

PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Referred by: Australian Labor Party Proposal No: C1678

Date Referred: 14/03/2023 **Date Published:** 20/03/2023

Proposal Title: Regional Koala Support

Cluster: Regional NSW

General Government Sector Impacts

General Government Sector impacts					
	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000	4-year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	500	2,010	500	500	3,510
Depreciation					-
Less: Offsets	500	2,010	500	500	3,510
Revenue					-
Net Operating Balance:	-	-	-	-	-
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Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets					
Net Capital Expenditure:	-	-	-	-	-
Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
Total State Sector Impacts					
Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-

Notes and costing assumptions:

The policy proposes to provide a capped grant of \$3.51 million for regional koala support over the forward estimates starting in 2022-23. The funding profile would consist of:

- \$2 million over four years to support the vets, nurses, surgery and feeding at Port Stephens Koala hospital.
- \$1.4 million in 2023-24 to complete the Northern Rivers Wildlife Hospital
- \$110,000 in 2023-24 for Friends of the Koala for works relating to Chlamydia Vaccination Program (\$75,000) and Koala Database (\$35,000).

The grant would be administered by the Department of Primary Industries for the duration of the policy with funding to come from "unallocated funds" in the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

The Parliamentary Budget Office assumes that "unallocated funds" referred to in the policy includes both unallocated and reserved/provisioned funds.

As at March 2023, Regional NSW have advised that the RGF is not fully committed which means the proposed policy will have no budget impact over the forward estimates.