



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch)
Name of Policy:	Labor's plan to establish Australia's first Great Koala National Park
Date of request:	2 March 2015

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Establish Australia's first Great Koala National Park (see Attachment 1).
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	Save the koalas of Northern NSW from extinction.
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	

Your estimated costing of the policy ¹						
	2014/15 \$'000	2015/16 \$'000	2016/17 \$'000	2017/18 \$'000	4 Yr Total \$'000	Other years ² \$'000
Impact on General Government Sector (GGS) net operating result ³						
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ⁴						
If different from above, impact on total State Sector net financial liabilities ⁵						

¹ Amounts should be expressed in nominal dollars. GGS - General Government Sector.

² Please provide information on other years if spending occurs outside the forward estimate years and will be required to cost the policy.

³ Negative for a saving that reduces expenditure

⁴ Negative for a reduction in capital expenditure.

⁵ Only required if proposal is outside GGS. Negative for a reduction in net financial liabilities.

Key assumptions made in the policy	
Does the policy relate to a previous announcement? If yes, which announcement?	Yes – announcement by Luke Foley on 19 January 2015 (see Attachment 2).
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	<p>The significant new national park will stretch over 315,000 hectares of public land inland from Coffs Harbour from the Macleay River, near Kempsey to Woolgoolga and encompass 140,000 hectares of existing reserves.</p> <p>Labor will also establish additional koala reserves on the North Coast including Royal Camp and Carwong State Forests which are south west of Casino. This area is a key koala habitat in the region.</p> <p>It is assumed that the Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) will transfer over 170,000 to the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) on 1 July 2017 for reservation as national park.</p> <p>The policy being costed would include necessary timber buyback and adjustment packages. These should be delivered consistent with recent policy arrangements of this nature.</p> <p>Within the above parameters, the specific land comprising the national park should be selected in such a way as to minimise estimated costs over the forward estimates.</p> <p>The map included at Attachment 1 refers to “proposed” land for a Labor government to consider as potential composition of the park. This is included for indicative purposes. It should be considered subordinate to the above assumptions. Final boundaries would be subject to consideration and decision by government after appropriate advice and investigation.</p>

	<p>Infrastructure in the national park will include a “koala trail”, allowing visitors the chance to glimpse a koala in its natural habitat. This should be funded at the minimum reasonable cost in order to deliver a trail that meets this description.</p> <p>The policy also includes a feasibility study into incorporating a koala hospital and interpretative visitor centre. The policy being costed should include a capped amount of \$250,000 in 2017-18 to fund the feasibility study. The rollout of the koala hospital and interpretive centre would proceed subject to consideration and decision by government on the basis of a business case.</p> <p>It is expected that the interpretive visitor centre and koala hospital would be constructed from 1 July 2018 to 30 December 2019, with a view to opening in January 2019.</p> <p><u>Attachment 1</u> also includes a commitment to prohibit commercial logging, amateur hunting and grazing of hoofed animals in national parks estates. This is not included in the present costing request as it is included in a separate request.</p>
<p>Is there a range for the costing or any sensitivity analysis that you have undertaken?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.</p>	<p>..</p>

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	1 July 2017.
Intended duration of policy:	Ongoing.
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account?	No.
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	..

If the policy is mainly an expenditure⁶ commitment	
Demand driven or a capped amount:	Uncapped.
Eligibility criteria or thresholds:	N/a.

⁶ Expenditure is operating expenses, e.g. salaries, interest cost and grants. Expenditures are fully included in the impact on operating balance.