



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Australian Labor Party
Date Referred: 5/03/2019

Proposal No: B392
Date Published: 18/03/2019

Proposal Title: Every child will learn a second language - various

Cluster: Education

General Government Sector Impacts

	2018-19 \$'000	2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	1,000	1,027	1,051	3,077
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Offsets	-	1,000	1,027	1,051	3,077
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Net Operating Balance:	-	-	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
Net Capital Expenditure:	-	-	-	-	-

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Total State Sector Impacts

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Notes and costing assumptions

This policy proposes, from 1 July 2019, to do the following:

- Help current teachers gain formal qualifications as language teachers
- Work with universities to increase the number of specialist primary school language teacher courses, and
- Help current community language school teachers gain formal qualifications to teach languages in primary schools.

The PBO assumes that a specialist team is set up within the Department of Education to implement this policy. As the team would need to travel to the 12 universities across NSW (listed on the NSW Education Standards Authority website) that offer primary education courses, the PBO assumes that the team would comprise six full-time equivalent (FTE) staff. A breakdown of staff requirements and salary rates including on-costs (2019-20 dollars) is shown below:

- 1 x Director SES Grade 1: \$259,600
- 2 x Grade 11/12 Officers: \$160,130 per Officer
- 3 x Grade 9/10 Officers: \$136,550 per Officer.

Using Department of Education data, the PBO has assumed on-costs to be 11.1% for the SES Grade 1 position, and 23% for the other positions. Staff costs are assumed to escalate by 2.5% per year over the forward estimates, in line with the NSW public sector wages policy. An additional \$10,000 per year is included on top of salaries to reflect other operating expenses in relation to the team's work, such as travel costs.

Notes and costing assumptions continued:

The policy states that the costs will be absorbed within the Department of Education's existing resources, with the scope of policy activities to be scaled to available resourcing. Policy implementation may also utilise resources from a language education coordination unit, which is costed in a separate policy.

The PBO considers that the Department of Education absorbing the cost is feasible. On 7 November 2018 it was announced that NSW had reached a school funding agreement with the federal government and that the NSW Government would fund an additional \$6.4 billion for NSW schools across the State from 2019 to 2027.

Accordingly the budget impact of this policy is nil.