



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Attorney-General

Reference: Zero Emissions Government Framework - JACS emissions reduction targets - Justice and Community Safety Directorate

Hearing: 20 November 2025

In relation to: Zero Emissions Government Framework - JACS emissions reduction targets

Question received: 22/11/2025

Answer Due: 04/12/2025

Under the Zero Emissions Government Framework, ACTPS entities have a target of 33% emissions reduction on 2020 levels. How do the Justice and Community Safety Directorate's reported emissions for 2024-25 compare to this target?

MS TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Under the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019–25 and the Zero Emissions Government Framework, the ACT Government has committed to reducing emissions by 33% by 2025 and achieving zero emissions by 2040.

To support these objectives – and considering the specific operational circumstances of the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) – the directorate worked with the former Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (now City and Environment Directorate) to set a lower target of 13% emissions reduction from 2020 emissions levels by 2025. The target included a focus on phasing out natural gas and transport fuels as the ACT transitions its asset portfolio to electric systems powered by 100% renewable energy.

JACS has achieved a 3.4% reduction on 2020 emission levels as at 30 June 2025. Although the 13% target has not yet been met, emissions have begun to decline indicating that the downward trend is underway and the benefits of JACS's emissions initiatives are starting to materialise.

The main constraints to achieving the target have been:

- technology readiness (especially for heavy vehicles)
- high upfront costs

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- limited market options in some circumstances
- the need to maintain critical services during upgrades
- the complexity of coordinating large-scale change across multiple sites and a mix of stakeholders that include the very vulnerable.

The age and lack of capacity of electrical infrastructure in Emergency Services Agency (ESA) buildings also impacted delivery of EV charging infrastructure. In many cases electrical infrastructure would require costly upgrades before any installation work could progress.

Despite the challenges in meeting emissions reduction targets, JACS has undertaken emission reduction efforts such as the nationally significant trial of low-emission emergency services vehicles and progress toward electrifying major existing facilities. For example:

- **Fleet Transition:** ESA continues transitioning emergency response and support vehicles to low and zero-emission models, including full electric and plug-in hybrids. The first electric breathing apparatus truck is set to enter service, supported by ongoing rollout of fast-charging infrastructure across ACT Fire and Rescue and ESA sites.
- **New Sustainable Stations:**
 - **Acton Station:** Construction complete. Features include 180 solar panels (142 MWh/year), EV charging, and energy-efficient design to support a fully electric fleet.
 - **Molonglo Station:** Under construction, targeting 5 Star Green Star rating. Sustainability measures include using recycled materials for construction, 90% construction waste reduction, 20% lower upfront carbon emissions, 300kW solar array, and no gas connection—aligned with ACT’s net zero by 2045.
 - **Casey Station:** In design phase, aiming for 5–6 Star Green Star rating. Focus areas include passive design, renewable energy, water efficiency, biodiversity protection, climate resilience, and integrated EV and battery infrastructure.
 - **Woden Police Station Upgrade:** Electrification completed with heat pump HVAC, 70kW solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, upgraded insulation, and efficient hot water systems to enhance energy performance.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature

By the Attorney-General, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA



Date:

8/12/25