

20 December 2024

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 06 November 2024, in which you asked questions relating to carbon neutral public service targets. The Ministry for the Environment acted on behalf of DOC and other government departments to clarify several points of your request, which we received on 26 November 2024.

Your refined request was for:

1. *Is your agencies continuing to pursue the carbon neutral public service targets?*
 - *If so please provide any documents showing how this is being implemented*
2. *A list of emissions reduction initiatives implemented or planned since the first year of CNGP emissions reporting, including asset procurement and replacement, that includes the following information:*
 - *A description of the initiative*
 - *Any business needs that the initiative meets other than CNGP requirements*
 - *The upfront cost of the initiative, broken down by year if it is multi-year expenditure, noting if it includes capital expenditure*
 - *Any ongoing annual costs associated with this initiative*
 - *Any cost-savings associated with this initiative, whether they are upfront or realised annually.*
3. *Total EV's brought since the targets were implemented broken down by year?*
 - *Please provide notes on type of car*
4. *Total spent on agency emissions inventories by year since implementation.*
 - *Please provide the most recent inventory.*
5. *How much is spent on voluntary carbon offsets? (Not the ETS)*
 - *Please provide information on consultants for this and the total offsets.*
6. *Any consideration or actions involving Agricultural emissions.*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

DOC has been measuring and reporting carbon emissions since 2021 and setting reduction targets as part of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) since 2022. There are a number of areas that contribute to our emission reduction initiatives, and we currently have 1FTE dedicated to this work with assistance from other staff. We have interpreted “since implementation” as the first year we were required to report emissions, which was 2021/22.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

- 1. Is your agency continuing to pursue the carbon neutral public service targets? If so please provide any documents showing how this is being implemented.*

Yes, DOC is continuing to work towards CNGP reduction targets. Our Emission Context and Reduction Plans from 2022 – 2024 are attached as Item 1, with internal documents linked within these reports provided as Items 1a-1d.

- 2. A list of emissions reduction initiatives implemented or planned since the first year of CNGP emissions reporting, including asset procurement and replacement, that includes the following information:*

- A description of the initiative*
- Any business needs that the initiative meets other than CNGP requirements*
- The upfront cost of the initiative, broken down by year if it is multi-year expenditure, noting if it includes capital expenditure*
- Any ongoing annual costs associated with this initiative*
- Any cost-savings associated with this initiative, whether they are upfront or realised annually.*

Most of the progress on initiatives contributing to our targets has consisted of behaviour change and doing our work differently. Our main spend in this area relates to our fleet transition.

A summary of initiatives is provided in Attachment 2. The initiatives included are only those that have specific costs to the Department and does not include initiatives with no cost or those that are part of BAU work. Information on these can be found in Attachment 1d.

- 3. Total EV's brought since the targets were implemented broken down by year?*

As at the end of June 2024, the Department had 250 hybrid and electric vehicles in the fleet of which 199 are owned by the Department. This includes Battery Electric Passenger Vehicles (BEV), Hybrid Electric Passenger Vehicles (HEV) and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Passenger Vehicles (PHEV).

The Department has been working on optimising its fleet since late 2020. This has included replacing end-of-life vehicles with electric vehicles where they're fit for purpose.

A breakdown of vehicles purchased by the Department since 2020/21 is provided below noting hybrid vehicles have not been included as they are not classed as EVs.

Year	Vehicle Type	Number
2020/21	Hyundai Kona BEV	4
	Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV	20
2021/22	Hyundai Kona BEV	117
2022/23	Hyundai Kona BEV	8
2023/24	None purchased	0

4. Total spent on agency emissions inventories by year since implementation.

DOC engages Toitū for emissions inventory software, support and inventory verification. A breakdown of total spend since 2021/22 is provided below. This does not include any internal staff costs.

Year	Spend (\$ ex GST)
2021/22	33,671
2022/23	38,392
2023/24	38,952

Our most recent inventory and those for the preceding years can be found in our Annual Report [Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024](#).

5. How much is spent on voluntary carbon offsets?

DOC has not spent any money on voluntary carbon offsets or consultants to date and does not intend to for the current financial year.

6. Any consideration or actions involving Agricultural emissions.

DOC has no actions, initiatives or considerations relating to agricultural emissions.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	Various	DOC Emission Context and Reduction Plans 2022-2024	Released in full
1a	30/08/2022	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Management Report	Released in full
1b	07/12/2022	CNGP Emissions Data Template	Released in full
1c	29/11/2022	CNGP tool – Emissions Target Setting	Released in full
1d	24/02/2023	CNGP – Emissions Reduction Initiatives	Released in full
2	10/12/2024	Summary of costs in response to part 2 of the request	Released in full

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attachments may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Nick Mayo
Chief Financial Officer
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai