

## Estimates Committee 2012

### Questions Taken On Notice

( 12/06/2012 to 21/06/2012 )

Date: 19/06/2012

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: Weight of plastic bag tonnage prior to introduction of plastic bag legislation

**From:** Mr Peter Chandler to Mr Karl Hampton  
Natural Resources Environment and Heritage

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**7-17**

**Question:** Minister, what was the tonnage, the actual weight, of single-use plastic bags going to landfill prior to the introduction of the plastic bag legislation?

**Answer:**

Answered On: 19/07/2012

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

Date: 19 June 2012 Output: Environment and Heritage  
Sub Output: Environment and Sustainability

Subject: Cash for Containers

From: Minister Hampton To: Member for Brennan

Department: Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport

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**Number: 7.17**

**Question: What was the tonnage / weight of plastic bags that went into landfill prior to the legislation?**

**Answer:**

Tonnage of plastic bags going to landfill is not currently measured in the Northern Territory and has not been in the past.

Based on 2007 national figures, approximately 40 million plastic bags were consumed in the Northern Territory annually (the Territory accounts for 1.03% national population).

Given one bag weighs approximately 6 grams, this equates to around 240 tonnes of plastic bags annually in the NT.

Since the NT Government banned all single use lite-weight plastic bags in September 2011, their presence in landfill has ceased, with the exception of any previously stockpiled bags used as kitchen rubbish bags.