (5) How much of the waste collected under the CUA is currently diverted from landfill?
- (6) Does the CUA require contracted suppliers to collect and dispose of waste at a flat bin-lift fee, with any increased disposal costs to be borne by the contractor?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

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

- (1) CUA data records expenditure on waste collected; it does not record volume or weight. The turnover between 1 July 2011 and 31 March 2012—that is nine months—was \$6 125 231. Data reports on the April to July 2012 quarter have not as yet been received from the contractors.
- (2)–(3) Rates charged by the contractors listed in the common-use arrangement are available in the buyers' guide published on the Contracts WA website. As an aside, as a courtesy to the member I would normally table a document in answer to that part of the question, if such were available, and not tell her to look at some website. I understand the construction of this one means it is not easy to download a hard copy. No discourtesy is intended to the member.
- (4) The waste CUA 36309 buyers' guide promotes and encourages agencies to divert waste from landfill.
- (5) CUA does not record data on volume or weight.
- (6) Yes. The CUA rates are based on a flat bin-lift fee. Increased disposal costs are not borne by the contractor because increases in tipping fees—due to increases in landfill gate prices, taxes and levies—form a component of the annual CUA price variation mechanism.

The PRESIDENT: I hope members understand the importance of the issue Hon Simon O'Brien raised. If somebody referring to *Hansard* at some future date just sees that website and goes to it, the information on the website at that time might be completely different from what it is today. That is the real issue involved with that.