



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Australian Labor Party
 Date Referred: 12/03/2015

Proposal No: A341
 Date Published: 23/03/2015

Proposal Title: **FUNDING FOR LANDCARE**

Cluster: Planning and Environment

General Government Sector Impacts

| | 2014-15 \$'000 | 2015-16 \$'000 | 2016-17 \$'000 | 2017-18 \$'000 | 4 Year Total \$'000 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Expenses (ex. depreciation) | | | | | - |
| Depreciation | | | | | - |
| Less: Offsets | | | | | - |
| Revenue | | | | | - |
| Net Operating Result: | - | - | - | - | - |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Capital Expenditure | | | | | - |
| Capital Offsets | | | | | - |
| Capital Expenditure: | - | - | - | - | - |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net Lending/(Borrowing) | - | - | - | - | - |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net Financial Liabilities: | - | - | - | - | - |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|

Total State Sector Impacts

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net Financial Liabilities: | - | - | - | - | - |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|

Notes and costing assumptions

The policy proposes to provide \$20 million to Landcare over four years funded from the unallocated funding within the Environmental Trust. Under the policy, \$5 million would be provided each year from 2015-16 to 2018-19 to Landcare.

The Parliamentary Budget Office notes that the Environmental Trust is an independent, statutory body and legislative change is likely to be required to enable the government to fund Landcare from the Trust.

There is sufficient unallocated funding within the Environmental Trust for this policy, so it has a nil impact on the forward estimates.

Background information

There are two sources of unallocated funding within the Environmental Trust.

1. Unallocated Statutory Funds

The Environmental Trust Statutory Fund is allocated and controlled through the *Environmental Trust Act 1998*. Specific minimum levels of annual expenditure are set within the Act for some programs, with other programs managed through decisions of the Trust.

Under the Act, funds cannot be reallocated without a formal decision of the Trust. Example programs include the Rehabilitation and Restoration Program, Education Program and Major Projects.

Unallocated funding is as follows:

Costing assumptions continued:

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| 2014-15 | \$4,905,135 |
| 2015-16 | \$14,539,532 |
| 2016-17 | \$11,652,369 |
| 2017-18 | \$12,883,908 |

2. Unallocated Other Funds

These funds relate to other government commitments largely focused on the management of waste through the Waste Less Recycle More programs. These programs and sub programs have been publicly announced over the full forward estimates period with contestable grant rounds launched or allocations made on an annual basis.

These funds cannot be reallocated without a change to current government policy.

Unallocated funding is as follows:

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| 2014-15 | \$20,292,608 |
| 2015-16 | \$43,330,206 |
| 2016-17 | \$45,349,812 |
| 2017-18 | \$5,825,000 |