



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QToN No. 12

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA (Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA
(Deputy Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Member)

Inquiry into Auditor - General's Performance Audit Reports January - June
2023

Question Taken on Notice (Committee)

Asked by: Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Reference: UPT pp 10-12

Hearing date: 09/11/2023

In relation to: AG Performance audit report 4/2023 and Hybrid fire truck and extra features

Question Lodgement Date: 09/11/2023

THE CHAIR: Also, just one final question. The basic unit—you probably need to take this on notice. What other functions did you have to pay extra for the hybrid fire truck?

Mr Gentleman: There were no other costs in regard to the—

THE CHAIR: It was just the basic unit?

Mr Gentleman: No, it is not basic at all. It is quite revolutionary compared to normal urban pumpers, so it has a lot of—

THE CHAIR: Sorry, minister, I am going by the Auditor General's report on page 9. 1.463 is the basic unit, and then my understanding is you can add more sophisticated features onto the truck.

Mr Phillips: Correct.

THE CHAIR: I am just saying were there additional features added to the hybrid truck?

Mr Phillips: I will take that on notice as well.

Ms Barrett: What I can say is that the pumper was fitted as any other pumper would be for operational, so any supplementary equipment that goes onto a pumper is on this particular pumper as well, so it is a fully operational capability once it is all approved to go operational.

THE CHAIR: Can you please take it on notice if there was extra?

Ms Barrett: Yes.

Ms Barrett: Can I come back to your question around the breakdown of costings. The audit report where it outlines at 1.14 the breakdown that is provided there—would you like clarification that that was the final costings?

THE CHAIR: Yes, including the duty, the training and the delivery.

Ms Barrett: Yes.

THE CHAIR: And maintenance.

Ms Barrett: Maintenance will be funded through our operational costs of maintaining our fleet.

THE CHAIR: Okay, so it will all be in one?

Ms Barrett: We maintain our fleet predominantly in-house, and we run an operational budget to do so, so recurrent funding to maintain maintenance. Getting a breakdown of the maintenance cost per vehicle can be quite difficult.

THE CHAIR: It is also quite different on its own, being electric hybrid.

Ms Barrett: Yes, it absolutely is.

THE CHAIR: So it would have a different kind of maintenance.

Ms Barrett: It will have different types of maintenance, but there will be other maintenance such as tyres, et cetera, that would fall into existing contract arrangements, so they would be hard to break out to give you an exact figure of maintenance.

THE CHAIR: Could you try, please?


Ms Barrett: Happy to take that on notice.

Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The additional features on the Hybrid Electric Fire Truck include drone capability, positive pressure cab filter, electric ladder gantry, and inventory items.

As indicated at the hearing, at this point the maintenance costs cannot be calculated accurately, as some costs will be covered under the Warranty of the vehicle, while others will be managed through existing vehicle management arrangements for the ESA fleet.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: 

Date: 26/11/2023

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Mick Gentleman MLA