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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Zero emission bus trials for Tasmania

The wheels are in motion on the Tasmanian Liberal Government's operational trials of zero emissions buses.

Metro Tasmania is to conduct separate operational trials involving three battery electric buses (BEB) in Launceston and three hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (FCEB) in Hobart, for up to three years.

The trials will provide valuable operational experience and data to inform the longer-term transition of Metro's fleet to zero emission buses.

The project is key to the Tasmanian Government's target of net zero emissions by 2030, and supports Metro's mission to deliver modern, efficient and attractive public transport services.

We have allocated \$6 million for Metro to conduct the BEB trial, and approved up to \$12.3 million from the Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Industry Development Funding Program to progress recommendations from an Industry Activation Study, which includes the FCEB trial.

Metro has released a Request for Expressions of Interest for the supply of the buses and associated recharging and refuelling equipment, and specialist maintenance services.

The Expressions of Interest period will close on 30 May 2022. Shortlisted suppliers will then be invited to participate in a tender process for the supply contracts.

Potential suppliers are encouraged to review the Expressions of Interest documents on Metro's TenderLink web portal <https://million.tenderlink.com/>

The move follows last week's announcement by the Australian Government of up to \$70 million to help make Bell Bay a national green hydrogen hub.

This investment will have matching support from the Tasmanian Liberal Government working with

our GBEs and departments, with proponents paying their fair share of infrastructure costs.

Tasmania can play a key role in the national and international transition to green energy, while delivering new jobs and investment to the State.