



Parliamentary  
Budget Office

# PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

## EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN

2025-26

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Australian Parliamentary Service and the Parliamentary Budget Office acknowledge the Ngunnawal and the Ngambri peoples as the Custodians of the land where Australian Parliament House sits. We also acknowledge all Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continued connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to their Cultures, Country, and Elders, past and present.

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the of the lands on which we work, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging

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## ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY SIGN OFF

The Australian Government released the [Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy](#) in November 2023, setting out the overall approach and action required by Commonwealth entities to achieve the APS Net Zero 2030 Target.

While not a department of the Australian Government, the Parliamentary Budget Office

(PBO) recognises its role in contributing to emissions reductions. The department is committed to working with the other parliamentary departments; the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS), Department of the Senate (DoS) and Department of the House of Representatives (DHR) to reduce emissions where appropriate.

This Emissions Reduction Plan describes the priorities and actions the PBO is taking to reduce our operational emissions and contribute to the APS Net Zero 2030 Target, as appropriate for its particular setting.



SIGNED BY ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY

## EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN

### PURPOSE

All commonwealth agencies have a role in managing and implementing emissions reduction initiatives set by the Australian Government's Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy (The Strategy) developed by Department of Finance (DoF). The Strategy sets out the Australian Government's approach to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions from its operations by 2030 and the reinstatement of public emissions reporting.

The Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy advises that the Government will work with the Presiding Officers to determine appropriate consideration of Parliament House for this initiative. Noting the particular setting it operates in, the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) has prepared a high-level statement of intention to work with the other parliamentary departments - Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS), Department of the Senate (DoS), and the Department of the House of Representatives (DHR) in accordance with tailored guidance in applying the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy.

### NET ZERO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

APS Net Zero 2030 is the target set by the Australian Government to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from government operations by the year 2030. It includes scope 1 and scope 2 emissions from activities in Australia and its territories, as described

in The Strategy. The APS Net Zero 2030 Target applies at the aggregate level to non-corporate Commonwealth entities and generally covers the entirety of the entity’s organisation. From an organisational perspective, this means minimising the greenhouse gas emissions that are within our control.

## GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING

This plan will be reviewed annually. The department will ensure it complies with reporting requirements as set out in the relevant legislation and guidance, including the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), and as determined under the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy.

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The purpose of the PBO is to inform parliament by providing independent and non-partisan analysis of the budget cycle, fiscal policy, and the financial implications of proposals, thereby enriching Australia's democracy through transparent and objective budget and fiscal analysis.

The department has recently relocated to West Block, while maintaining a small presence in Parliament House in Canberra and currently employs around 50 staff. DPS is responsible for providing a range of services to parliamentary departments within West Block, Parliament House and the parliamentary precincts, which includes building management, facilities management, and ICT provision. The department also works with the Department of the Senate and Department of the House of Representatives to inform the Parliament.

The department already undertakes activities to reduce emissions where it has control of its operations, in line with the direction set in The Strategy. This includes the following activities:

- Observing the requirements in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs), including consideration of climate impacts.
- Considering alternatives to travel where possible and encouraging efficient travel arrangements where domestic travel is required.

## BASELINE EMISSIONS

Baseline emissions are a record of greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. The baseline emissions from financial year 2022-23 are the reference point against which emissions reduction actions can be measured.

Baseline year: 2022-23	Emissions kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 1 emissions	-
Scope 2 emissions	-

<b>Scope 3 emissions</b>	3,892
<b>Total emissions</b>	3,892

Emissions attributed to the running of the Australian Parliament House building and West Block including for departmental staff working in the buildings, are separately reported by DPS in its annual report.

#### ENGAGEMENT

In the development of this plan Parliamentary Budget Office has been working with:

- Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS)
- Department of the Senate (DoS)
- Department of the House of Representatives (DHR)

#### EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

The department will collaborate with DPS, DoS and DHR to identify actions that accord with applicable requirements and guidance and reflect its particular operating context.

#### PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

For the department to contribute to the achievement of the APS Net Zero 2030 target, it will collaborate with DPS, Department of the Senate and the Department of the House of Representatives to identify action in accordance with advice from Department of Finance on implementation of the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy.

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