

FLEET VEHICLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY



1 Scope

This policy applies to Rockhampton Regional Council motor vehicle assets whether leased or procured and includes vehicles provided to non-Council organisations and Council sponsored organisations.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- (a) Provide a framework to address the reduction of CO₂ emissions;
- (b) Offset unavoidable high emissions from Council vehicles;
- (c) Provide direction to ensure a consistent and co-ordinated approach in implementing the minimum GVG and GVG greenhouse ratings adopted in this policy; and
- (d) Set minimum greenhouse emission standards for vehicles in the form of GVG greenhouse ratings.

3 Related Documents

3.1 Primary

Nil

3.2 Secondary

Climate Smart 2050, Queensland climate change strategy 2007: a low carbon future

Green Vehicle Guide website; <http://www.greenvehicleguide.gov.au>

Fleet Management Procedure – Plant and Vehicle Hire Rates

4 Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

Council	Rockhampton Regional Council
Council Sponsored Organisation	An organisation providing a service to the community and supported by Council under a formal agreement (for example Department of Community Safety, State Emergency Service Memorandums of Understanding).
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GVG	Green vehicle guide
GVG Greenhouse Ratings	A rating (based on CO ₂ emissions) which compares a vehicle's contribution to the greenhouse effect and climate change.
Light Commercial Vehicle	Vehicle designed for the purpose of load carrying, includes dual range 4 wheel drive sports utility vehicles (SUVs).

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Passenger Vehicle	Vehicle designed for the purpose of carrying passengers, includes 2 wheel drive SUVs and all-wheel drive (AWD) vehicles.
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5 Policy Statement

Council is committed to the reduction of GHG emissions from its vehicle fleet to lessen the projected impact of climate change and global warming.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development maintains an interactive website called the Green Vehicle Guide which provides greenhouse ratings (CO₂ g/km) for all new vehicles (up to 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass) sold in Australia.

GHG ratings provide a strong means to quantify the environmental performance of vehicles. The lower the rating, the lower the GHG emitted.

Under this Policy:

- (a) A maximum combined GVG CO₂ rating of 185 g/km for passenger vehicles applies;
- (b) A maximum combined GVG CO₂ rating of 230 g/km for light commercial vehicles applies; and
- (c) Eight cylinder unleaded petrol (ULP) vehicles are prohibited.

For clarity, these requirements are applied first in any vehicle selection decision.

Requests for light or passenger vehicles that do not meet these standards must be supported by a business case approved by the Chief Executive Officer on a fit-for-purpose basis.

5.1 Existing Vehicles, Employment Contracts or Formal Arrangements

Existing private use Council vehicle entitlements will remain unchanged while current vehicles and employment contracts or formal arrangements are in place. All new or renewed private use vehicles, employment contracts and formal arrangements will be subject to this policy.

5.2 Carbon Offset Programs

Carbon offset programs (such as tree planting) aim to neutralise greenhouse emissions. Vehicles in the Council fleet that are required for operational reasons, which do not comply with the GVG CO₂ limits, will have their emissions offset under carbon offset programs (tree planting programs). Internal hire arrangements will recover notional offset program costs from the section/unit of Council hiring the vehicle with the funds collected directed to Council's tree planting programs.

5.3 Lower Emission Vehicles

At vehicle renewal, Fleet Services will liaise with vehicle users to supply vehicles that are below the maximum GVG CO₂ limits or implement an "offset" arrangement.

The shift towards more fuel efficient engines and diesel vehicles will reduce the quantity of fuel consumed and the amount of GHG emissions.

5.4 Fleet Services Implementation Responsibilities

Fleet Services is responsible for implementing this policy, including the following actions:

- (a) Promoting the policy across Council;
- (b) Providing technical advice, operational guidelines and practical support to operational areas;
- (c) Ensuring vehicle procurement decisions are based on GHG Air Pollution Standards, operational area needs and fit-for-purpose requirements; and
- (d) Recording any approved exceptions under this policy for reporting purposes.

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The introduction of these environmental performance standards will eliminate the poorest environmental performers while maintaining a suitable selection of vehicles in all segments that meet the fit-for-purpose requirements of Council. It is expected that the environmental performance of motor vehicles sold in Australia will progressively improve with innovations in technology and design.

As more fuel efficient vehicles are released onto the market, the maximum GHG CO₂ limits will be reviewed to ensure Council is continuously improving its environmental performance.

6 Review Timelines

This policy is reviewed when any of the following occur:

- (a) The related information is amended or replaced; or
- (b) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by the Council.

7 Document Management

Sponsor	Chief Executive Officer
Business Owner	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Policy Owner	Manager Corporate and Technology Services
Policy Quality Control	Legal and Governance



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