

Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) outcome is described in section 2.1, specifying the performance indicators and targets used to assess and monitor the performance of the PBO. This performance information will be further detailed in the PBO's 2021-22 Corporate plan.

The outcome described at section 2.1 provides detailed information on expenses broken down by funding source.

Note:

Performance reporting requirements in the Portfolio Budget Statements are part of the Commonwealth performance framework established by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. It is anticipated that the performance criteria described in Portfolio Budget Statements will be read with broader information provided in an entity's corporate plans and annual performance statements – included in Annual Reports – to provide a complete picture of an entity's planned and actual performance.

The most recent corporate plan for the PBO can be found at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Budget_Office/About_the_PBO/Corporate_information/Corporate_plans/Corporate_plan_2020-21.

The most recent annual performance statement can be found at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Budget_Office/About_the_PBO/Corporate_information/Annual_reports/Annual_Report_2019-20.

2.1 Budgeted expenses and performance

Outcome: Inform the Parliament by providing independent and non-partisan analysis of the budget cycle, fiscal policy and the financial implications of proposals

Budgeted expenses

This table shows how much the PBO intends to spend (on an accrual basis) on achieving its outcome, broken down by funding sources.

Table 2.1.1: Budgeted expenses for its Outcome

	2020-21 Estimated actual \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000	2022-23 Forward estimate \$'000	2023-24 Forward estimate \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000
Program 1: PBO - Departmental - Outcome 1					
Departmental expenses					
Departmental appropriation	8,537	9,269	8,788	8,822	9,361
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year (a)	443	450	456	463	463
Departmental total	8,980	9,719	9,244	9,285	9,824
Total expenses for program 1	8,980	9,719	9,244	9,285	9,824

	2020-21	2021-22
Average staffing level (number)	44	48

(a) Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year are made up of depreciation expenses and resources received free of charge.

Note: Departmental appropriation splits and totals are indicative estimates and may change in the course of the budget year as government priorities change.

Table 2.1.2 below details the performance criteria for the PBO program.

Table 2.1.2: Performance criteria for its Outcome

Outcome – Inform the Parliament by providing independent and non-partisan analysis of the budget cycle, fiscal policy and the financial implications of proposals		
Program 1.1 – Parliamentary Budget Office		
The PBO provides all parliamentarians access to confidential costing and budget analysis services to improve the quality of the public policy debate. The PBO publishes research to improve public understanding of fiscal and budget policy issues and enhances transparency around the financial implications of election commitments.		
Delivery	The PBO undertakes policy costings and budget analysis on request from parliamentarians on a confidential basis. It undertakes robust analysis of fiscal and budget policy issues and publishes this research. The PBO prepares a post-election report of election commitments after each general election. The PBO engages widely with other Commonwealth agencies to obtain information to support its research and analysis, and with a range of experts on its published reports and on methodological issues.	
Performance information		
Year	Performance criteria	Actual Achievement/Targets
2020–21	The PBO's outputs are relevant, high quality and timely. The PBO's work is undertaken with independence, transparency and integrity.	In 2020–21, the PBO is on track to substantially achieve its targets with the following highlights, as at 31 March 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the PBO continued to provide high-quality and confidential costings and budget analysis services with an increase in demand, the PBO maintained a high-quality program of published research, and feedback from stakeholders was positive and indicated that the PBO is perceived as independent.
2021–22	The PBO's outputs are relevant, high quality and timely. The PBO's work is undertaken with independence, transparency and integrity.	A range of indicators will inform the PBO's performance assessment, including: the extent of the demand, and efficiency in the provision of PBO's services; the PBO's contribution to the public policy debate; the transparency of PBO processes and data; and feedback from stakeholders. The performance targets will be broadly consistent to those published in the 2020–21 Corporate Plan.
2022–23 and beyond	As per 2021–22.	As per 2021–22.
Purposes	The purpose of the PBO is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide confidential policy costing and budget analysis services to all parliamentarians to enable fiscal impacts to be considered during policy development conduct and publish research to improve public understanding of budget and fiscal policy issues, and publish a report on the budget impacts of the election commitments of parliamentary parties after each general election to enhance transparency around election commitments. 	