



# Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Coalition  
Date Referred: 13/02/2019

Proposal No: Y038  
Date Published: 18/03/2019

Proposal Title: Record Boost to Palliative Care Workforce in NSW

Cluster: Health

## General Government Sector Impacts

	2018-19 \$'000	2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	1,530	2,668	2,015	6,213
Depreciation	-	-	50	225	275
Less: Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Operating Balance:</b>	-	<b>(1,530)</b>	<b>(2,718)</b>	<b>(2,240)</b>	<b>(6,488)</b>

Capital Expenditure	-	1,000	3,500	3,500	8,000
Capital Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Capital Expenditure:</b>	-	<b>1,000</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>8,000</b>

<b>Net Lending/(Borrowing):</b>	-	<b>(2,530)</b>	<b>(6,168)</b>	<b>(5,515)</b>	<b>(14,213)</b>
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## Total State Sector Impacts

<b>Net Lending/(Borrowing):</b>	-	<b>(2,530)</b>	<b>(6,168)</b>	<b>(5,515)</b>	<b>(14,213)</b>
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## Notes and costing assumptions

This policy proposes to improve the delivery of palliative health care across NSW by:

- employing up to 18 additional Aboriginal Health Workers (AHWs) tasked with delivering palliative care services,
- increasing funding for telehealth support for adolescents and young people in regional NSW to connect to the new Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice in Manly,
- increasing funding for telehealth services in rural and remote areas to supplement local palliative care support, and
- increasing funding for refurbishment of palliative care facilities across NSW.

The total estimated cost (excluding the cost of additional nurses) of this policy across the forward estimates is \$14.2 million, with a further \$4.1 million in 2022-23, ongoing. The additional funding for AHWs would provide flexible resourcing to employ up to 18 part time positions, or enable nine existing AHWs to transition to full time positions.

### Community Nurses

The policy proposes to employ an additional 100 community nurses over four years. However, the funding for these extra nurses is excluded from this costing, as it be delivered under a separate *5,000 Nurses and Midwives* policy.

Further information on key costing assumptions is overleaf.

**Notes and costing assumptions continued:**

**Telehealth services and palliative care facility refurbishments**

The policy would also allocate \$10 million in additional capital, and \$4 million of recurrent, funding over four years from 1 July 2019 to:

- Commission new digital health solutions for palliative care, and improve existing solutions. This includes supporting telehealth and other digital health services which enable 24/7 access.
- Purchase devices and digital infrastructure to provide support services for young people across the state, from the proposed Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice at the old Manly Hospital site. The funding would also support a senior clinical role to provide expertise and support generalist staff in the hospice, as well as remotely.
- Support the refurbishment of existing facilities across NSW to provide a more home-like environment and better meet the needs of people at the end of life, their carers and families.

Straightline depreciation, with an expected useful life of 20 years, has been applied to all capital spending as the majority is likely to be directed toward minor works and refurbishment of existing facilities.