

Estimates Committee 2012
Questions Taken On Notice

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

Date: 19/06/2012 Output:
Sub Output:
Subject: Actual weight today of plastic bags going to landfills

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

7-18
Question: Both. Minister, what is the actual weight of plastic bags, or numbers of plastic bags, going to landfills today?

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

Number: 7.18

Question: What is the tonnage / weight of plastic bags or number of plastic bags that go into landfill today?

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.