



POLICY COSTING REQUEST – DURING THE CARETAKER PERIOD FOR A GENERAL ELECTION

Name of policy:	Indigenous Rangers
Person requesting costing:	Senator Milne
Date of request to cost the policy:	30 August 2013
<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 (i.e. from the Treasury or the Department of Finance and Deregulation)?	No
Details of the public release of this policy (Date, by whom and a reference to that release)	25 August 2013; Senator Rachel Siewert http://rachel-siewert.greensmps.org.au/content/media-releases/greens-announce-doubling-indigenous-rangers-and-new-vision-kimberley
Description of policy:	
Summary of policy (as applicable, please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Doubling Indigenous Rangers http://greens.org.au/sites/greens.org.au/files/Indigenous_Rangers.pdf
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	The Greens will provide an additional \$100 million over four years from 1 July 2014 to: • Double the number of Indigenous Rangers within a decade. Our investment will be in addition to the current Government commitment. • Provide administrative and operational support for the increase in Rangers. The increase in Indigenous Ranger numbers will be accompanied by administrative and operational support to ensure the new Indigenous Rangers are able to do the work they've been hired to do. • Lengthen Indigenous Ranger contracts to 10 years, provided outcomes continue to be met. • Support more women Indigenous Rangers with programs that specifically develop the skills and confidence of women to participate in ranger programs.
What are the key assumptions that have been made in the policy, including:	
Is the policy part of a package?	No

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If yes, list and outline components and interactions with proposed or existing policies.	
Where relevant, is funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount?	Capped
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?	Indigenous Rangers are employed by the states and territories. The money would be granted to the states and Northern Territory to employ more Indigenous rangers and improve the reach of their programs. Under this policy the states are not expected to contribute funding to the policy; however it is open to them to do so.
Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.	No
Does the policy relate to a previous budget measure? If yes, which measure?	No
If the proposal would change an existing measure, are savings expected from the departmental costs of implementing the program?	No
Will the funding/program cost require indexation? If yes, list factors to be used.	No

Expected impacts of the proposal

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?

Estimated financial implications (outturn prices) ^(a)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	-25	-25	-25
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-25	-25	-25

(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.

What assumptions have been made in deriving the expected financial	As at May 2013 Australia had 693 Indigenous Rangers - 44 in NSW, 144 in Queensland, 282 in the NT, 121 in WA, 70 in SA,
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impact in the party costing (please provide information on the data sources used to develop the policy)?	17 in Victoria and 14 in Tasmania. The policy is intended to lift employment up to 1400 rangers within a decade.
Has the policy been costed by a third party? If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?	No
What is the expected community impact of the policy? How many people will be affected by the policy? What is the likely take up? What is the basis for these impact assessments/assumptions?	As at May 2013 Australia had 693 Indigenous Rangers - 44 in NSW, 144 in Queensland, 282 in the NT, 121 in WA, 70 in SA, 17 in Victoria and 14 in Tasmania. The policy is intended to lift employment up to 1400 rangers within a decade.
Administration of policy:	
Who will administer the policy (for example, Australian Government entity, the States, non-government organisation, etc.)?	The commonwealth will provide the funding and monitor how effectively it is being spent. The states and Northern Territory will be responsible for administering the spending of the money according to the terms and conditions of the grant.
Should departmental expenses associated with this policy be included in this costing? If no, will the Department be expected to absorb expenses associated with this policy? If yes, please specify the key assumptions, including whether departmental costs are expected with respect to program management	No – expected to absorb.
Intended date of implementation.	1 July 2014
Intended duration of policy.	Ongoing
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	No
List major data sources utilised to develop policy (for example, ABS cat. no. 3201.0).	
Are there any other assumptions that need to be considered?	No

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NOTE:

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 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.*