



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Ms Leanne Castley MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
21 October 2021

Asked by Ms Castley on 21 October 2021: Mr Rattenbury took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to:

MS CASTLEY: Thank you, chair. And listen, my question is about the zero emissions vehicles for government. Now in the budget, you outline an objective to support agencies transitioning to zero emissions vehicles—I know you touched on it earlier—by all new leases being zero emissions vehicles where fit for purpose. So can I ask, how many vehicles have been bought by the ACT government since 2019 that are not zero emissions?

Mr Rattenbury: Yes. While my colleagues help me find the numbers on that, Ms Castley, the purpose of that policy was that when we started the transition in 2019 there were some types of vehicles that were simply not available as zero emission vehicles and some that, for example, you know, the fire trucks that would go up to the top of Namadgi may not be suitable for use as a zero emission vehicle or some of the vehicles the rangers drive, certainly at that point, from an availability point of view. So that is the reason that that caveat is in the policy.

And what we were really wanting to do in that first instance was target what you might call the low hanging fruit, the easy changeover, the passenger sedans that are travelling around the city with Education Directorate staff or community nurses. So that is the policy rationale. I am not sure if we will have the numbers today or whether we will have to take that on notice, but Mr Rutledge or Mr McGlynn?

Minister Rattenbury: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Since the beginning of financial year 2019-20, ACT Government has leased 87 passenger vehicles with internal combustion engines (ICE). Of these 87 vehicles, 59 use petrol and 28 use diesel.

In that same time period, 158 zero emissions vehicles have entered the fleet.

Of the 87 ICE vehicles, 48 were leased in 2019-20, 36 were leased in 2020-21 and 3 have been leased in the current financial year. The vehicles leased after 2019-20 were leased because there was no fit for purpose zero emissions vehicle option available. The number of ICE vehicles leased will continue to decline as more models become available and as we continue to work with directorates to find zero emissions solutions.

The commitment in the Zero Emissions Vehicles Action Plan was for 50% of new vehicle leases to be zero emissions vehicles in 2019-20, then 100% in all following years, where fit for purpose. This commitment was met in 2019-20, with 57% of newly leased vehicles being zero emissions in that year.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized name.

Date: 1/11/21

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Minister Rattenbury