

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Public Transport
Witness:	The Hon Ben Carroll MP
Committee Member:	Mr David Limbrick
Pages of transcript:	13 & 14

Question:

All new buses from 2025 are going to be electric, but I have two questions. Number one: in the meantime, how many electric buses will be on the road, in addition to the ones currently, between now and 2025? And secondly, is the proposal for all new buses after 2025 a proactive strategy or is that simply, 'As buses retire, we'll replace them with electric?'

Answer:

Currently there is one electric and 50 hybrid buses operating across the metropolitan and regional bus network, with an additional electric bus scheduled to go into service later this year.

These buses are in addition to the zero emission technology buses, which may include electric and hydrogen, that will be trialled on the network over the next three years as part of the State's \$20m Zero Emission Bus Technology Trial (ZEB EOI). As the ZEB EOI is currently in evaluation, the number of zero emission buses to be delivered as part of that trial is yet to be finalised.

All new buses from 2025 are required to be ZEB, that is, technology agnostic and most likely battery electric or hydrogen. The State's strategy for ZEBs will be informed through the outcomes of the ZEB trials and operation of current low and zero emission buses on the network. A sustainable fleet procurement approach to achieve the 2025 target and beyond will require close collaboration between the State and bus operators, manufacturers, utilities and other industry stakeholders. The ZEB trials provide an opportunity for industry and the State to understand and test the key aspects necessary to transition to ZEB including fleet, depot, infrastructure, energy and operating models.