



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Liberals/ Nationals
Name of Policy:	Deliver more services valued by seniors
Date of request:	10 March 2015

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Refer to Attachment A
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	To empower people to plan ahead for their future, and deliver the services that seniors want and need.
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	

Your estimated costing of the policy ¹						
	2014/15 \$'000	2015/16 \$'000	2016/17 \$'000	2017/18 \$'000	4 Yr Total \$'000	Other years ² \$'000
Impact on General Government Sector (GGs) net operating result ³	-	1,517	1,555	1,594	4,666	
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ⁴						
If different from above, impact on total State Sector net financial liabilities ⁵						

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.

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.

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?	N/A
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	See Attachments A & B
Is there a range for the costing or any sensitivity analysis that you have undertaken?	N/A
Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.	See Attachments A & B

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	1 July 2015
Intended duration of policy:	Over the forward estimates
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	Family and Community Services
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account?	N/A
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	N/A

If the policy is mainly an expenditure⁶ commitment	
Demand driven or a capped amount:	See Attachments A & B
Eligibility criteria or thresholds:	See Attachments A & B

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

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

If the policy is mainly a capital costs⁷ commitment	
Type of work, size and capacity:	
Proposed start and completion date of work:	
Intended construction schedule/cashflow:	
Offsetting expenditure savings:	
Associated asset sell off (if any):	
On-going maintenance, depreciation and operational expenses:	
Third party funding involvement:	

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?
 - For example, will additional staff be needed in the agency responsible for the policy?
 - If you have assumptions on this, how many and at what approximate levels?
 - Are there other administrative resources required?
 - Alternatively, 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.

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 net financial liabilities.

Mike Baird's long term plan for NSW

A re-elected Baird Government will deliver more services valued by seniors



The Baird Government is committed to ensuring our seniors live longer and better lives.

NSW has a great opportunity to realise the benefits of an ageing population and to harness the contribution of seniors in our communities. The Baird Government is committed to ensuring that we empower people to plan ahead for their future, and deliver the services that seniors want and need.

The NSW Liberal-National Government released the State's first Ageing Strategy in 2012, with the vision that people in NSW should experience the benefits of living longer and better lives.

A re-elected Baird Government will build on its commitment to older people. We will:

- **Extend vital seniors concessions:** We will provide further protections for NSW pensioners and seniors by extending the commitment to fund concessions that were cut by the Federal Government in its 2014-15 Budget. The Baird Government has already covered the Federal shortfall for 2014-15, and we will extend our support for a further three years – a \$343 million commitment. This funding will support concessions available to pensioners and seniors including discounted public transport, cheaper energy and water bills, council rates and vehicle registration.
- **Provide more Seniors Card Benefits:** The NSW Seniors Card is a free discount card providing members with access to NSW Government transport concessions, travel and business discounts. There are about 1.3 million people with a NSW Seniors Card. We want to harness the enormous popularity of this program to secure groups discounts and ensure cheaper bills for seniors. We will expand the number of businesses providing discounts, and are confident that we can triple the number of business outlets who participate. Our first targets for expansion will be a major energy retailer, a telecommunications company and a supermarket chain.

A re-elected Baird Government will:

- ✓ Provide \$343 million to extend vital seniors' concessions by a further three years
 - ✓ Provide \$2 million for more senior's card benefits by expanding the number of participating businesses
 - ✓ Provide \$2 million to turbo-charge the Tech Savvy Program by providing 3,500 more places per year
 - ✓ Provide \$4 million in grants for local community projects under the Age-Friendly Communities Local Government Grant Scheme
- **Turbo-charge the Tech Savvy Program:** the Government partners with Telstra to provide low cost training for older people to use technology. Across NSW over 17,000 people aged over 60 have attended tech savvy training and many more have attended public events. The Baird Government will expand this successful program to 3,500 more places per year across 30 regional and metropolitan colleges. A Tech Savvy Seniors Regional Road Show will promote the training in 40 regional locations, and we will also introduce online banking courses. We estimate that over the next four years, more than 38,000 class places will be taken up by seniors.
 - **Increase grants for local community projects:** The Age-Friendly Communities Local Government Grant Scheme currently provides grant funding to Councils to provide accessibility, active living and mobility projects. The Government will transform this program to ensure NGOs and small businesses are eligible as well as councils, and increase funding to \$1 million per year.

Back The Baird Plan and keep NSW working.

2015 Election Policy Costing

Proposal Title: Further engaging an ageing population

Lead Agency: Family and Community Services

General Government Sector Impacts

	2014-15 \$'000	2015-16 \$'000	2016-17 \$'000	2017-18 \$'000	4 Year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. Depreciation)	0	1,517	1,555	1,594	4,666
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Less: Agency Offsets	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Net Operating Result:	0	-1,517	-1,555	-1,594	-4,666
Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Offsets	0	0	0	0	0
Net Capital Expenditure:	0	0	0	0	0
Net Lending/Borrowing:	0	-1,517	-1,555	-1,594	-4,666
Net Financial Liabilities:	0	1,517	3,072	4,666	

Notes and costing assumptions used:

Component 1

a) An increase of \$0.5m pa in grants to the private sector to expand the Tech Savvy Seniors program. The costing assumes that the cost of the partnership with a commercial bank to deliver online internet banking courses will likely be cost neutral.

b) An increase of \$0.5m pa in grants to the private sector to subsidise new Seniors Card discounts.

Component 2

a) Costing assumes that promotional activities for the program will be met by the contracted NGO by leveraging implementation experience in other jurisdictions.

b) Costing assumes that the cost of administering the grant is not material and will be met from existing resources.

Component 3

a) An increase of \$0.4m pa in grants to local councils from existing \$0.6m to \$1.0m pa under the Age-Friendly Communities Local Government Grants Scheme which will expand the eligible recipients to include NGOs and small businesses.