

**Submission
No 34**

**ELECTRIC BUSES IN REGIONAL AND METROPOLITAN PUBLIC
TRANSPORT NETWORKS IN NSW**

Organisation: Disability Council NSW

Date Received: 7 January 2020



D20/48736

Robyn Preston MP
The Chair
Committee on Transport and Infrastructure
Parliament House
Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Dear Ms Preston,

Thank you for providing the Disability Council NSW (the Council) an opportunity to comment into the 'Inquiry into electric buses in NSW public transport networks'.

Electric bus adoption in public transport fleet is growing all over the world. As such, the Council supports the introduction of this technology in NSW.

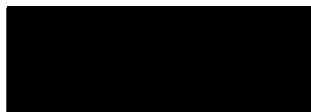
Along with the positive the electric fleet bring to our environment, we would like to see the design team consider the needs of people of all abilities and bring positive into the world of universal design.

Some key points the Council recommends this inquiry consider are:

- the expertise of Accessible Transport Advisory Committee (ATAC) should be utilised to discuss accessibility as part of the design process and not towards the end when it's too late to adjust/enhance any design issues. ATAC is a trusted advisory committee established by Transport for NSW
- co-designing with people with disability and carers as part of the design process, i.e. from conceptualisation to the finish product
- ensuring that people with disability in regional NSW are catered well and have access to transport when required
- ensuring that employment opportunities for people with disability is part of the discussion – this could be achieved by keeping targets for employing people with disability (such as – drivers, maintenance workers etc.), providing cadetship opportunities in sector such as engineering, as well as providing scholarships for people with disability
- Procuring from organisation that employ diverse workforce including people with disability and supporting them

Thank you once again for Disability Council NSW this opportunity to make a submission. If you wish to discuss this further, please contact us via DisabilityCouncil@fac.s.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Mark Tonga
Chair
NSW Disability Council