



Kristina Keneally MP

Monday, 21st March 2011

Mr Tony Harris *21/3 112M*
Acting Parliamentary Budget Officer
NSW Parliament
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Harris

I am writing to you to formally request, under Part 4 (Election policy costings) of the Parliamentary Budget Officer Act 2010, an official costing for the *Celebrating our diversity - Labor's citizenship and multiculturalism policy* policy, publicly announced on 17 March 2011.

This policy document includes commitments under Section 18(2) of the Act, specifically:

- Create shared office space in Parramatta for Community Groups with no regular working or meeting place

Please find attached a copy of this policy outlining the purpose of the policy and relevant details required to complete the costing as per the requirements of the Act.

A copy of the NSW Treasury costing and budget impact statement for the policy has also been included for your reference.

Should you require any further information on this request, please contact my office on (02) 9228-5239.

Yours sincerely

Kristina Keneally
Premier of NSW
Leader of NSW Labor Party





CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY

LABOR'S CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURALISM POLICY



March 2011



Celebrating our Diversity

Labor's Citizenship and Multiculturalism Policy

The story of Australia, as we know it, is a story of immigration. And from its very birth as a nation, our society has been multicultural.

100 years later NSW – the founding point of our nation – remains the most successful example of multicultural democracy in the world. We come from more than 200 different countries and speak more than 192 different languages.

This has been to our betterment, both socially and economically.

Our population growth and diversity has been accompanied by continuous and steady rises in income, earning capacity, productivity, quality of life, life expectancy, educational achievements, educational achievement and more. This is because the exchange of cultures and thinking that enriches our society also provides a diversity of knowledge and skills that few countries can hope for. Our diversity is the underlying strength of our industry, innovation and creativity, and helps our relatively-small population punch well above its weight in the global economy.

As Premier, I am well aware of how political leadership has played, and continues to play, a key role in this success story. And this is why I've made it clear that our diversity is something to be actively pursued. It is the smartest way to keep NSW in its enviable position as one of the greatest places to live, anywhere in the world.

It was Labor who first enshrined diversity into our law, with the *Anti-Discrimination Act* in 1977. It was Labor who had the foresight in 1983 to introduce the Ethnic Affairs Policy Statement program; the first example of a strong multicultural governance model in Australia. It was Labor who created the Community Relations Commission. And it is my Government – a Labor Government – which has strengthened the *Principles of Multiculturalism Act*, strengthened the role of Community Relations Commission and created the best-funded Community Languages Program in the nation.

We have also supported continued this long standing work by:

- Approving grants to support community groups;
- Promoting the importance multiculturalism and inter-faith dialogue such as the Iftar dinner at State Parliament;
- Celebrating the contribution of communities to the life our State; and
- Ensuring high quality services are available to everyone.

We have also strengthened the *Anti-Discrimination Act*, enabling the Anti-Discrimination Board to investigate matters relating to discrimination or racial vilification referred by the Community Relations Commission.

NSW Labor has also taken a tough stand against One Nation and its leader Pauline Hanson. In 1998, NSW Labor was the first political organisation to refuse to allocate preferences to One Nation.

Over the next four years, a re-elected Keneally Government will continue this work by:

- Preserving and celebrating the history and heritage of our diverse community through the creation of a \$23 million Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism;
- Releasing 90 hectares of land as cultural burial grounds to ensure all families are able to observe their faith and customs;
- Continue funding for multicultural communities, inter-faith activity and community language schools; and
- Providing free shared office space for community groups that have no regular working or meeting place.

Our diversity is our greatest strength: culturally, socially and economically.

So protecting and celebrating that diversity is not only what is right, it is what is smart. And a Labor Government will ensure that NSW *remains* the smart State.



Kristina Keneally

What this policy means for you and our community

The Keneally Labor Government will continue to support multiculturalism and celebrate diversity within our community.

We will take action to recognise, support and protect ethnic communities in NSW.

In the next four years, the Keneally Labor Government will:

- Preserve and celebrate the history and heritage of our diverse community through the implementation of our \$23 million policy for a **Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism**;
- Release **90 hectares of cultural burial grounds** to allow families to observe their cultural and religious beliefs;
- Foster and support community languages with more than 33,000 children studying at 435 Community Language Schools across NSW in 48 different languages and dialects;
- Continue its strong stand against Pauline Hanson and One Nation by refusing to direct preferences in the March 2011 State election;
- Continue funding **community organisations and events as well as inter-faith activity**; and
- Provide **free shared office space** for community groups with no regular working or meeting place.

ACTION:

Building a Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism

- Build a Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism to celebrate the contribution of migrants to New South Wales and to promote community harmony and solidarity

More Cultural Burial Grounds

- Release 90 hectares of cultural burial grounds to allow families to observe their religious and cultural burial customs

Support Community Languages

- Foster and support community languages with more than 33,000 children studying at 435 Community Language Schools across NSW in 48 different languages and dialects

Funding Community Organisations and Events

- Maintain \$1.7 million a year in funding from the Community Relations Commission for community organisations and events as well as interfaith activities to promote harmony and understanding

Offices for Community Groups

- Create shared office space in Parramatta for Community Groups with no regular working or meeting place

Oppose One Nation and Pauline Hanson

- Refuse to give preferences to One Nation and Pauline Hanson in the March 2011 State election.

Labor and Multiculturalism

The Keneally Government believes NSW is a more prosperous and a more successful society because of our diversity.

We believe that all people should be given the opportunity to work, raise a family and enjoy life.

The Keneally Government has reaffirmed its support for multiculturalism by elevating the role of the Community Relations Commission to one that reports directly to the Premier.

We have provided an \$8.1 million increase in financial support for Community Language Schools – including doubling the funding for each student – creating the most generous funding package in Australia.

Moreover, we have established a number of Community Service Awards, building on the Chinese Community Service Awards, so that the volunteer work and significant community contribution of Australians of Vietnamese, Lebanese, Filipino, Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Nepalese and Sri Lankan backgrounds can be celebrated.

Our Challenges

Around one in four Australians come from a migrant background.

We come from more than 200 different countries and speak more than 192 different languages.

Our diversity makes us strong but also poses unique challenges.

Our task is to create and support an inclusive and understanding society where linguistic and cultural barriers are broken down, where inter-community dialogue is fostered and where cultural differences are welcomed, understood and valued.

If we are successful, we can continue to enjoy the benefits of immigration, a growing skilled workforce and a rich and culturally diverse community.

Our Record

LABOR

- Increasing funding for Community Language Schools by \$8.1 million – doubling the funding per student
- Committed to Multiculturalism and supporting the *Federal Ethnic Communities Council of Australia's* 'Reclaim Multiculturalism' campaign
- Increased the number of migrants that it nominates to live and work in NSW each year, attracting the world's best and brightest to NSW
- Increased the number of Commissioners on the Community Relations Commission, giving more communities a voice in Government
- Funding and supporting key community groups, festivals and events so that communities can celebrate their culture and heritage
- Established the Premier's Multicultural Volunteer Awards to recognise the important contribution made by all communities in NSW
- Built upon Chinese Community Service Awards by establishing a number of new Community Service Awards for the Vietnamese, Lebanese, Filipino and Indian Sub-Continent communities.
- NSW Labor was one of the first political parties in Australia to refuse preferences to One Nation in 1998. We will continue that principled stand in 2011 by refusing to give preferences to Pauline Hanson.

OPPOSITION

- Pre-selected a former senior member of Pauline Hanson's "One Nation" political party as its candidate on the Central Coast
- Refused to reject Scott Morrison's politics of division which attack boat people and refugees

A Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism

The Keneally Labor Government will set up a \$23 million Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism to celebrate the significant contribution made by migrants to NSW.

This museum will focus on post World War II migration and build upon the story told in part by the National Maritime Museum in Darling Harbour.

The evolution of the Museum will be overseen by an advisory committee comprising members from Communities NSW, the Community Relations Commission, Powerhouse Museum and community representation.

The museum will have strong links to the NSW School Curriculum, ensuring that exhibits, facilities and research resources appeal to the needs of school students. By drawing on the expertise of the Powerhouse Museum, the exhibits will be interactive and engaging for people of all ages.

The Keneally Government will work with migrant communities to tell their stories ensuring that their personal experiences inform and shape the narratives the Museum will house.

Members of the community will also be able to apply for grants under the \$1 million Diverse Communities Storytelling Program – to encourage the creation of original artworks that tell the story of immigration.

The total museum plan includes:

- A \$1 million Diverse Communities Storytelling Program to support the development and presentation of original artworks that reflect our multicultural society;
- Strong links to the NSW School Curriculum, ensuring that exhibits, facilities and research resources appeal to the needs of school students;

ACTION:

- Build Museum of Immigration and Multiculturalism to celebrate the contribution of migrants to New South Wales and promote community harmony and solidarity.

More Cemetery Space for Culturally Diverse Communities

The Keneally Labor Government believes it is important to allow families to observe their religious and cultural beliefs during difficult times, like the passing of a loved one.

To ensure families are able to observe these beliefs, we will release 90 hectares of land across Sydney and New South Wales to ensure suitable burial grounds continue to be available to all faiths.

This land has already been identified at a number of locations including:

- 50 hectares at Castlereagh
- 30 hectares at Appin on cleared rural lands
- more than three hectares to be added to Rookwood Cemetery
- three hectares at Kemps Creek, and
- one hectare adjoining Mona Vale cemetery

ACTION:

- Release 90 hectares of cultural burial grounds to allow families to observe their religious and cultural burial customs

Support Community Languages

A re-elected Keneally Government will foster and support community languages with more than 33,000 children studying at 435 Community Language Schools across NSW in 48 different languages and dialects.

This is about ensuring the children of migrants retain the language of their parents.

The NSW Government has provided \$8.1 million over four years to double Community Language School funding from \$60 to \$120 per student a year.

Unlike other States, the NSW Government does not charge Community Language Schools rent so the additional \$8.1 million will go directly towards buying new textbooks and equipment for schools.

The NSW Government's funding boost includes:

- A \$500,000 Community Language School grants program to provide schools with new textbooks and resources for the 2011 school year;
- An additional \$30,000 for 300 volunteer teachers to undertake a fully-subsidised professional accreditation course each year through university study; and
- Community Language School start-up grants will increase from \$1000 to \$2,500 to support the introduction of new schools and language courses where there is unmet demand.

This was in addition to the:

- Funding of \$410,000 each year in subsidies so Community Language Schools do not pay rent;
- Investment of \$200,000 each year in professional development for volunteer teachers;
- Providing two full-time project officers; and
- Funding two full-time professional development officers.

ACTION:

- Continue to foster and support community languages with more than 33,000 children studying at 435 Community Language Schools across NSW in 48 different languages and dialects.

Funding Community Organisations and Events

The Keneally Labor Government will continue its financial support of the Community Relations Commission for community organisations and cultural events in New South Wales.

This includes language and interpreting services offered by the Government, contributions to help community organisations and festivals, and funding for the operations of the Community Relations Commission – the key division of Government responsible for promoting cultural diversity and implementing the principles of multiculturalism.

ACTION:

- Maintain \$1.7 million in funding from the Community Relations Commission for community organisations and events

Offices for Community Groups

The Keneally Labor Government understands that community organisations, especially those that rely on volunteers and depend on fundraising for their operations, experience difficulties when faced with the cost of office rent and maintenance.

That is why we will create shared office space in Parramatta for community groups with no regular working or meeting place.

More than 170 square metres of shared community office space will be a valuable resource for organisations, providing them with access to offices and a meeting room, thus reducing their financial burdens and enabling them to provide better services to the community they represent.

Co-location of a variety of community groups also presents an opportunity to cultivate dialogue and collaborative relationships between community organisations.

ACTION:

- Create shared office space in Parramatta for Community Groups with no regular working or meeting place

Oppose One Nation and Pauline Hanson

In 1998, NSW Labor was one of the first political parties to refuse to do preference deals with One Nation.

It took a tough stand on One Nation and its leader Pauline Hanson. This will continue in the March 2011 State election, where we will refuse to engage in preference deals with One Nation.

However, the NSW Liberal Party has pre-selected a former senior figure from NSW One Nation as its candidate in The Entrance – Chris Spence.

Opposition leader Barry O'Farrell has welcomed Mr Spence into his organisation.

Action:

- Refuse to give preferences to One Nation and Pauline Hanson in the March 2011 State election.



www.kristinakeneally.com.au



Costing of Proposal

Title/Subject:	Multiculturalism (community and office space)
Pink/Physical ID:	EA1645861
Proposal by:	Government
Agency:	State Property Authority
Cluster:	Planning
Detailed description:	Create shared office space in Parramatta for community groups with no regular working or meeting place. 176 square metres of shared community office space will be available as a resource for organization, providing them with access to offices and a meeting room, reducing their financial burdens and enabling them to provide better services to the community they represent.
FIS No: 595	
Classification: GGO	

General Government Sector Financial Impact

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000	2014-15 \$'000	Ongoing \$'000
Expenses (incl. depreciation)		65	65	71	71	71
Less Agency Offsets (1)		56	56			
Less Agency Revenue						
Less Crown Provisions						
Budget Result Impact	0	-9	-9	-71	-71	-71

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000	2014-15 \$'000	Residual
Capital Expenditure						
Less Capital Offsets (1)						
Net Capital Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Depreciation						
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Net Lending (2)	0	-9	-9	-71	-71	
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Public Trading Enterprises Sector Financial Impact

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000	2014-15 \$'000	Ongoing \$'000
Revenues						
Expenses						
Operating Result	0	0	0	0	0	0

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000	2014-15 \$'000	Residual
Capital Expenditure						
Less Capital Offsets (1)						
Net Capital Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Depreciation						
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Net Lending (2)	0	0	0	0	0	
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Accumulated Net Financial Liabilities as at 30 June (3)

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000	2014-15 \$'000
General Government Sector	0	9	18	89	160
Total State Sector	0	9	18	89	160

(1) Includes items such as available funding within existing estimates, expenditure offsets, recurrent savings associated with capital projects, linked assets sales.

(2) Equal to Budget Result or Operating Result Impact plus Net Capital Cost.

(3) Equals cumulative Net Lending Impact. Total State Sector equals sum of General Government and PTE (and PFE) sectors.

Key costing assumptions

(i) The space identified, currently vacant, is not expected to have any alternative use until lease expiry (30-June-2013). The lease will be extended if this space is required for the stated purpose beyond 30-June-2013. (ii) Expenses include the cost of rent, outgoings, cleaning and utilities. Offset includes the cost of rent attributable to the identified space as this was already included in the mid-year review estimates. (iii) It is assumed that rent will increase by 10% one-off, after lease is renewed; other related costs (outgoings, cleaning & utilities) are assumed to grow by 2.5% per annum. (iv) All other administrative costs will be absorbed by the Community Relations Commission (CRC).

Key data

Information and data for the above costing was provided by the State Property Authority (SPA). For example, for 2011-12 the cost has been estimated at \$370 per square metre, including:

Rent - \$320

Outgoings - \$15

Cleaning - \$10

Utilities - \$25

Caveats or qualifications

(i) The costing request assumes that costs could be absorbed by SPA and the CRC. However, in relation to expenses identified in this costing: (a) SPA does not have budget funding to absorb these expenses; and (b) CRC will require additional budget funding to compensate SPA for these expenses.

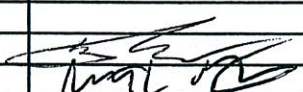

(ii) The costing request also states that community organizations may contribute a nominal amount, however, this is uncertain and therefore has not been included as offsets in this costing.

Implementation issues (including how Treasury can assist in speedy implementation and any potential difficulties and how these might be overcome)

None.

Other comments (including explanation where Treasury costing differs from agency or PBO estimates)

None.

Position	Name and extension	Signature	Date
Analyst(s)	Julitta Ponniah		
in consultation with			
Director	Michael Clark-Lewis		16/03/11
Deputy Secretary	Matt Roberts		16/3/11