

Parliamentary Committee no. 7 – Planning and Environment

WASTE AVOIDANCE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY AMENDMENT (PLASTICS REDUCTION) BILL 2021

Responses to Questions on Notice

Justin Koek, Director, Circular Economy Policy and Markets

QUESTION	RESPONSE
The CHAIR: Is there any formal dialogue between your agencies and health authorities and universities on this subject? Is there any formal forum for those discussions to be aired and analysed?	As part of the NSW Plastics Action Plan, the NSW Government will be establishing a new \$2 million Plastics Research Partnership. This will provide support for research and collaboration on the impacts of plastics on human health and the environment.
The CHAIR: With respect, I am aware that you would do a lot of research in this space and it is your area of expertise. I am not after an endorsement, if you like, of anything here, recognising that you are a public servant. Are there other jurisdictions that have done similar things in relation to mandating the phase-out of plastic cotton buds, for example?	I would refer the Committee to the respective announcements from each State and Territory and the Commonwealth regarding those jurisdictions' plans for single-use plastic phase outs.
The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: So that environment MinCo is really the place that that is all happening? Is there anywhere else that is happening in a parallel process? There are all those MinCos on standards and all of that sort of stuff, where a lot of this stuff falls into. Does that get picked up?	The Environment Ministers Meeting considers a range of issues relating to harmonised national approaches to waste and resource recovery. This is informed by work from officials and industry stakeholders.