



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 666 {NW739E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 6 of 2023

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Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:


What has she found to be the reasons that illegal dumping is flourishing, despite the existence of Green Scorpions to enforce legislation?

666. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

There are multiple reasons for the challenges around illegal dumping of waste, including the lack of effective waste and refuse removal services in many municipalities, limited numbers of accessible and legally authorised general waste sites, expanding populations within specific areas, a desire to avoid the costs of dumping waste at a legal site, and limited capacity to monitor compliance and enforce municipal by-laws and provincial and national legislation related to waste management. While compliance and enforcement related to aspects of waste management fall within the mandate of the Environmental Management Inspectorate (Green Scorpions), these officials are also required to address all other environmental compliance and enforcement matters.

Although there have been compliance and enforcement blitzes to address illegal dumping in certain areas, which have also included provincial and national Environmental Management Inspectors, illegal dumping needs to be addressed primarily at a local level, which requires the effective enforcement of

municipal by-laws and provisions of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) that municipal officials are designated to enforce. With limited capacity and the nature of this crime, the Green Scorpions encourage members of the public to be a part of the solution to this challenge and report illegal dumping.


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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 15/3/2023