

30 May 2024

OC240507

**Hon Simeon Brown**  
**Minister of Transport**  
**Minister for Energy**

## ROUNDTABLE MEETING WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROVIDERS

### Snapshot

You are hosting a roundtable meeting with electric vehicle (EV) charging providers. Discussion is expected to cover addressing barriers to connect to electricity networks and the co-investment model for EV charging infrastructure.

<b>Time and date</b>	<b>4.30-5.15pm, 5 June 2024</b>
<b>Venue</b>	Auckland Policy Office
<b>Attendees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stephanie Smits O'Callaghan, Co-founder and Director at Hikotron</li> <li>• Lawrence Muijlwijk, Co-founder and CTO for Hikotron</li> <li>• Danusia Wypych, CEO for ChargeNet</li> <li>• Jamie Gray, Director for Jump Charging Ltd</li> <li>• Richard Dellabarca, Co-founder EV Infrastructure Partners</li> <li>• Chris Monaghan, Country Manager for JOLT</li> <li>• Sam McLean, Manager Policy for Tesla</li> <li>• Tim Calder, Emerging Markets and Innovation Lead for Meridian Energy.</li> <li>• Tracey Kai, CEO for Electricity Networks Aotearoa</li> <li>• Sara Brown, Consultant Environmental Planner at WEL Networks and WE.EV</li> <li>• Kristen Corson, Chair for Drive Electric</li> <li>• Kieran Turner, Head of EV Charging Infrastructure for Z Energy</li> <li>• Debra Payne, EV Project Manager for BP</li> <li>• Moonis Vegdani, Group Strategy Officer for Counties Energy</li> <li>• Roger Sutton, Principal Strategy Advisor for DETA</li> <li>• James Cozens, Business Development for YHI Energy</li> </ul>
<b>Officials attending</b>	Lou Lennane, Auckland Strategic Programme Lead, Ministry of Transport
<b>Talking points</b>	Attached as Annex 1

**Contacts**

Name	Telephone	First contact
Siobhan Routledge, Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Policy group	s 9(2)(a)	
Natasha Rave, Acting Manager, Environment		✓
Carol Rios Diaz, Adviser, Environment		


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## ROUNDTABLE MEETING WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROVIDERS

### *Background information*

- 1 In our previous advice, we have noted key market barriers to EV charging infrastructure rollout:
  - **Regulatory barriers**, including the high costs of connecting to electricity networks and long timeframes to connect.
  - **Demand/utilisation risks** which limit commercial incentives for the private sector to invest in EV chargers in locations with low demand.
- 2 Those barriers are consistent with what members of the industry have previously expressed to you, and we expect they will raise again in this meeting:
  - The number one priority across all charge point operators (CPOs) is addressing the regulatory barriers associated with connecting to the electricity networks, which comes in the form of connection costs and multi-step processes. CPOs have highlighted that the necessary pace of charger rollout cannot be achieved without addressing regulatory challenges.
  - The industry has also pointed out the need for sustained investment in public charging infrastructure and ensuring that infrastructure is available ahead of demand in remote areas with lower demand.
- 3 The Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and the cross-agency Taskforce have been established to coordinate the government's work to address these barriers.
- 4 The work related to reducing the high costs of connections for CPOs to install charging stations is underway by the Electricity Authority as identified in *Electrify NZ* policy. The work is reported on under the *Electrify NZ* programme and MBIE is monitoring progress.

### *Work has begun on identifying options for the government co-investment model*

- 5 You have asked for advice by 4 June 2024 outlining options for a revised model for government co-investment in charging infrastructure, to be implemented in 2025 [OC240520 refers]. s 9(2)(f)(iv) :

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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- 6 To further inform this advice, on 17 May 2024, officials met with CPOs to better understand their concerns and identify potential options.
- 7 In this meeting, key themes raised by industry included:

- The importance of looking at regulatory barriers and the co-investment model holistically.
- Feedback on various approaches to recycling Crown capital, including the potential efficacy of different loan or equity models.
- Their preference for an open procurement approach in which the market leads investment decisions (in terms of charger types and location).
- Views on how public value and value for money assessments can be built into the co - investment model, including what type of criteria applications should be assessed against.

8 The Taskforce will continue to engage with the industry as advice is developed on the co-investment model.

*This meeting is an opportunity to seek further views from CPOs on the co-investment model*

9 We expect the ongoing discussion around connection costs and the work on the co-investment model to be the main topics of discussion.

10 We suggest you use this meeting to test with CPOs:

- How can we practically recycle Crown capital to support further investment (for example, through concessional loans)?
- What do they expect will be the consequences of recycling Crown capital for the speed and spread of the network rollout?
- How can we design assessment criteria to ensure we maximise value-for-money from Crown investment?

## ANNEX 1: TALKING POINTS

### *Addressing barriers to connect to electricity networks*

- Addressing barriers to connection costs and timeframes to connect to electricity networks are key priorities for me.
- I am looking closely at the work underway on at the Electricity Authority that could help address this issue, particularly its work on regulating connection pricing for electricity distribution businesses (EDBs). Work includes regulating to limit the type of costs that may be recovered by EDBs from new EV charging point operators and options to manage first-mover disadvantage.
- You may be aware of the Electricity Authority's new paper, *Distribution Pricing Reform: Next steps*, which was released on 7 May 2024. The Electricity Authority plans to develop proposals to amend the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 to regulate connection prices and ensure electricity distribution businesses are setting prices at efficient levels.
- This work should help alleviate some of the concerns you have raised about high connection charges to install EV charging stations, and concerns about optimising your investments.
- The Electricity Authority has signalled it will be developing draft proposals through a working group and then release a consultation paper in October this year. *I encourage you to provide your feedback through the consultation paper.*
- The Electricity Authority has also established a Network Connections Technical Group to assist the Authority with Code changes to improve the efficiency of network connection.

### *Government co-investment in EV charging infrastructure.*

- I intend to make some changes to the government co-funding model so that private investment in the EV charging network is maximised. As the market matures, I want to see public EV charging providers become a profitable and economically resilient sector.
- My view is the main role for government should be to facilitate private investment by ensuring the regulatory environment is fit-for-purpose. However, I recognise there is likely to be an ongoing role for some government co-investment targeting projects that face the biggest market barriers and that are needed for an effective, nationwide network.
- I note that a cross-agency Taskforce has been established to coordinate the government's work relating to the EV charging programme. I am aware that many of you have recently engaged with the Taskforce and provided valuable feedback regarding the co-investment model.
- Officials will continue to engage with you as they develop their next phases of advice to ensure we develop a co-investment model that is workable and effective for industry.
- I am interested to hear your views on how to maximise private investment and how we could feasibly recycle Crown capital to support further investment (for example, through concessional loans).

- I am also interested in how we ensure value-for-money from public investment. I note the co-investment model could use key assessment criteria to assess value for money. *What criteria do you think the Government should consider when assessing applications?*

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Title	Lead agency	Minister and Committee	Estimated timing to Cabinet Committee
Update on electric vehicle charging infrastructure and next steps	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Energy and Minister of Transport	To be confirmed with the Office of the Minister for Energy
<b>Comment</b>			
<p>We are working closely with MBIE and Energy Efficiency &amp; Conservation Authority (EECA) in the drafting of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>This paper will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide an update on the current status of the public electric vehicle charging network,</li> <li>• provide Cabinet high-level visibility of activity underway to create an effective EV charging ecosystem (including the timeline for reviewing regulatory interventions and measures to provide data and information to industry),</li> <li>• provide Cabinet visibility of the timeline for the delivery of the cost-benefit analysis,</li> <li>• outline plans and timing for changes to government co-funding settings, and</li> <li>• seek Cabinet's agreement in the interim for EECA to progress funding rounds.</li> </ul> <p><i>Responsibility: Siobhan Routledge, Acting DCE, Policy Group</i></p>			<p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <p>MBIE will provide you with a draft Cabinet paper.</p>

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Project: EV Charging Infrastructure	
<b>Cabinet Paper: Supercharging EV infrastructure work programme</b> We have provided input to a Cabinet paper prepared by MBIE on the Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme.	<b>To lodge:</b> 4 April 2024 <b>To Committee:</b> 10 April 2024

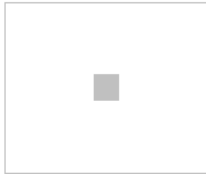
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**From:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**To:** [Nick Paterson](#); [Ministers Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Emma Wardle](#); [Gayelene Wright](#)  
**Subject:** RE: ATTN DOM Briefing to the Minister on EV charging  
**Date:** Wednesday, 17 January 2024 5:09:44 pm  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)

Kia ora Nick

Thanks for this, there are no concerns from the office with this approach. Could we ensure we please have the paper by **COP Weds 14 February** at the very latest?

Cheers  
Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**  
Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

§ 9(2)(a)  
Email: [dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz) Website: [www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.Beehive.govt.nz)  
Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

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**From:** Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 5:16 PM  
**To:** Ministers Office <[MinistersOffice@transport.govt.nz](mailto:MinistersOffice@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>; Gayelene Wright <[g.wright@transport.govt.nz](mailto:g.wright@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** ATTN DOM Briefing to the Minister on EV charging

Hi Dom,

We are in the process of preparing a briefing to the Minister on EV charging, for delivery around mid-Feb. We are scoping this as an introductory briefing to the current situation with respect to EV charging, and seeking the Minister's direction on actions with respect to EV charging (including with respect to the delivery of 10000 EV chargers by 2030).

After discussing this with MBIE, and EECA, the intent is for this to be a briefing to the Minister of Transport from the Ministry of Transport, with the Minister of Energy (and potentially the Minister of Infrastructure) cc'd. MBIE and EECA will input into the briefing, and we are currently checking with Treasury on whether they have anything to add to the briefing.

It would be appreciated if the Office could:

- Confirm that is the correct approach for the briefing (i.e. briefing to the Minister of Transport from the Ministry of Transport, cc'ing other Ministers where appropriate and with other agencies providing input).
- Confirm an estimated timeline of mid-Feb is about right.
- Advise if there are any specific matters that the Office would like covered in the briefing.

Kind regards,

Nick

**Nick Paterson** (he / his / Mr)  
Manager – Environment  
Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport

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**From:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**To:** [Nick Paterson](#); [Emma Wardle](#)  
**Cc:** [Siobhan Routledge](#)  
**Subject:** Joint MBIE/MoT Cabinet paper on EV charging, working with EECA  
**Date:** Monday, 26 February 2024 10:31:38 am  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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Hey Nick and Emma

FYI MBIE have been commissioned to draft a Cabinet paper (this came out of the EV charging deep dive session the last week) – essentially to inform the Cabinet of where things are at in terms of EV charging infrastructure. This should be joint advice from MBIE and MoT, working closely with EECA on content.

The advice needs to set out how EECA will continue delivery of the roll-out of EV chargers to maintain momentum while the CBA is completed. It also needs to set out other work underway so that Cabinet can understand the EV charging policy package as a whole.

In terms of timing, the Minister would like to get something to Cabinet in the next few weeks. Note that we now need to allow 10 working days for Ministerial/Coalition party consultation (a proper update from me on this is coming).

MBIE will likely approach for input shortly.

Happy to chat, cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

**Private Secretary (Transport)** | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

§ 9(2)(a) [Redacted]  
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**From:** [Nick Paterson](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#); [Helen FionaWhite](#)  
**Cc:** [Siobhan Routledge](#); [Emma Wardle](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioning emails for EV charging Cab paper  
**Date:** Tuesday, 27 February 2024 2:16:59 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Thanks Dom,

We will relay this to MBIE and work with them.

Cheers

Nick

**Nick Paterson**

T: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) | E: [n.paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:n.paterson@transport.govt.nz) | [www.transport.govt.nz](http://www.transport.govt.nz)



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**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 1:51 PM  
**To:** Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>; Helen FionaWhite <[helen.fionawhite@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:helen.fionawhite@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[S.Routledge@transport.govt.nz](mailto:S.Routledge@transport.govt.nz)>; Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioning emails for EV charging Cab paper

Hi Nick

Please continue to draft the paper as originally commissioned (i.e., an update and recs on EECA funding round, electricity regulatory policy timelimes, and the timelines for the CBA – not more comprehensive/with policy options). Given the focus on the EECA funding round I'd imagine MBIE would still be best placed to lead (noting the Minister's expectation it is to be a joint paper)?

Can you provide a timeline for when you would expect to put the paper up?

Cheers

Dom

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**From:** Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:29 PM  
**To:** Helen FionaWhite <[Helen.FionaWhite@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Helen.FionaWhite@parliament.govt.nz)>; Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[S.Routledge@transport.govt.nz](mailto:S.Routledge@transport.govt.nz)>; Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>

**Subject:** FW: Commissioning emails for EV charging Cab paper

**Importance:** High

Hi both,

After our meeting with MBIE and EECA this morning on the attached paper we did want to check if the paper should have a more comprehensive policy work programme for EV charging, if that is the case MoT would be the most appropriate lead with support from MBIE and EECA (originally we were thinking this paper would mainly focus on the EECA funding round, electricity regulatory policy timelimes, and the timelines for the CBA) – however after re-reading the commissioning email and having a discussion there is an opportunity to form this up into a bit more of a comprehensive paper.

Note if this paper was to be more comprehensive than (just an update and recs on EECA funding round, electricity regulatory policy timelimes, and the timelines for the CBA) we will need an extension of at least two weeks to put this paper together. This will give us time to do more work on what policy options and issues we think should be in scope of the work programme and discuss this matter with Treasury.

If instead the Office is just wanting a paper based on information that we can put together sooner i.e. EECA funding round, electricity regulatory policy timelimes, and the timelines for the CBA, we will still need an extension but not as long (and this paper can probably be led by MBIE).

It would be helpful if you could let us know how the Office would like to proceed with this paper.

Cheers

Nick

**Nick Paterson**

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**From:** Emma Wardle <[x.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx](mailto:x.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:14 PM

**To:** Nick Paterson <[x.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx](mailto:x.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx)>

**Subject:** Commissioning emails for EV charging Cab paper

Hi Nick,

As discussed, MBIE and our commissioning emails are attached.

Thanks,

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)  
Senior Adviser | Kaitohutohu Matua

Environment Team  
**Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport**

M: § 9(2)(a) E: [x.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx](mailto:x.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx) | [transport.govt.nz](http://transport.govt.nz)



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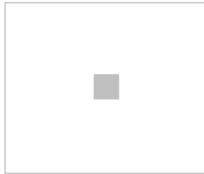
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**Note from the Ministry of Transport:** The approach to cost-benefit analysis from the EV charging work programme has evolved since these emails were sent. The current approach is summarised in the April Cabinet paper which can be found here: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Supercharging-Electric-Vehicle-Infrastructure-Cabinet-paper-Redacted.pdf>

**From:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**To:** [Nick Paterson](#); [Ministers Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Emma Wardle](#); [Ainsley Smith](#); [Siobhan Routledge](#)  
**Subject:** RE: ATTN DOM - EV Charging CBA approach  
**Date:** Tuesday, 19 March 2024 3:33:11 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)

Thanks Nick and team, confirming receipt of this one. Will be in touch if there are any further queries

Cheers  
Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

s 9(2)(a)

Email: [dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz) Website: [www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.Beehive.govt.nz)  
Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

**From:** Nick Paterson <N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024 3:27 PM  
**To:** Ministers Office <MinistersOffice@transport.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Emma Wardle <E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz>; Ainsley Smith <A.Smith2@transport.govt.nz>; Siobhan Routledge <S.Routledge@transport.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** ATTN DOM - EV Charging CBA approach

Hi Dom

Please find a response below regarding your request for a brief email outlining the approach to the CBA and rationale for the expected timeframes.

*Resourcing*

- The Ministry of Transport is progressing work on a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) for public EV charging infrastructure, in line with commitments in the National-ACT Coalition Agreement.
- The bulk of the analysis will be completed in-house at MoT, with input from relevant government agencies (e.g. EECA, NZTA, MBIE, Electricity Authority, Commerce Commission) and key external stakeholders (e.g. Drive Electric).
- There is a quick turnaround piece of research currently being commissioned through NZTA's Transport Sector Research Programme. This will be due mid-year and is estimated to cost a maximum of \$130,000. It will not create any new data but will bring together domestic and international research relating to the relationship between EV charging infrastructure and EV uptake.

*Timeframes*

- The first key deliverable from the analysis will be emissions impacts estimates. These are required in August 2024 to meet the publication deadline for ERP2.
- The final CBA and report will be completed in November 2024.
- This is the minimum feasible timeframe to produce a robust CBA on EV charging. There are some key challenges to quantify costs and benefits, including uncertainties around policy changes and their impacts, and a lack of existing evidence to draw from.
- The focus for the first half of 2024 will be on developing a robust methodology and data inputs. This will be informed by the above research and by engagement with relevant experts (both in government and external).

*High-level approach*

- Our current proposed approach would centre on developing an 'EV charging investment and funding module', building on existing EECA modelling. This module would use data on EV installation costs, EV charger revenues, and intervention impacts to model the counterfactual and impact of interventions on total number of chargers, cost of chargers and Government funding requirements.
- The 'EV charging investment and funding module' would then feed into a redeveloped Clean Car CBA model to produce CBA outputs and other metrics (such as impact on EV uptake, emissions impacts and marginal abatement cost).

Cheers

Nick

**Nick Paterson** (he / his / Mr)  
Manager – Environment  
Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport

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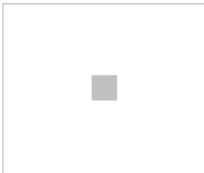


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**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 5:51 PM  
**To:** Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>; Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** EV Charging CBA

Kia ora kōrua

Thanks for your time earlier today.

As discussed, could we please have a brief email outlining the approach to the CBA and rationale for the expected timeframes?

Appreciated if we could get this through early next week please (Mon or Tues)

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

§ 9(2)(a)

Email: [dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:dominic.cowell-smith@parliament.govt.nz) Website: [www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.Beehive.govt.nz)  
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**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**Cc:** [Nick Paterson](#)  
**Subject:** Supercharging EV Infrastructure Cab paper  
**Date:** Friday, 22 March 2024 11:07:00 am  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[FW Joint MBIE/MoT Cabinet paper on EV charging working with EECA IN-CONFIDENCE.msg](#)

Kia ora Dom,

We're working with MBIE on the Supercharging EV Infrastructure Cabinet paper that they are holding the pen on.

A sticking point is the framing of the previous EV charging strategy and work programme published in October 2023:

Text in last draft	Feedback from office
'Charging Our Future: National electric vehicle charging strategy for Aotearoa New Zealand 2023 - 2035' was published in October 2023 following agreement by Cabinet [DEV-23-MIN-0206 refers]. While the priorities identified in this paper are my immediate focus, it may be valuable to update the previous strategy and work programme to provide clarity to stakeholders on the government's EV charging priorities. I will consider advice on this and may report back to Cabinet on the previous strategy and work programme to align it with <i>Supercharging EV Infrastructure</i> .	The significant parts of the existing work programme under the strategy need to be brought in and presented as part of the Supercharging EV Infrastructure Work Programme (as the <b>only</b> work programme). [This is the feedback that the Minister conveyed directly to EECA when the paper was briefly discussed at the end of the monthly CEs meeting this afternoon]

Many actions in the existing strategy and work programme remain relevant to the government's Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and are actively being carried through and worked on. However, some actions do not align and we have been working on the assumption that these would not be carried through. For example, action 2.a.i on research into equity of access to home charging is not currently being progressed by MoT as it does not align with the focus on public charging infrastructure. (For reference, I did an initial skim of actions and think approx 10 would probably carry through in full; 20 may need tweaking, reframing or further consideration; and 3 may be fully discontinued).

I note there was wide engagement with stakeholders on the previous strategy and we continue to get questions about the status of the strategy going forward.

**To help us finalise the wording included in the Cab paper, we're keen to understand the Minister's preference for treatment of the previous strategy and communications to stakeholders going forward.**

We see the main options being:

- Formally updating/replacing the previous strategy and work programme with the Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme. We expect this could include closing some actions, rewording or combining actions to align with Supercharging EV Infrastructure priorities. This could be accompanied by comms to stakeholders and/or the



wider public. (Note – given the previous strategy was agreed by Cabinet, we've been working under the assumption that formal changes or discontinuation of the strategy would need to be agreed by Cabinet and we would include wording in the current Cabinet paper to reflect this).

- No formal update/replacement of the previous strategy and work programme but it would not be progressed, and work would continue under the Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme.

The former would be our recommended approach as it provides the greatest clarity to government agencies and sector stakeholders. If agreed, we would look to provide advice to the Minister of Transport and Energy on the detailed Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme in April/May to update/replace the previous strategy. This advice would include a proposal for the treatment of each action from the previous work programme.

The updated Cab paper is due COP Monday so would appreciate if you could get a response relatively quickly. Happy to chat if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)  
Senior Adviser | Kaitohutohu Matua  
Environment Team  
**Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport**

s 9(2)(a)

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Doc # 44: FW Joint MBIE/MoT  
Cabinet paper on EV charging -  
Update from office

**From:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**To:** [Nick Paterson](#); [Peter Bartlett](#); [Emma Wardle](#)  
**Cc:** [Laurie Boyce](#)  
**Subject:** Joint MBIE/MoT Cabinet paper - update from office  
**Date:** Monday, 25 March 2024 2:40:33 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Hi all

Please see below an update from Laurie and I on the current direction of the joint paper.

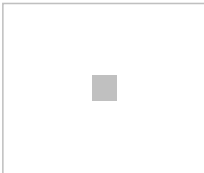
At paragraph 46 of the departmental there is discussion of the previous government's EV charging strategy. Could the paper be updated to note that:

1. The previous administration agreed to and published Charging Our Future
2. The actions in this Cabinet paper, Supercharging NZ policy document, and any relevant actions from that previous strategy supersede that document as the Government's EV charging work programme
3. The most immediate, relevant and significant actions to be included from Charging Our Future are inserted in the table below current para 46
4. If there is concern about the inclusion (or not) of certain actions, note that these can be considered in the 12 month report back
5. Add an "agree" recommendation for items 2 and 3.

Happy to chat

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

**Private Secretary (Transport)** | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

§ 9(2)(a)

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**From:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**To:** [Emma Wardle](#); [Natasha Rave](#)  
**Cc:** [Paul O'Connell](#); [Siobhan Routledge](#); [Helen FionaWhite](#)  
**Subject:** Additional info re SuperCharging EV work programme  
**Date:** Wednesday, 24 April 2024 8:56:49 am  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Hi team

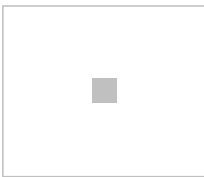
This was sent to MBIE yesterday – passing along for your info ahead of the meeting today:

The Minister has outlined what he would like to see next as part of the Supercharging EVs Infrastructure work programme.

- Engage fully with CIP on the design, and include them in the taskforce
- Provide a timeline for key items
- Make sure there is consideration of 'clawback' in the design, along the lines of what was used in the UFB rollout.

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

**Private Secretary (Transport)** | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

DDI: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

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**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - EECA's 2024 EV charging funding activity  
**Date:** Friday, 5 July 2024 4:18:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[RE EECA briefing on 2024 EV charging funding round.msg](#)

---

Thanks Dom

For your context, attached is the feedback I provided to EECA yesterday. [s 9\(2\)\(f\)\(iv\)](#)

[Redacted]

Please sing out if you have any questions on this.

**Emma Wardle (she/her)**

M: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) E: [E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz) | [transport.govt.nz](https://transport.govt.nz)

[Redacted]

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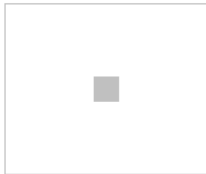
**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>

**Sent:** Friday, July 5, 2024 3:40 PM

**To:** Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>

**Subject:** FW: Briefing - EECA's 2024 EV charging funding activity

FYI



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**

Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

DDI [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

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**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**Cc:** [Nick Paterson](#); [Siobhan Routledge](#); [Chris Nees](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model  
**Date:** Friday, 26 July 2024 4:48:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)  
[image005.png](#)

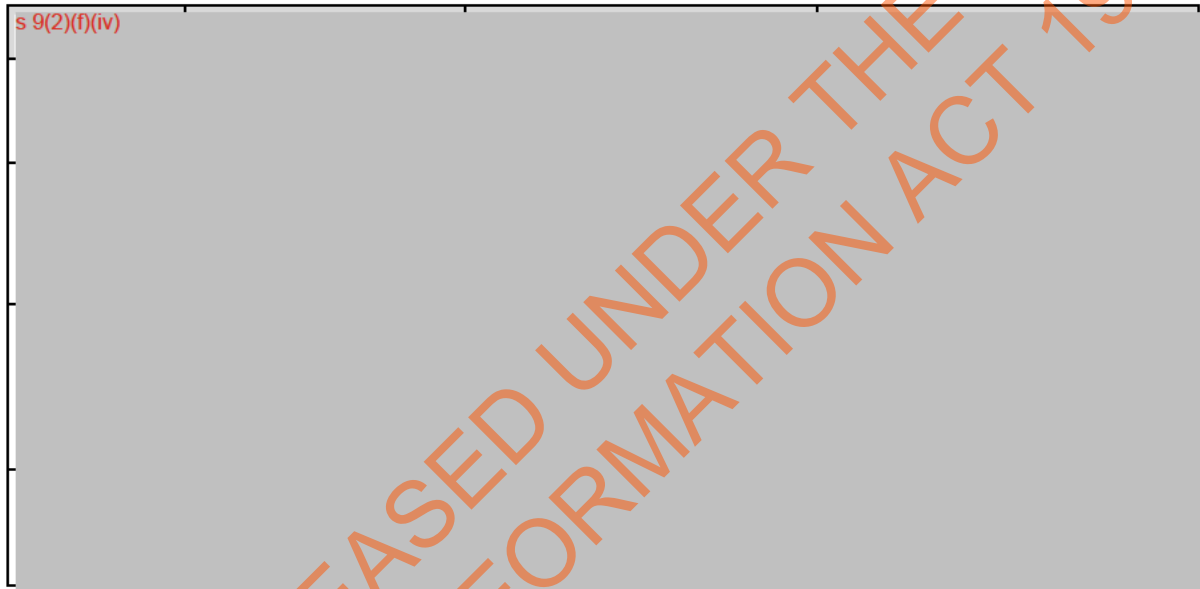
Kia ora Dom,

I've pulled together an updated timeline for EV charging Cabinet decisions to test with the Office for comfort.

The next milestone would be sending over a draft Cabinet paper and cover briefing in the week commencing 12 August. Following that there would be options for the office about progressing departmental and Ministerial consultation sequentially or in parallel. Let me know if you have any thoughts at this stage. I would also welcome any feedback on the best timing around the Minister's upcoming travel.

EECA are doing some thinking internally about feasible timing to start the procurement process after Cabinet decisions. They will be able to share that shortly and this may be relevant to the preferred timing of any subsequent announcements.

Additionally, with the rescheduled roundtable with industry now on 13 August, could you please confirm if the Office is happy to receive an updated meeting briefing? There are a few areas of context and talking points that would be worth updating since the previous meeting briefing was submitted. We are also hoping to have another session with charge point operators before 13 August which we could include insights from.



Give me a call if you want to have a quick chat about any of the above

Ngā mihi nui,

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)

M: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) E: [E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz) | [transport.govt.nz](http://transport.govt.nz)



---

**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 9:22 AM  
**To:** Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model

Thanks Emma! Definitely got time for a chat, will give you a bell around 1030 if that suits?

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**  
Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

DDI: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
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Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6180, New Zealand

**From:** Emma Wardle <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 8:48 AM  
**To:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[redacted]>; Chris Nees <[redacted]>; Nick Paterson <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model

Morning Dom,

Many thanks for the update, it's useful feedback.

Would be great to touch base this morning on next steps if that suits you? The Taskforce is meeting this afternoon so I'm keen to be able to relay our understanding of timelines etc to them.

I'm flexible with timing, so feel free to give me a call when it works for you.

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)

M: s 9(2)(a) E: [redacted] | [transport.govt.nz](https://transport.govt.nz)



---

**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 23, 2024 5:31 PM  
**To:** Emma Wardle <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[redacted]>; Chris Nees <[redacted]>; Nick Paterson <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model

Evening Emma

Out of Scope

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**  
Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

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Email: [redacted] Website: [www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.Beehive.govt.nz)  
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---

**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 22, 2024 4:21 PM  
**To:** Emma Wardle <[redacted]>; Ministers Office <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[redacted]>; Chris Nees <[redacted]>; Nick Paterson <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model

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Kia ora Emma

Please see attached the signed copy of this paper for your records. I'll be in touch about next steps following today's meeting, let me know if there is anything else I can do to help with this one

Cheers

Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**  
Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

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Email: [redacted]  
Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

**From:** Emma Wardle <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 3, 2024 1:35 PM  
**To:** Ministers Office <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Siobhan Routledge <[redacted]>; Chris Nees <[redacted]>; Nick Paterson <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Briefing - recommendations on EV charging co-investment model

Kia ora Dom,

Please find attached the briefing 'Recommendations on co-investment model for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.' Let me know if you have any questions.

Additionally, would it be possible to set up a specific feedback session with the Minister like we did with the last briefing?

Ngā mihi nui,

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)  
Senior Adviser | Kaitohutohu Matua  
Environment Team  
**Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport**  
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**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**Cc:** [Ruth Fairhall](#); [Nick Paterson](#); [Chris Nees](#)  
**Subject:** Updated talking points - EV charging roundtable  
**Date:** Thursday, 8 August 2024 4:09:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [Updated talking points - EV charging roundtable 13 August 2024.docx](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

Kia ora Dom,

Please find attached updated talking points to support the Minister at the rescheduled EV charging roundtable on Tuesday 13 August.

As noted on the phone, we are also meeting with charge point operators tomorrow afternoon. Following that, if there are any important context updates for the Minister's awareness, we'll send them through by email.

Please sing out if you have any questions

Thanks,

**Emma Wardle** ([she/her](#))  
Senior Adviser | Kaitohutohu Matua  
Environment Team  
**Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport**

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## TALKING POINTS – EV CHARGING ROUNDTABLE

### *Addressing barriers to connect to electricity networks*

- Addressing connection costs and timeframes to connect to electricity networks are key priorities for me.
- I also recognise the challenges with differences in practices between councils, and traffic management costs.
- I am following work at the Electricity Authority on regulating connection pricing for electricity distribution businesses (EDBs). As you will be aware, the Electricity Authority has also established a Network Connections Technical Group to assist with changes to the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 to improve the efficiency of network connections. I encourage you to continue engaging with these processes.
- I am encouraged by the actions both charge point operators (CPOs) and EDBs are taking to improve processes for connections. It is also good to see Electricity Networks Aotearoa is progressing work with the Electricity Authority and EECA in their Journey Mapping Project and range mapping.

### *Government co-investment in EV charging infrastructure*

- I am progressing changes to the government's co-investment approach so that we can maximise value from public investment in the charging network <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>
- I expect the updated approach to investment will reflect:
  - A focus on recycling and reinvesting government funding. This would move the model away from grants towards concessional loans.
  - A two-stage approach to the procurement – with an initial expression of interest stage to gauge market interest, followed by contestable investment rounds (the design of which would be refined based on the response to the first stage).
  - Robust assessment of applications against criteria focused on value-for-money.
  - A market-led approach in terms of locations and charger types/capacity.
  - Potentially encouraging applications for larger portfolios of chargers to accelerate the rollout and reduce administrative burdens on applicants.

### *Wider work programme*

- Other work is progressing to ensure there is an enabling environment for public EV charging. This includes updates to standards to reduce the compliance costs of new electrical installations and pursuing amendments to EECA's legislation to enable the regulation of smart devices including smart EV chargers.
- Officials will reach out to you shortly to explore the consenting barriers to installing new chargers.

## ADDITIONAL CONTEXT

### *Officials' engagement with CPOs*

- The *Supercharging EV Infrastructure* Taskforce had a scheduled meeting with CPOs on Friday 9 August to discuss the updated co-investment approach at a high-level.
- s 9(2)(b)(ii), s 9(2)(ba)(i)

### *Update on Electricity Networks Aotearoa (ENA)'s work*

- Tracey Kai, ENA's Chief Executive, wrote to you on 15 July 2024 with an update on ENA's work, and the enablers and challenges around public EV charging infrastructure.
- *Enablers and challenges:*
  - EDBs are concerned that the Electricity Authority's work on connection costs will shift upfront costs of connections from CPOs or other connecting customers to wider ongoing users of the network.
  - Some EDBs have also raised the need for mandating smart charging to avoid network impacts of increasing EV ownership.
  - The ENA views that the large load that charge hubs present needs to be managed carefully and that "delays" to connections may be the required time to plan and build new capacity safely.
- *Ongoing work by the ENA:*
  - The ENA is working with the Electricity Authority on the Future Networks Forum Connection Journey Mapping Project which identifies 13 actions for a more nationally consistent connection process and improved customer experience. Actions include standardising terminology, quote letters, applications and terms and conditions; and introducing cost recovery for all costs at contractual design stage to help EDBs' resourcing.
  - The ENA is working with the Electricity Authority and EECA to progress work on mapping capacity of chargers. This will help CPOs plan investments in areas where network upgrades are less likely to be required.
  - The ENA has encouraged its members to establish a 'CPO Relations Manager' to improve working relationship with CPOs.

**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Ministers Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Ruth Fairhall](#); [Nick Paterson](#)  
**Subject:** ATTN DOM: OC240788 Update on Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and govt co-investment  
**Date:** Wednesday, 14 August 2024 3:26:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[OC240788 Cabinet paper - Update on Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and government co-investment.docx](#)  
[OC240788 - Briefing - Update on Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and government co-investment.pdf](#)

---

Kia ora Dom,

Please find attached OC240788 – Update on Supercharging EV Infrastructure work programme and co-investment (both cover briefing and draft Cabinet paper).

Following the Minister’s roundtable session yesterday, we were asked to provide more detail on the engagement on the co-investment model that has taken place this year:

- Taskforce agencies met with charge point operators in late May 2024. The purpose of this meeting was to signal the scope of work on the co-investment model, to share the Minister’s objectives for government co-investment, and talk at a high-level about different options for procurement and financing. We welcomed initial reactions during that session. However, recognising they may not want to share their views in that forum, we invited follow up discussions one-on-one, or reflections over email (eg, we had two subsequent conversations with ChargeNet, and one with Z).
- We next met with the full group of CPOs on 9 August 2024. In this session, we provided more detail on the high-level direction of the co-investment model. However, we kept the content high-level to allow the Minister to go into more detail in his session on 13 August 2024.
- Between the two sessions, we were limited in what we were able to share with CPOs while we provided advice to the Minister and received his feedback on the preferred direction. However, we did indicate that CPOs could share their views with officials (eg, we have previously received written notes on Drive Electric’s preferred framework for government investment in charging infrastructure).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Emma Wardle** (she/her)  
Senior Adviser | Kaitohutohu Matua  
Environment Team  
**Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport**

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**From:** [Emma Wardle](#)  
**To:** [Dominic Cowell-Smith](#)  
**Cc:** [Ruth Fairhall](#); [Nick Paterson](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Attn Dom: Updated EV charging figures  
**Date:** Wednesday, 11 September 2024 12:22:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)

Thanks Dom

And no issues with that response to Hon Woods.

**Emma Wardle (she/her)**

M: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) E: [E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz) | [transport.govt.nz](https://transport.govt.nz)



---

**From:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2024 12:20 PM  
**To:** Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Ruth Fairhall <[R.Fairhall@transport.govt.nz](mailto:R.Fairhall@transport.govt.nz)>; Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Attn Dom: Updated EV charging figures

Lovely thank you Emma! I'll get that WPQ updated and let you know once corrected.

Could I please also confirm that [40058 \(2024\), Hon Dr Megan Woods to the Minister for Energy - New Zealand Parliament \(www.parliament.nz\)](#) is ok?

Cheers  
Dom



**Dominic Cowell-Smith**  
Private Secretary (Transport) | Office of Hon Simeon Brown  
Minister of Transport | Minister for Auckland | Minister for Energy | Minister for Local Government

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**From:** Emma Wardle <[E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz](mailto:E.Wardle@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2024 12:10 PM  
**To:** Dominic Cowell-Smith <[Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Dominic.Cowell-Smith@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Ruth Fairhall <[R.Fairhall@transport.govt.nz](mailto:R.Fairhall@transport.govt.nz)>; Nick Paterson <[N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz](mailto:N.Paterson@transport.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Attn Dom: Updated EV charging figures

Kia ora Dom,

Just to update on the below:

- Regarding the Target 9 reporting – we have now been able to confirm the right numbers for the Target 9 report with the MfE team so these changes should be being made today.
- Regarding WPQs, OPQs or statements to Parliament – I've found just one WPQ that may need correcting ([WPQ37711](#)). I've also done a quick search of the Hansard and don't believe it has come up in any WPQs, Estimates hearings, or other statements to Parliament.

For question 37711, the correct answer (for chargers as of June 2024) would be: There are currently around 1140 operational chargers in New Zealand.

Thanks,

**Emma Wardle (she/her)**

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**From:** Nick Paterson <[x@xx](mailto:x@xx)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 4:33 PM  
**To:** Ministers Office <[x@xx](mailto:x@xx)>  
**Cc:** Ruth Fairhall <[x@xx](mailto:x@xx)>; Emma Wardle <[x@xx](mailto:x@xx)>  
**Subject:** Attn Dom: Updated EV charging figures

Hi Dom,

Please find some updated EV charging numbers from EECA, which they have confirmed. A number of changes will need to be made as a result of these updated numbers:

- MoT will action changes to the draft Estimates material for the Minister of Transport.
- The Government's reporting against its targets, specifically Target 9, will need to be changed. I understand the Prime Minister is wanting to publish this report this week. We advise the report should be updated before it is published. We have been unable to get in contact with MFE so far to make this change, and the Office may want to contact PMO about getting this changed. Recommendation from EECA is to use the July figure highlighted below.
- As discussed last week the Office will need to check whether the Minister has responded to any WPOs, OPOs, or made statements to Parliament with the incorrect numbers – if so the Minister may need to correct his previous responses/statements.

As of date	Charging 'points'
1/4/2024	1164
1/7/2024	1209
09/09/2024	1249

Cheers

Nick

**Nick Paterson**

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