

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch)
Name of Policy:	Three helicopter ambulance bases in regional NSW
Date of request:	6 March 2023

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents and include information on what the policy aims to achieve):	<p>NSW Labor would build three new helicopter ambulance bases in the first term of government, to reduce emergency health response times in regional and rural NSW.</p> <p>Each base will be equipped with an ambulance helicopter as well as a road based ambulance.</p> <p>The locations of the bases will be determined by need, as well as proximity to appropriate health facilities and air infrastructure and resources. They will all be in rural and regional NSW.</p> <p>The bases will commence operation within the next term of a Labor government.</p>
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	No

Your estimated costing of the policy ¹						
	2022/23 \$'000	2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 and later years ² \$'000	Total \$'000
Impact on General Government Sector (GGS) net operating result ³		-500	-1,525	2,575	-3,125	-7,725
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ⁴		-1,000	-20,838	-20,838	-19,838	62,514
If different from above, impact on total State Sector net financial liabilities ⁵						

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
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	One helicopter ambulance base should be 'built' a year across the forward estimates.
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.	The expenditure for these bases should be funded out of the Snowy Hydro Fund and thus offset.

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	On forming government.

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 or will assist in public understanding of 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.

Intended duration of policy:	Three years for construction. The operations should be ongoing.
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	NSW Health.
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account (e.g. agreements between different levels of government)?	
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	

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

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

If the policy is mainly a capital costs⁷ commitment	
Nature of Capital Spending	
Type of work, size and capacity:	
Proposed start and completion date of work:	1 July 2023.
Intended construction schedule/cashflow:	
Associated asset sell off (if any):	
Recurrent Impacts	
Offsetting expenditure savings:	

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

⁷ Capital costs differ from expenditure in that only depreciation will be included in the impact on operating balance. The capital cost of the asset to be acquired will however be included in the net financial liabilities statement.

On-going maintenance, depreciation and operational expenses:	
Third party funding involvement:	
Delivery model ⁸	

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.

⁸ 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.

APPENDIX

Expenses	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
1st base	- 500	- 1,025	- 1,050		
2nd base		- 500	- 1,025	- 1,050	
3rd Base			- 500	- 1,025	- 1,050
Total	- 500	- 1,525	- 2,575	- 2,075	- 1,050

Capital	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
1st base	- 1,000	- 19,838			
2nd base		- 1,000	- 19,838		
3rd Base			- 1,000	- 19,838	
Total	- 1,000	- 20,838	- 20,838	- 19,838	-