



Policy costing request—during the caretaker period for a general election

Name of policy:	Standing Up for Small Business: Loss Carry-back and GST Threshold
Person requesting costing:	Senator Di Natale
Parliamentary party:	Australian Greens
Date of request to cost the policy:	28 June 2016
<i>Note: This policy costing request and the response to this request will be made publicly available.</i>	
Has a costing of this policy been requested under Section 29 of the Charter of Budget Honesty (ie from the Treasury or the Department of Finance)?	No
Details of the public release of this policy (Date, by whom and a reference to that release):	24 th June 2016, Senator Nick McKim http://greens.org.au/small-business
Description of policy	
Summary of policy (as applicable, please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Component 1 Reinstate loss carry-back to allow small businesses to claim up to \$1 million of current financial year losses against profits made in previous financial years. Component 2 Increase the registration threshold for the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from \$75,000 to \$150,000 or more for businesses, and from \$150,000 to \$300,000 or more for not-for-profit organisations, with the thresholds to be indexed annually by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	Assist small businesses that are viable over the long-term manage 'lumpy' cash flows and help reduce GST paperwork for small businesses.
What are the key assumptions that have been made in the policy, including:	
Is the policy part of a package? If yes, list the components and interactions with proposed or existing policies.	No
Where relevant, is funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount? If a capped amount, are the costs of administering the policy to be included within the capped amount or additional to the capped amount?	Demand driven.

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<p>Will third parties (for instance the States/Territories) have a role in funding or delivering the policy? If yes, is the Australian Government contribution capped, with additional costs to be met by third parties, or is another funding formula envisaged?</p>	No			
<p>Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.</p>	<p>Yes. Expenses to the Australian Taxation Office of \$9.7 million over the forward estimates for Loss Carry Back and \$250 million for lifting GST threshold.</p>			
<p>Does the policy relate to a previous budget measure? If yes, which measure?</p>	<p>Yes Tax loss carry-back measure – 2012-13 Budget</p>			
<p>If the proposal would change an existing measure, are savings expected from the departmental costs of implementing the program?</p>	No			
<p>Will the funding/program cost require indexation? If yes, list factors to be used.</p>	No			
Expected impacts of the proposal				
<p>If applicable, what are the estimated costs each year? If available, please provide details in the table below. Are these provided on an underlying cash balance or fiscal balance basis?</p>				
Estimated financial implications (outturn prices)^(a)				
	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-7.7	-406.0	-301.4	-465.1
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-7.7	-406.0	-301.4	-465.1
<p>(a) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number in the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in cash terms.</p>				
<p>What assumptions have been made in deriving the expected financial impact in the party costing (please provide information on the data sources used to develop the policy)?</p>	<p>Eligible taxpayers are assumed the claim the full amount as soon as it is available. The proportion of prior year loss deductions able to be utilised was assumed to be equal to historical average.</p>			
<p>Has the policy been costed by a third party? If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?</p>	No			

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<p>What is the expected community impact of the policy?</p> <p>How many people will be affected by the policy?</p> <p>What is the likely take up?</p> <p>What is the basis for these impact assessments/assumptions?</p>	<p>Provides relief to small businesses to manage downturns in trading and provides liquidity to meet liabilities.</p> <p>Over 100 000 small businesses</p> <p>High</p> <p>Uptake of measure before it was repealed.</p>
<p>Administration of policy:</p>	
<p>Who will administer the policy (for example, Australian Government entity, the States, non-government organisation, etc)?</p>	<p>Australian Taxation Office</p>
<p>Please specify whether any special administrative arrangements are proposed for the policy and whether these are expected to involve additional transactions/processing (by service delivery agencies).</p>	<p>Additional processing by the Australian Taxation Office. While the reduced revenue from lifting GST thresholds goes to the states, the administrative responsibility of changing administrative arrangements will be borne by the Federal Government.</p>
<p>Intended date of implementation:</p>	<p>1 September 2016 for Loss-Carry Back and 1 July 2017 for GST threshold</p>
<p>Intended duration of policy:</p>	<p>To 30 June 2020</p>
<p>Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>List major data sources utilised to develop policy (for example, ABS catalogue number 3201.0).</p>	<p>2012-13 Budget 2013-14 Pre-election Fiscal Outlook 2013-14 Budget 2015-16 Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook</p>
<p>Are there any other assumptions that need to be considered?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>NOTE:</p> <p><i>Please note that:</i></p> <p><i>The costing will be on the basis of information provided in this costing request.</i></p> <p><i>The PBO is not bound to accept the assumptions provided by the requestor. If there is a material difference in the assumptions used by the PBO, the PBO will consult with the requestor in advance of the costing being completed.</i></p>	