



Speech By Hon. Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 12 June 2025

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

QFleet

Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (2.03 pm): QFleet operates more than 11,000 vehicles which are vital to frontline service delivery across our vast state. From nurses and welfare officers in remote communities to child safety and housing officers, QBuild tradies and youth justice staff, our vehicles help our public servants work hard for Queenslanders every single day. Last year alone, public servants in QFleet vehicles travelled over 165 million kilometres.

We all know that transport is a major source of carbon emissions. Unlike Labor, we also understand that genuine emissions reduction requires more than just slogans and sound bites. Labor's EV-only policy was classic political spin, mandating 100 per cent of 'eligible' passenger vehicles must transition to electric vehicles by 2026—a policy that, in reality, covered only around 3,600 vehicles across government.

EVs will be a large and growing part of our fleet, especially in South-East Queensland, but they do not suit all parts of our state. Labor's policy completely ignored the practical realities for regional and remote Queensland, where charging infrastructure simply does not exist and where EVs often are not fit for purpose. In Far North Queensland, multiple electric vehicles required costly towing—\$400 each way from Mareeba—simply to attend recalls and servicing hundreds of kilometres away. Youth justice officers reported electric vehicles were forced to shut down for 10 minutes in the extreme heat you see in so many parts of our state—a serious safety risk if those staff needed to leave a dangerous situation urgently. In Health's Metro South, mental health outreach teams working with vulnerable patients struggled to safely use EVs where charging infrastructure was unavailable or unreliable. Clinicians reported losing valuable care time while waiting hours for public chargers, some with acutely unwell patients or critical medication on board.

The former Labor government was more focused on counting vehicles in the car park than cutting emissions on the road. That is why the Crisafulli government is taking a very different approach—one that applies emission reduction policies across the entire 11,000-vehicle fleet. We are moving beyond mandating one type of vehicle to delivering measureable results for our environment. I am proud to table the *QFleet Vehicle Emissions Reduction Strategy 2025-2030*.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government: QFleet Vehicle Emissions Reduction Strategy 2025-2030 for the Queensland Government motor vehicle fleet, June 2025 631.

This new strategy sets a clear and achievable target to cut total QFleet emissions by 10 per cent by 2030, even as the fleet grows by around nine per cent over that time. Our target represents a 63 per cent reduction on our 2005 levels. I want to thank Deputy Director-General Andrew Bennett and QFleet General Manager Vince White. We are delivering real emissions reduction and genuine choice for our public servants.