Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of election commitment:	Mobile Primary Health Clinic				
Person and party requesting costing:	Meredith Hunter, ACT Greens Parliamentary Leader				
Date of public release of election commitment, including source:	5 September 2012 http://act.greens.org.au/content/greens-pledge-establish-mobile-primary-health-clinic				
Summary of election commitment:	The ACT Greens will establish a Mobile Primary Health Clinic that will target people most in need of essential health care.				
Intention of election commitment:	Many people don't seek help when an illness first presents because of difficulties with transport, access to information and payments for health services. The ACT Greens want to ease the pressure on our hospitals by improving the availability of primary health care services.				
Signature of person requesting costing:	mount				
Date of request for costing:	4/10/12				

What are the key assumptions that have been made in the election commitment?

Note: that where the request to cost an election commitment differs from the public announcement, the costing will be on the basis of information provided in the costing request. **Note:** it will be up to the professional judgment of the Director-General as to whether these assumptions are adopted in the costing of the election commitment.

Where relevant, is the funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount? The funding is a capped amount.

Will third parties, for instance the Commonwealth or other State/Territories, have a role in funding or delivering the election commitment?

No.

Will funding/the cost require indexation?

- Recurrent funding for staffing costs are indexed at 3% per annum, as per the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012, page 6.
- Recurrent funding for other expenditure is indexed at CPI of 2.5% per annum, as per the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012, Page 6.

What are the estimated revenue and operating costs each year (if available) and what are the capital requirements for this election commitment and estimated costs each year (if available)?

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000

Revenue ^(a)	102	102	102	102	408
Expenses ^(a)	-852	-872	-892	-912	-3,528
Capital	 -600		;		-600

(a) A negative number indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses.

What is the likely take up?

N/A. The mobile service will see as many patients as possible within the funding provided.

Any other assumptions?

Existing models of this service operate in West Melbourne, *StreetHealth* and in Perth *Street Doctor*.

A breakdown of the costs is as follows:

Clinic infrastructure:

- \$600,000 is provided for the purchase of a large van and it's fit-out as a Primary Health Care Clinic.
- Comparable products include:
 - \$250,000 for an ambulance (as per the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012 p4)
 - The University of Canberra purpose-built south coast allied health van costing \$1m (see http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-06-06/mobile-health-clinic-gets-upgrade/4055738).

Recurrent costs

Staffing:

- The Clinic will operate 9am to 9pm Monday to Saturday and 10am to 5pm on Sundays (79 hrs).
- The Clinic will be staffed by a full-time general practitioner and full time-nurse practitioner, as well as two support nurses. The general practitioner and nurse practitioner would lead alternative shifts. Further administrative support would be provided by an ASO 4.
- The general practitioner would be paid as a Career Medical Officer Level 1 as per the ACT Health Medical Practitioners Enterprise Agreement 2011-13, a salary of \$147,465 (as well as 9% per annum superannuation, 4% per annum in Leave Benefits, and 4% per annum for Non-Clerical Workers Compensation).
- Costs for the three nurses have been calculated using estimates from Page 3 of the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012. This document states that the cost per nurse including all on-costs (workers compensation, superannuation and leave) is \$107,000 per annum.
- Costings for the ASO 4 have been taken from the ACT Health Enterprise Agreement 2011-13, which show the ASO 4 salary commencing at \$58,870 from 1/7/12. As per the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012 (pages 4 and 8), costs have also been calculated for 9% per annum superannuation, 4% per annum in Leave Benefits, and 1.5% per annum for Workers Compensation.
- An overhead component of \$17,027 per annum for each of the 5 staff has also been applied, as has 3% indexation.

Other expenses

- Depreciation for the vehicle is calculated at \$120,000 per annum, based on a 5 year

- depreciation, as is set out in the Justice and Community Safety Annual Report 2010-11, Accounting Policy Notes.
- The Costs of Capital Expenditure are calculated at 4.25% compounding as per the Benchmark Interest Rate set out on page 6 of the ACT Government Standard Costing Parameters 2012.
- \$40,000 is provided for operating costs for the van, including registration, insurance, maintenance and fuel.

Revenue:

- It is assumed the Clinic's general practitioner will bulk-bill on average 8 patients a day, earning \$35 for the service from each of these patients. This is estimated to provide \$102,000 in revenue per annum.

Administration of the election commitment

How will the election commitment be administered?

The general practitioner and nurse practitioner will lead the management of the Clinic, supported by two nurses in the field. An administrative support staffer will also be provided.

Who will administer the election commitment?

The election commitment will be administered by ACT Health.

Has an allowance been made for expenses necessary to support the implementation of this election commitment?

- If no, will the government agency be expected to absorb expenses associated with this election commitment?
- If yes, please specify the key assumptions.

Yes – see above assumptions.

What is the intended implementation date of the election commitment? 2013-14

Are there transitional arrangements associated with election commitment implementation? No.

Are there any other assumptions that need to be considered? No.

When is the election commitment expected to be fully operational?

Please provide further details i.e. start and end dates, the level of commitment during each period etc?

From 2013-14.

Will the election commitment cease and if so when?

Funding will be provided from 2013-14 to 2016-17.

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