



Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Hearing date: 13/02/2026

Question taken on notice

Directed to: Sam Sampanthar, Knox City Council

Received date: [office use only]

1. P.20 Moira Deeming

Question: - We have had problems with recycling solar panels and wind turbines, and obviously batteries are going to be an issue - in Victoria we really lack the skilled workforce and also the infrastructure and the facilities that would be able to, at scale, do this kind of recycling, even though overseas in Europe and in some places in China they are doing quite well. I was just wondering: has that been thought about or is that part of the discussions? Are there any developments there?

Sam SAMPANTHAR: I think it is probably more the opportunities in repurposing the battery into other uses. In terms of the support I think, yes, definitely there are skills and capability that need to be built up. I do not think we will see the quantum and the numbers of batteries that are at that end-of-life stage for many more years yet, but it is worth being on top of that before it actually becomes an issue.

Moira DEEMING: And they are very, very difficult and sometimes dangerous batteries, in terms of even just as waste. So if we are going to have such a big scale of them, I would love to know that we are planning well for the end-of-life cycle - my time is up so I am happy to take it on notice.

Response: While Council's *Waste and Resource Strategy* supports our community move towards a circular economy by avoiding waste and maximising resource recovery, it doesn't specifically focus on EV batteries. The question about how well we are planning for the end-of-life cycle of EV Batteries be better directed to the relevant State and Federal agencies as well as the EV manufacturers.