

21 April 2023

## Boosted EV rebate welcomed as QLD sales surge

RACQ has welcomed the State Government's move to increase rebates for buyers of new electric vehicles (EVs).

The Club's research showed the new \$6,000 rebate would have a positive impact on EV prices, making some electric models the same cost or even cheaper than their petrol comparisons.

For example, with the increased rebate, the MG ZS Excite EV and its petrol counterpart, the MG ZST Excite 1.3L would both cost around \$1,032 per month to own and operate over a five-year loan.

A Tesla Model 3 would be cheaper than its closest petrol comparison, the Honda Accord Vti Turbo 1.5, costing \$1,534 and \$1,550 per month respectively.

The Club's General Manager of Advocacy, Joshua Cooney, said the announcement by Queensland's Minister for Energy, Mick de Brenni, was a step in the right direction.

"RACQ has made it very clear that we don't want any Queenslanders left behind as the world transitions to more sustainable modes of transport and part of that means making electric cars more affordable," Mr Cooney said.

"It's great to see the State Government double the new EV rebate to \$6,000. This decision will make electric cars more affordable and give motorists more choice when purchasing their next car."

Mr Cooney said it was clear that more Queenslanders were interested in purchasing EVs with the Australian Automobile Association's (AAA) EV Index showing new electric car sales in the State soaring by 79.6% in the first three months of this year.

"We're expecting a rapid uptake in electric cars in the coming years and governments must prioritise funding to expand our network of charging stations to ensure we can keep up with demand," Mr Cooney said.

"It's evident Australians and Queenslanders are hungry for sustainable cars and we need to be doing as much as possible to make EVs more affordable and convenient.

"The quicker we can increase the number of cleaner vehicles on the new-car market, the faster they will become available on the second-hand market, and that's where we will see the real improvement on affordability and uptake."

While this increased rebate is good for motorists buying electric cars outright or with a personal loan, RACQ would also like to see this scheme available for cars purchased using novated leases.

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of more than 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.

Additionally, Mr Cooney said drivers should not be left in the dark about EVs with large knowledge gaps needing to be filled.

Earlier this year, RACQ reached out to its members to [answer their questions about electric cars](#) and was flooded with responses on everything from how EVs drive, to how much they cost to run and how long batteries last.

“As well as making EVs cheaper, we also think there needs to be investment in greater education to bring Queenslanders along for the electric transformation ride,” Mr Cooney said.

RACQ will continue working with the State and Federal Governments to develop and implement EV strategies to ensure no Queenslanders is left behind.

**Media enquiries: RACQ Communications Advisor Tristan Vorias 0402 466 463**

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of more than 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.