

Question on Notice

No. 305

Asked on 26 March 2019

MR T MANDER ASKED DEPUTY PREMIER, TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS (HON J TRAD)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) and paying off debt—

Will the Treasurer advise for each financial year from 2013-14 to 2017-18 in order to pay off a SPER debt (a) in how many real estate properties SPER has a registered interest, (b) how many vehicles have been seized and (c) the total value of items seized by SPER?

ANSWER:

The State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) may take a range of enforcement actions where individuals or companies do not act to resolve their unpaid penalty debt, including suspending driver licences, garnishing bank accounts and wages, registering interests over property, immobilising vehicles, and seizing and selling property.

No vehicles or other property were seized in the 2013-14 and 2014-15 financial years under the former LNP government to help manage SPER debt. SPER commenced a vehicle immobilisation, seizure and sale program in south east Queensland on 30 May 2016 to target debtors who continue to accrue fines and do not pay their debts.

Table 1 below provides details on SPER's use of the registration of an interest in real property and seizure of vehicle enforcement actions, for each of the years in the period 2013-14 to 2017-18.

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Number of real estate properties against which an interest was registered	148	128	70	70	110
Number of vehicles seized	-	-	13	43	68

The number of vehicles seized in Table 1 includes vehicles that were seized and subsequently sold by SPER after the seizure period expired due to the owner not making arrangements to discharge their debt, as well as seized vehicles that were subsequently returned to their owner, due to the owner paying their SPER debt in full or entering into a payment arrangement to discharge their SPER debt.

SPER does not value all vehicles or other items that are seized, this is only determined if the item is sold.