



Parliament of Australia
Parliamentary Budget Office

Phil Bowen PSM FCPA
Parliamentary Budget Officer

Senator Christine Milne
Leader of the Australian Greens
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Milne .

Please find attached a response to your costing request on *protecting Australia's biosecurity* (letter of 15 August 2013).

The responses to this request will be released on the PBO website (www.aph.gov.au/pbo).

If you have any queries about this costing, please do not hesitate to contact Colin Brown on (02) 6277 9530.

Yours sincerely

Phil Bowen

15 August 2013

COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Protecting Australia’s biosecurity
Summary of proposal:	The intention of the proposal is to improve biosecurity by creating and resourcing a National Biosecurity Commission and National Biosecurity Authority. The proposal will have effect from 1 July 2014.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	14 August 2013
Date costing completed:	15 August 2013
Date of public release of policy:	31 May 2013
Agencies from which information was obtained:	Not applicable

Costing overview

This proposal is expected to decrease both the underlying cash balance and fiscal balance by \$20 million over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. This impact reflects an increase in expenses over this period.

Departmental costs, consistent with the costing request, are to be accommodated from within the capped funding amounts.

This costing is considered to be of high reliability as it is based on a capped funding amount specified in the costing request.

Table 1: Financial implications (outturn prices)^(a)

Impact on	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	-7.0	-6.5	-6.5
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-7.0	-6.5	-6.5

(a) A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in cash terms.

Key assumptions

The expense profile is as specified in the costing request.

Methodology

The estimates are based on the capped funding amount specified in the costing request.