

Climate Action

Questions on Notice

Question 1

Bev McARTHUR: Thank you. Minister, can you provide an exact figure for how much the government's zero emissions vehicle uptake targets will reduce Victoria's emissions per year?

Lily D'AMBROSIO: I think you are talking about the number of vehicles that we committed as a government to as part of the government fleet – is that correct?

Bev McARTHUR: Yes.

Lily D'AMBROSIO: Well, with the government's passenger fleet, we made a commitment to deliver 400 ZEVs. That has been met. This will contribute some savings on emissions of course. One of the key drivers of the government actually going to ZEVs amongst its own vehicle fleet is to help kick off and accelerate a second-hand market. When you think about a government fleet or any other fleet, those cars typically churn and go into the second-hand market much sooner than if you or I as a private citizen went to buy a car, which can be on the road in private ownership for maybe 10 or 15 years. With fleets, of course the turnover is far more frequent, and that helps to get more cars in. In terms of an actual emissions reduction figure, I will not have that to hand, but I would be happy to provide that if it is available out of this session.

Answer:

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action estimates that the program to deliver 400 zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) to the Victorian government fleet will deliver direct emissions reductions of 0.65 kilotonnes of CO₂-equivalent per year. This estimate is likely to grow over time as these vehicles circulate in the second-hand market.

It should be noted this program was intended as a pilot to inform the longer-term transition of the fleet to ZEVs. Transitioning the government fleet to ZEVs provides critical leadership while community uptake of the technology remains in its early stages. It increases visibility and familiarity of ZEVs on our streets and provides a steady stream of ZEVs into the second-hand market.