

DUAL-FUEL LIGHT VEHICLE FLEET

384. Hon NORM KELLY to the minister representing the Minister for Works and Services:

- (1) What definite commitments has the Government made to increase the use of liquefied petroleum gas in its light vehicle fleet?
- (2) Will the Government be replacing the failed 1998 trial of dual-fuel vehicles - announced by Ministers Board and Edwardes in April 1998 - which managed to achieve less than 20 per cent of its target of 300 vehicles?
- (3) If so, how many dual-fuel, or dedicated-LPG vehicles is the Government committed to including in its light vehicle fleet?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) As outlined in the Premier's statement on 20 October 2000, the Government would like to have at least a quarter of its replacement six-cylinder vehicles converted to liquefied petroleum gas in the next 12 months. This conversion is subject to the Department of Contract and Management Services reporting to Cabinet by mid December 2000 on the feasibility and impacts of the conversion.
- (2) The trial of dual-fuel vehicles that commenced in July 1998 has not been as successful as originally anticipated, largely because of the high cost of conversion to dual fuel and the long payback period necessary to justify the increased fit-out expenditure.
- (3) The Department of Contract and Management Services is currently studying the feasibility and impact of the conversion of part of the government car fleet to LPG. The precise number of dual-fuel or dedicated-LPG vehicles to be included in the government car fleet is yet to be determined.