

Minister for Business, Industry and Resources  
Minister for Transport  
Leader of the House

Level 10, Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, Hobart  
GPO Box 123, Hobart TAS 7001  
Phone: 03 6165 9405 | Email: [minister.abetz@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:minister.abetz@dpac.tas.gov.au)



Ms Meg Brown MP  
Member for Franklin  
Email [laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au)

15 NOV 2024

Dear Ms Brown

Thank you for your constituent question asked on 17 October 2024 in Parliament, regarding Metro Tasmania's Zero Emission Bus Trial.

The Tasmanian Government has allocated \$6 million for Metro to conduct a Battery Electric Bus (BEB) trial and approved up to \$11.3 million from the Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Industry Development Funding Program to progress the Hydrogen Electric Bus (HEB) trial.

The trials will provide valuable operational experience and information in the use of zero emission bus technologies which will help inform future planning and data to inform the longer-term transition of Metro's fleet to zero emission buses.

The project is key to the Tasmanian Government's target of net zero emissions by 2030, and supports Metro's mission to deliver modern, efficient and attractive public transport services.

Metro launched the BEB Trial on 25 January 2024. The four BEBs involved in the trial will operate on routes across Metro's Launceston network for a two-year trial period.

Your constituents are correct in noting that these buses are not currently being used for services. Unfortunately, there have been some defect and operational issues that Metro continues to work through with the bus manufacturer, Custom Denning. Metro is looking at all options available to it for a timely resolution, including legal.

Whilst disappointing, these implementation issues support the decision to conduct a BEB trial and are providing important learnings regarding the operation of these buses.

Thank you for raising these matters in Parliament, I trust this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Hon Eric Abetz MP  
**Minister for Transport**