



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Damian Cantwell AM CSC – ACT Electoral Commissioner

Redirected to:

Reference: Emissions reporting

Hearing: 10/11/2025

In relation to: Data for emissions reporting by Elections ACT

Question received: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

The Annual report of Elections ACT indicates that it is unable to produce an estimate of emissions because it was lacking information on the fuel efficiency of individual vehicles. However, emissions could also be calculated, and in fact calculated more directly and accurately, based on the quantity of fuel purchased for use.

Did Elections ACT keep receipts or similar evidence showing the quantity of fuel purchased during 2024-25? If not, why not?

Mr Cantwell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Elections ACT hired a total of 17 vehicles during the 2024–25 reporting period.

Of these, five vehicles were hired through the ACT Government Corporate Travel Management (CTM) team and one vehicle through SG Fleet. Fuel cards were provided for these vehicles, and fuel costs were charged through monthly invoicing to the Elections ACT AMEX and SG accounts. Staff did not retain individual fuel purchase receipts because fuel transactions were processed via these consolidated invoices. Unfortunately, the invoices did not include detailed information such as the quantity of fuel purchased for each vehicle. These gaps in invoicing were not identified at the time of hire and only became apparent during the Annual Reporting process when collating Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) data.

Some staff submitted fuel receipts; however, these receipts did not include details identifying the specific vehicle to which they related. As a result, it was not possible to match receipts or fuel consumption to individual vehicles during the peak election period.

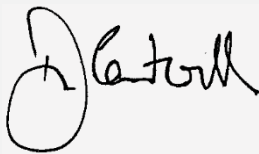
OFFICIAL

The remaining 11 vehicles were hired for short-term, high-demand periods and did not require separate fuel purchases during their hire. Fuel charges were applied upon vehicle return; however, the invoices only list the total fuel cost without specifying the number of litres consumed per vehicle. Again, these gaps in invoicing were not identified until the Annual Reporting process.

In the absence of data on the quantity of fuel purchased, Elections ACT considered estimating fuel usage by converting kilometres travelled into litres. This method requires knowing each vehicle's fuel consumption rate, which depends on details such as make, model, year, and type (e.g., hybrid, cylinder count). Unfortunately, this information was not available for all vehicles, so the Commission was unable to calculate accurate fuel usage. A note was included in the Annual Report to explain the lack of available data.

To address this administrative gap, Elections ACT will implement improved practices for future elections to ensure all staff retain and submit fuel receipts for each vehicle hired. Additionally, fuel usage will be recorded and tracked in real time to meet ESD reporting obligations.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office Holders



Signature:

Date: 25 November 2025

By the ACT Electoral Commissioner, Mr Damian Cantwell AM CSC