

Sustainable purchasing – Fleet vehicles

2021





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1. Reduce

- ◆ Do you need full-time use of a vehicle, or can you share with another department?
- ◆ Have you considered a car-sharing program for your needs?
- ◆ Can you use the free intercampus bus service to support a reduction in fleet size?
- ◆ Make the most of more sustainable mode of travel such as walking, cycling or public transport.
- ◆ Consider avoiding travel altogether by preferencing videoconferencing in place of travel where practicable.



2. Buy Sustainable

Wherever possible CHOOSE vehicles that employ a combination of characteristics listed below.



✔ Choose the right-size vehicle

Right-sizing vehicles means choosing vehicles of an appropriate size for the task they will primarily be used for. The larger the vehicle, the larger fuel and maintenance costs and the larger the environmental impact.

✔ Prioritise vehicles with efficient motors

Always choose the vehicle with the best fuel economy. Reducing the amount of fuel required not only reduces the yearly operation cost of the vehicle, it also results in less greenhouse gas emissions.

✔ Prioritise vehicles with low CO₂ emissions

Switch from conventional carbon-containing fuels with higher emissions to alternative fuels with potentially lower emissions, such as electricity, hydrogen, natural gas and sustainable biofuels.



UQ preferences fully electric and hybrid vehicles as part of the fleet conversion program and has purchased zero emissions solar powered electric carts for intra-campus travel. Zero emissions small engine equipment such as solar powered street sweeping vacuums are also used around campus.

✔ Choose vehicles that meet higher air pollution standards

Air pollutant emissions, such as hydrocarbons, oxides of nitrogen and particulate matter contribute to urban air pollution and can lead to adverse health impacts. The Euro level listed for each vehicle indicates the air pollution standard that the vehicle meets in Australia. The Australian Design Rules require all vehicles supplied to the Australian market to meet a minimum standard, however, many vehicles go above the minimum standard.



✔ Choose vehicles designed for easy dismantling, reuse and recycling

Purchase from companies with a good Corporate Sustainability Responsibility track record. Check to see if the manufacturer has an end-of-life-vehicle reuse and recovery program. Proper reuse or recovery of end-of-life-vehicles directly avoids environmental hazards and achieves waste reductions and resource efficiency improvements.





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The Australian Government **Green Vehicle Guide** helps you reduce your impact on the environment by providing information on the environmental performance of light vehicles sold in Australia.



3. Sustainable Use of Vehicles

✓ Vehicle maintenance

To ensure sustainable vehicle operation it is important to maintain the vehicle. Vehicle maintenance will increase the longevity of engine parts, improve fuel efficiency and lower emissions. Ensuring proper tyre pressure is also important. Vehicles with under-inflated tyres will use more fuel than those in good condition.



✓ Eco-driving

The influence of speed and driver behaviour on emissions and fuel economy is significant. Eco-driving will also increase the longevity of engine parts and provide for a safer drive.

Eco-driving techniques include:

- ✓ smooth acceleration & braking
- ✓ anticipating traffic
- ✓ keeping to lower speeds
- ✓ avoiding peak hour traffic
- ✓ using air conditioning sparingly
- ✓ reducing unnecessary idling



UQ has installed dashboard Sustainable Driving Guides to raise and maintain awareness amongst drivers.



✓ Remove excess weight

Carrying unnecessary weight in the boot or cabin of the vehicle will make the engine work harder when accelerating. Simply removing this load will reduce fuel consumption and reduce emissions.



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