



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

MEDIA RELEASE

Operational plan for the Parliamentary Budget Office published

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 September 2018

The NSW Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) can now accept proposed policies from the parliamentary leaders of the major parties – the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition – for costing.

The Presiding Officers of the Parliament of New South Wales today tabled the operational plan of the Parliamentary Budget Office. Under its legislation the PBO can accept policies for costings following approval and tabling of the operational plan by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the President of the Legislative Council. Now that has happened, the starter’s gun has officially been fired for costing work to begin.

The PBO examines proposed policies and the assumptions behind them to calculate their cost to the NSW Budget, and the costings are published when those policies are announced.

“The work of the PBO helps the major parties develop cost-effective policies and ensures voters know the full costs of those policies before the election”, said Parliamentary Budget Officer, Mr Stephen Bartos. “New South Wales was the first Australian state to introduce a PBO, and 2019 will be the third election year where a PBO has been in place. The success of the PBO has helped enhance the state’s reputation for transparency and good governance.”

A copy of the operational plan can be found on the [Parliamentary Budget Office page of the NSW Parliament website](#).

For further information call Stephen Bartos, PBO, on 02 92303788

-ENDS-