

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 - PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT WASTE  
AVOIDANCE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY AMENDMENT (PLASTICS REDUCTION) BILL  
2021- HEARING TUESDAY 1 JUNE.

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

The CHAIR: I just want to get clarification from you, Mr McAlister, in relation to e-waste. I think you mentioned computers and TVs now being— Mr McALISTER: Collected and recycled? The CHAIR: But not many, according to how many are actually in the marketplace. Do you have an idea of the percentage that actually is collected and recycled? Mr McALISTER: No. I have to take that **on notice**, I am afraid. I understand the targets that the Commonwealth set are being met. The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Chair, can I ask a follow-up to that? The CHAIR: Yes. The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: It is about e-waste. The CHAIR: So is this. Jump in in a sec because what I have in front of me—I have heard that e-waste is a growing problem and so I needed to do some research because what you said surprised me. I wonder if you could just take **on notice** the figures on what you can find from the Government on that.

The CHAIR: In front of me I have the Global E-Waste Monitor 2020 report that says that 88.8 per cent of the four million computers and three million TVs purchased in Australia every year will end up in landfill. You seem to have one very successful figure in your head, and I have one that does not look so right. Mr McALISTER: No, I do not agree with that figure, but I can definitely take that **on notice**.

**RESPONSE**

In response to the Question on Notice, I have contacted the Federal Department of Environment and obtained the following figures on the collection and recycling statistics of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NCRS).

In 2019-20 the **scheme target** for the NCRS was 66% of waste arising from televisions, computers, printers, and computer parts or peripherals (it is 68% for this year). **The scheme target for 2019-20 was achieved.**

**Waste arising** is calculated in accordance with regulation 3.04 of the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011. A summary of this regulation is below:

- a. identify the total converted weight of all televisions, computers or printers, and computer parts or peripherals imported or manufactured in the last 3 financial years
  - for example, a LCD screen of less than 35cm has a conversion weight of 2.5kgs while an LCD screen of screen size 150 cm or more has a conversion weight of 29.7kgs
- b. work out the annual total average converted weight of all computer parts and peripherals imported or manufactured by dividing the result of paragraph (a) by 3

- c. multiply the result of paragraph (b) by 0.9 for televisions, 0.72 for computers, 0.71 for printers, and 0.88 for computer parts and peripherals.

The NTCRS Scheme does not cover all types of e-waste. The Department is considering extending the Scheme to include other forms of e-waste in addition to televisions, computers, printers and peripherals. E-waste not covered by an existing product stewardship scheme would be recycled at a lower rate than what the NTCRS achieves.