

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Liberals & Nationals Government
Name of Policy:	Fast Rail
Date of request:	26 February 2019

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents and include information on what the policy aims to achieve):	<p>The NSW Liberals & Nationals will provide a further \$295 million to kick start early works on the State's fast rail network, in addition to the \$4.6 million already committed to strategic planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$80 million for preliminary work on a new straightened route between Menangle and Yerrinbool. • \$125 million for the duplication of the rail line between Berry and Gerringong, along with extra platforms at Bomaderry. • \$80 million to develop a new rail alignment between northern Sydney and Woy Woy. This will include investigations to inform major tunnelling work that would be required for this section. • Initial \$10 million get work underway on the route to the Central West. This will include a particular focus on options for crossing of the Blue Mountains.
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	No

	2018/19 \$'000	2019/20 \$'000	2020/21 \$'000	2021/22 \$'000	Total \$'000
Impact on GGS expenses					
Impact on GGS revenue					
Impact on General Government Sector (GGS) net operating result ¹					
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ²					
Impact on GGS net lending/borrowing					

Note: Has the policy been costed by a third party?
If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?

Key assumptions made in the policy	
Does the policy relate to a previous announcement? If yes, which announcement?	Yes. The Government announced an initial Fast Rail study towards the end of last year, prior to campaign period.
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	Treasury costing, based on advice of Transport for NSW. Costs are capped.
Is there a range for the costing or any sensitivity analysis that you have undertaken?	No.
Are there associated savings, offsets or, in the case of a revenue proposal, offsetting expenses? If yes, please provide details.	No.
Are there significant costs or savings outside the forward estimates period which should be considered in costing this policy? ³	Total cost is \$295 million. Remaining funding of \$51 million is in 2022/23.

¹ Negative for a saving that reduces expenditure

² Negative for a reduction in capital expenditure.

³ Particularly important for large projects with long lead times, policies with a delayed timetable for implementation, or policies where up-front investment is required to achieve long term savings.

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	From 2019/20
Intended duration of policy ⁴ :	To be delivered from 2019/20 through to 2022/23.
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	Transport for NSW with oversight from Department of Premier and Cabinet.
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account (e.g. agreements between different levels of government)?	No.
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	No.

If the policy is mainly an expenditure⁵ commitment	
Demand driven or a capped amount:	Capped.
Eligibility criteria or thresholds:	N/A

If the policy is mainly a revenue commitment	
Transaction based or capped:	N/A
Thresholds and/or exemptions:	N/A
Collection method:	N/A
Additional expenditure associated with collection:	N/A

If the policy is mainly a capital costs⁶ commitment	
Nature of Capital Spending	
Type of work, size and capacity:	Work will include early work investigations necessary to inform business case work on specific Fast Rail segments from Sydney to Canberra, Nowra, Central West, and Port Macquarie. It will also include upgrade of the rail line between Berry and Gerringong.
Proposed start and completion date of work:	2019/20
Intended construction schedule/cashflow:	
Associated asset sell off (if any):	None.
Recurrent Impacts	

⁴ Where a policy is intended to be ongoing, please indicate "ongoing" in the space to the right

⁵ Expenditure is operating expenses, e.g. salaries, interest cost and grants. Expenditures are fully included in the impact on operating balance.

⁶ Capital costs differ from expenditure in that only depreciation will be included in the impact on operating balance.

Offsetting expenditure savings:	N/A
On-going maintenance, depreciation and operational expenses:	N/A
Third party funding involvement:	N/A
Delivery model ⁷	Rail upgrades to be standard design and construct style. Early work investigations to be delivered internally by Government resources, supported by external experts as necessary.

Checklist for key assumptions (please be comprehensive and include all relevant assumptions).

Assumptions could include, but are not limited to, questions such as:

- What is the expected community impact?
- How many people will be affected by the policy?
- What is the likely take up or other behavioural response you expect?
- Is there a cap on total spending proposed, a funding formula, resource agreement or other mechanism of this nature associated with the policy?
- Will third parties have a role in funding or delivering the policy (e.g. Commonwealth Government)?
- Will funding/program cost require indexation?
 - If yes, do you have any assumptions about the index that should be applied?
- What assumptions have you made about costs of administering the policy?
- Will additional staff be needed in the agency responsible for the policy?
 - How many and at what approximate levels?
- Are there other resources required?
- Are you assuming administrative costs will be absorbed within the agency?

Please note that:

- The costing will be on the basis of information provided in this costing request.
- The PBO is not bound to accept the assumptions provided by the requester. If there is a material difference in the assumptions used by the PBO, the PBO will consult with the requester in advance of the costing being completed.
- Where the details of the policy costing request differ from the announced policy, the costing will be on the basis of the information provided in the costing request.
- These guidelines are intended to facilitate requests for costing election policies. Persons preparing such requests who wish further assistance are invited to contact the staff of the Parliamentary Budget Office.

⁷ There is a range of possible delivery models, e.g. built, owned and operated by a NSW government agency; built and transferred to a private operator; privately built for public operation; privately built and operated with government assuming risk or providing a guarantee in relation to future income (often applicable to public/private partnership arrangements), and so on. The policy should provide assumptions about the proposed delivery model.