



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Australian Labor Party
Date Referred: 2/03/2015

Proposal No: A283
Date Published: 23/03/2015

Proposal Title: **500 MORE PARAMEDICS**

Cluster: Health

General Government Sector Impacts

| | 2014-15 \$'000 | 2015-16 \$'000 | 2016-17 \$'000 | 2017-18 \$'000 | 4 Year Total \$'000 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Expenses (ex. depreciation) | | 6,778 | 20,686 | 35,558 | 63,022 |
| Depreciation | | | | | - |
| Less: Offsets | | 2,151 | 6,100 | 10,228 | 18,478 |
| Revenue | | | | | - |
| Net Operating Result: | - | (4,627) | (14,586) | (25,331) | (44,544) |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Capital Expenditure | | 416 | 820 | 841 | 2,077 |
| Capital Offsets | | | | | - |
| Capital Expenditure: | - | 416 | 820 | 841 | 2,077 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Net Lending/(Borrowing) | - | (5,043) | (15,406) | (26,171) | (46,621) |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Net Financial Liabilities: | - | 5,043 | 20,450 | 46,621 | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|

Total State Sector Impacts

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Net Financial Liabilities: | - | 5,043 | 20,450 | 46,621 | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|

Notes and costing assumptions

The policy proposes engaging an additional 500 paramedic FTEs (full time equivalents) to address the staff shortage and reduce the overtime hours. It is assumed the policy will be phased in over a four year period: staff numbers would increase by an additional 125 each calendar year from 2016 to 2019.

It is assumed that the number of paramedics includes relief and therefore additional costs for relief staff are not included. Offsets are estimated savings made from a reduction of overtime hours due to the introduction of additional paramedic staff.

Employee costs are based on the assumption that entry level staff will be graduate recruits, commencing as Paramedic Interns and promoted on an annual basis. To ensure adequate supervision and support is available the intake of new recruits and classes would need to be phased across the year. Employee on-costs (55%) includes: penalties, overtime, meal allowances, superannuation and workers compensation. Additional employee on-costs include on-boarding at \$493,000 in 2015/16, \$1.01 million in 2016/17 and \$1.04 million in 2017/18. Costs are escalated at 2.5% over the forward estimates.

Estimated operating costs for 2015/16 (\$551,000), 2016/17 (\$1.8 million) and 2017/18 (\$3.1 million) includes: uniform, administration, ICT costs, vehicle running costs, pharmaceuticals, medical and surgical supplies, domestic cleaning and waste, new/replacement medical equipment and repairs. Costs are escalated at 2.5% over the forward estimates.

Estimated capital expenditure for 2015/16 (\$416,000), 2016/17 (\$820,000) and 2017/18 (\$841,000) includes:

Costing assumptions continued:

vehicles and equipment such as defibrillator, stretcher, carry chair, spinal board, electronic Medical Record (eMR) tablet and printer, radios, mobile data terminal, lights and sirens. Costs are escalated at 2.5% over the forward estimates.

Cost will continue to increase outside the forward estimates as the number of paramedics ramps up to the full 500