



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, *Food literacy* (letter of 2 September 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

5 September 2013

COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Food literacy
Summary of proposal:	The proposal would target food literacy education in children and adults by: • ensuring that teaching about where our food and fibre comes from is embedded in the national curriculum for primary and secondary education • funding up to 800 new school kitchen garden projects, prioritising funding for schools in low socio-economic areas, and • offering national grants for adult nutrition education programs, targeting staff training for welfare agencies that provide food relief, and their clients. The proposal would have effect from 1 July 2014 and terminate on 30 June 2018.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	2 September 2013
Date costing completed:	5 September 2013
Date of public release of policy:	17 August 2013
Additional information requested:	On 2 September 2013, the PBO asked Senator Milne's Office to confirm whether any departmental expenses would be met from within the capped funding amounts per year.
Additional information received:	On 4 September 2013, Senator Milne's Office confirmed that any departmental costs would be met from within the capped funding amounts per year.
Agencies from which information was obtained:	Not applicable

Costing overview

This proposal is expected to decrease both the underlying cash and fiscal balances by \$34.8 million over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. The financial implications of this proposal would also extend beyond the forward estimates period with a financial impact of \$11.6 million in 2017-18, bringing the total cost of the proposal to \$46.4 million over four years. This impact is entirely due to an increase in expenses.

POLICY COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

As specified by the requestor, the PBO has assumed that any additional departmental costs to administer the proposal would be met from within the capped funding per year.

The costing is considered to be of high reliability as it is based on capped funding amounts as 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)	-	-11.6	-11.6	-11.6
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-11.6	-11.6	-11.6

(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.