



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Australian Labor Party
 Date Referred: 12/02/2015

Proposal No: A228
 Date Published: 23/03/2015

Proposal Title: **FOUR NURSE WALK-IN CENTRES**

Cluster: Health

General Government Sector Impacts

	2014-15 \$'000	2015-16 \$'000	2016-17 \$'000	2017-18 \$'000	4 Year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)		12,950	13,274	13,606	39,829
Depreciation			337	337	674
Less: Offsets					-
Revenue					-
Net Operating Result:	-	(12,950)	(13,611)	(13,943)	(40,503)

Capital Expenditure		3,370			3,370
Capital Offsets					-
Capital Expenditure:	-	3,370	-	-	3,370

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	(16,320)	(13,274)	(13,606)	(43,199)
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Net Financial Liabilities:	-	16,320	29,594	43,199	
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Total State Sector Impacts

Net Financial Liabilities:	-	16,320	29,594	43,199	
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Notes and costing assumptions

The policy proposes establishing four nurse-led walk-in centres - in Western Sydney, South Western Sydney, the Central Coast and in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven district. It is assumed that the centres will be established and operational in 2015-16.

NSW Health advised that service design and configuration would be subject to extensive clinical consultation and clinically-led development of an evidence-based model of care led by the Agency for Clinical Innovation and Clinical Excellence Commission.

The costing assumes that the centres will be based in existing local Community Health Centres. Capital expenses for refurbishment and equipment are estimated at \$690,000 for Central Coast and Illawarra-Shoalhaven; and \$995,000 for Western Sydney and South Western Sydney. The capital expenditure for the centres would be incurred in 2015-16 and depreciation would commence from 1 July 2016.

Estimated costs are based on the ACT Health Walk-in Centre established at Canberra Hospital campus in May 2010 intended to service 1,100 patients per month. Service requirements for the NSW centres are scaled according to their population basis relative to the ACT. Relative populations used were:

- ACT - 386,000 (source: ABS cat. no. 3101.0);
- Central Coast - 320,000 (www.cclhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Publications/Documents/PreparingForTheFuture.pdf);
- Illawarra-Shoalhaven - 370,000 (www.islhd.health.nsw.gov.au/about_us.asp);
- Western Sydney - 876,500 (source: www.wslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/About-Us);
- South Western Sydney - 820,000 (source: www.swsld.health.nsw.gov.au/about.html);

Costing assumptions continued:

This may underrepresent demand if population health need or usage is greater in Central Coast or Western Sydney than ACT.

Costing is based on the proposed theoretical ACT model which outlined the need for the centres to be staffed with nurse practitioners and advanced practice nurses.

Employee costs are estimated based on the following full time equivalent (FTE) positions:

FTE's for Central Coast and Illawarra-Shoalhaven: 9 Nurse Practitioners (Year 4), 3 Administrative Officers (Level 4) and 1 Health Manager (Level 3).

FTE's for Western Sydney and South Western Sydney: 18 Nurse Practitioners (Year 4), 6 Administrative Officers (Level 4) and 1 Health Manager (Level 3).

Additional recurrent costs include pharmaceuticals, ICT, consumables and other supplies.

Employee expenses, and goods and services are escalated at 2.5% p.a.

The costing also makes the following assumptions:

- there are available Nurse Practitioners in NSW willing to locate to relevant locations;
- an integrated electronic medical record system is in place;
- using existing toilets and staff rooms at the Community Health Centres;
- service has access to After Hours medical on-call service;
- 25-35 min average visit time per patient
- Hours of service delivery 7am to 11pm, 7 days a week
- Patient visit types may include, but is not limited to: Urinary Tract Infections in women; Common Cold and Influenza; Conjunctivitis (eye infection); Simple limb injuries; Minor limb fractures; Minor cuts, abrasions, bruises, and burns; Sinusitis, Tonsillitis, Middle and Outer Ear Infections; Ear wax removal; School sores; Simple gastroenteritis; Emergency contraception; Skin conditions and rashes.