

Question on Notice

No. 1155

Asked on Thursday 6 September 2018

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how many vessels have been reprimanded by the Gold Coast Waterways Authority for overstaying or breaching buoy mooring, anchoring compliance or oil pollution on the Broadwater for the last five years (reported separately by year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bonney for the question.

Gold Coast Waterways Authority (GCWA) administers buoy moorings under the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994*, monitors compliance with anchoring restrictions for Gold Coast regulated waters under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*, and provides a first-strike oil spill response capability for vessel-sourced marine pollution under the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995*.

For buoy moorings, GCWA's compliance response is confined to administrative action, such as 'show cause' action to cancel buoy mooring authorities, directions to remove buoy moorings from the water, or caution letters to authority holders. During the past five financial years, GCWA commenced show cause action against five buoy mooring authorities, gave one removal direction and issued 46 cautions.

Action	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Caution letter	9	10	11	4	12
Show cause action	0	0	0	3	2
Direction to remove	0	0	0	0	1

I am advised that complete statistics for GCWA's anchoring compliance work are available from January 2016. Like buoy moorings, GCWA's compliance response is confined to administrative action to ensure compliance with anchoring requirements. In this respect, from January 2016 to July 2018, GCWA issued 200 removal notices and physically removed and disposed of 14 vessels.

Action	Jan 2016 - Jun 16	2016-17	2017-18
Removal notice	29	40	131
Removed and disposed	7	1	6

GCWA's response to vessel-sourced marine pollution is confined to incident response, primarily the deployment of first-strike pollution response equipment. In this respect, during the past five financial years, GCWA provided the first-strike, clean-up response for 175 pollution incidents in Gold Coast waters.

Action	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
First-strike clean-up response	30	32	43	29	41

Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) uses a range of compliance tools to protect Queensland's marine and coastal environment from deliberate and negligent discharges of ship-sourced pollutants into coastal waters. Where owners or masters of ships do not comply with the requirements of the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995*, MSQ applies enforcement actions including non-compliance inspection notices, Authorised Officer notices, marine infringement notices and prosecution.

In relation to enforcement of the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995* on the Broadwater, in the past five calendar years, I can advise MSQ has taken the following actions.

Action	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Non-compliance inspection notices	2	5	3	6	4
Authorised Officer notices	10	17	12	10	9
Marine Infringement notices	1	3	1	2	3
Prosecuted owners of ships greater than 15 metres for failing to have the required pollution discharge and salvage insurance				2	2*

* Two additional matters related to pollution discharge and salvage insurance are pending prosecution action.