



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by: Mr Mark Parton MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Transport

Redirection:

Reference: Budget Statement H

Hearing Date: 5/8/2024

In relation to: Transport Canberra Bus Fleet and Current Fleet Status

QON lodgement Date: 6/8/2024

Answer Due date: 8/8/2024

- 1) Concerning the Custom Denning Element 2, these buses were delivered to Transport Canberra back in October of last year. According to ACTBUS.net, these buses only entered in June. Why did it take 8 months to enter service when the average entry into service time for a new bus type is 57.2 Days?
 - a. Were the Custom Denning buses returned to Custom in Sydney for any modification works? If so, what was the nature of these modifications and are they reflected in the budget?
- 2) How many electric buses were in service on the 30th of June 2024?
 - a. What is the breakdown of electric buses in service by manufacturer?
- 3) Minister, what is the in-service reliability of the Yutong fleet?
 - a. Have any services had to be cancelled because of an unserviceable vehicle?
 - b. Have any services been cancelled mid-run due to a vehicle developing a fault or exhausting their battery range?
- 4) What is the current number of buses in service with Transport Canberra, broken down by model?

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) The Custom Denning Element II buses required modification works which prevented them from entering service following their initial delivery to Canberra.
 - a. All four Custom Denning Battery Electric Buses delivered were taken back to the factory in Sydney for modification works. The nature of the works performed varied from vehicle to vehicle which included body, chassis and electrical modification and rectification works required for the vehicles to meet Transport Canberra contractual conditions and vehicle acceptance criteria. These rectification works

were carried out at the expense of the vehicle supplier with no contract payments made until the vehicles were formally accepted by Transport Canberra.

- 2) As at 30 June 2024 Transport Canberra had a total of 23 battery electric vehicles in-service.
 - a. The in-service fleet consisted of 19 Yutong E12 electric and 4 Custom Denning Element II vehicles.
- 3) Yutong buses have been extremely reliable.
 - a. No services have been recorded as being cancelled due to an unserviceable vehicle.
 - b. A small number (less than 10) of shifts (group of services delivered consecutively by one bus and driver) have been recorded as not completed due to a Yutong battery electric vehicle developing a fault.
- 4) As at 30 June 2024 Transport Canberra recorded a total in service fleet of 447 vehicles. The reduction in the total in service fleet, as at 30 June 2024, is primarily due to the accelerated retirement of several Renault PR100.2 buses.

The number of in service buses on any particular day is variable dependent on factors, such as scheduled maintenance, repairs or vehicle incidents. The bus fleet is scheduled to return to over 450 vehicles with the delivery of the Yutong Y12 buses this month. There has been no impact to bus network services.

Fleet by Model as at 30 June 2024

Hino Poncho Diesel	2
Renault PR100.2 Diesel	3
Custom Denning electric	4
Yutong electric	19
Irisbus Diesel	18
MAN CNG	16
Scania CNG	44
MAN Diesel	89
Scania Euro 6 Diesel	182
Scania Euro 6 Articulated Diesel	11
Scania Articulated Diesel	33
Scania Steer Tag Diesel	26
Total	447

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date:

8/8/24

By the Minister for Transport, Chris Steel MLA

