



Parliament of Australia
Parliamentary Budget Office

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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, *Surveillance Overreach* (letter of 30 August 2013).

The response to this request will be released on the PBO website (<http://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

/ September 2013

COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Surveillance Overreach
Summary of proposal:	The proposal would: • include security agencies under the <i>Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979</i> reporting requirements • require Mandatory Data Breach notifications by industry and government • require IT providers to inform customers of agreements to provide information to governments • implement a Five Eyes agreement protecting privacy of citizens, and • bring security agencies within the ambit of the FOI Act. Funding of \$0.2 million would also be provided for education advertising to communicate these legislative changes. The proposal would have effect from 1 July 2014.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	30 August 2013
Date costing completed:	1 September 2013
Date of public release of policy:	28 August 2013
Agencies from which information was obtained:	Not applicable

Costing overview

This proposal is expected to decrease both the underlying cash and fiscal balances by \$0.2 million over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. This is entirely due to an increase to expenses. The educational advertising component of this proposal would terminate on 30 June 2015.

The PBO has not included any additional departmental funding for potential amendments to legislation, such as the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*, as the cost for such activities would be minimal and could be met from existing departmental resourcing of relevant agencies.

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

POLICY COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

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

Impact on	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	-0.2	-	-
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-0.2	-	-

(a) A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in expenses in accrual terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in expenses in cash terms.