

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Keolis steps up presence in Australia with an iconic bus contract in Greater Sydney targeting enhanced service and zero emissions

- On 28 May 2021, Keolis Downer, Keolis' Australian subsidiary, won an 8-year contract to operate and maintain 406 buses in Greater Sydney.
- The contract was awarded by Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW), the Public Transport Authority (PTA) for the state of New South Wales and is set to start on 31 October 2021. It is the first time this network will be managed by a private operator.
- To improve the passenger experience and boost ridership, Keolis Downer has committed to enhance transport services and facilitate the network's energy transition by introducing 125 electric buses by 2030.
- Keolis has extensive energy transition expertise acquired in Europe and North America, and over 10 years of experience in Australia, where it is stepping up its presence in the country. Both will be key to the project's success.

**Marie-Ange Debon, CEO at Keolis Group, said:** *"We are proud that Transport for New South Wales, our partner since 2017, has awarded us this iconic contract. And we are also delighted to work with the New South Wales Government to deploy more sustainable mobility solutions by converting part of the network's fleet to electric powered buses."*

#### Enhanced and sustainable bus network in Greater Sydney

The *Greater Sydney Bus Contract* features 47 lines covering 17.7 million kilometres annually. It serves 400,000 residents in the city's Northern Beaches and lower North Shore suburbs.

Under the contract, Keolis Downer will welcome over 800 new employees, including 680 drivers. The deal includes:

- operating a **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network** called *B-Line*, with **38 diesel-powered double-decker buses** manufactured by MAN. Launched by the New South Wales government in 2017, the successful *B-Line* provides high frequency services from Mona Vale to the centre of Sydney, as well as night services. Keolis Downer will introduce innovative headway technology to further enhance the B-Line's reliability and quality of service.

- **368 standard** diesel<sup>1</sup> buses of which **125** will be gradually **converted to electric buses**<sup>2</sup> by 2030, making this the Australian bus market's largest energy transition contract to date.
- integrating **real-time on-demand transport service** through *Keoride*, a first- and last-mile mobility solution operated by Keolis Downer on behalf of TfNSW since November 2017. *Keoride* is an app-based service that allows passengers to connect to the *B-Line* and/or order a ride to key hubs in the Northern Beaches area at any time. **15 vehicles** are dedicated to this service.

## Supporting and accompanying PTAs in the energy transition

Keolis acquired its expertise in bus fleet energy transition by working closely with PTAs in Canada, the United States, France, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands, where the Group launched Europe's largest e-bus fleet in December 2020. Worldwide, Keolis operates more than 4,000 vehicles powered by alternative energies — electricity, natural gas, biogas, hydrogen. Together they represent about 20% of its total bus fleet.

## Over a decade in Australia

Keolis Downer is a joint venture that was created in 2009. It employs 5,000 people and its pre-Covid ridership totalled over 250 million passengers a year in five states.<sup>3</sup>

Today Keolis Downer operates the Adelaide commuter rail system in South Australia; Newcastle's multimodal network; the tram networks of Melbourne, Newcastle and the Gold Coast; and bus networks in four states (New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland).

It also provides first- and last-mile mobility solutions including autonomous electric vehicles (in Renmark, Raby Bay and Sydney), and real-time on-demand transport service (in Sydney, Newcastle, Mount Barker and the Barossa Valley).

## Greater Sydney Bus Contract at a glance

- **47 lines**
- **406** buses, including **125 electric buses**
- **770 staff**
- **3** depots
- **17.7** million kilometres annually

## About Keolis

Keolis is a pioneer in developing public transport systems and works alongside public authorities who want to enhance shared mobility systems to grow the appeal and vitality of their regions. A world leader in operating automated metro and tramway systems, Keolis and its partners and subsidiaries Kisio, EFFIA, Keolis Santé and Cykleo support the core business with innovations offering new and bespoke shared mobility solutions for modes including trains, buses and coaches, trolleybuses, shared car solutions, river and sea shuttle services, bike share services, car sharing, fully electric driverless shuttles and urban

<sup>1</sup> A mix of Volvo, MAN, Scania

<sup>2</sup> Brand of the e-buses to be confirmed

<sup>3</sup> Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland



cable cars. In France, Keolis is the second largest provider of parking management solutions through its subsidiary EFFIA, and the country's leader in medical transport since the creation of Keolis Santé in July 2017. The Group is 70%-owned by SNCF and 30%-owned by the Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec (Quebec Deposit and Investment Fund) and employs 68,500 people in 16 countries. In 2020, it posted revenue of €6.1 billion. In 2019, 3.4 billion passengers used one of Keolis' shared mobility services. [www.keolis.com](http://www.keolis.com)

*\* Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Senegal, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States.*

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