

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Ministerial Council for Drug Law Reform
Person requesting costing:	Shane Rattenbury MLA
Date of request:	12 October 2020
Summary of proposal:	<p>This proposal will establish a Ministerial Advisory Council for Drug Law Reform to develop new, innovative and responsive legislation and practices to take us towards a genuinely advanced system of harm minimisation and the treatment of drug use as a health issue.</p> <p>The Council will include experts from health, the legal fraternity and law enforcement, First Nations peoples and substances users with lived experience.</p> <p>For more information see https://greens.org.au/act/reducing-harm-drugs-alcohol.</p>
Issue the proposal will address:	We need to ensure drug law reform responds to evidence about what works rather than relying on old approaches that cause harm. Establishing the Advisory Council will support balanced discussion of approaches to reduce harm from drug use informed by the latest research as well as lived experience.

What are the key assumptions that have been made in the proposal?

Note: The costing will be developed on the basis of information and assumptions provided in the costing request. The professional judgment of the Under Treasurer will determine whether these assumptions are adopted in the costing of the proposal.

The Council will require experts from a range of fields. The proposal assumes that 8 members will be required to meet 10 times per year and will be remunerated at \$780 per day (commensurate with the ACT Judicial Council for each sitting - https://www.remunerationtribunal.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1623986/Determination-13-of-2020-PTPOH.pdf). Assumes 5 meetings in 2020-21 due to starting early 2021.

One 0.5 FTE SOGC position has been included to provide secretariat support to the Council. Any other costs associated will be absorbed by JACS.

	2020-21 (\$'000)	2021-22 (\$'000)	2022-23 (\$'000)	2023-24 (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
Sitting fees for Ministerial Council	31	62	62	62	218
Secretariat support (0.5 SOGC)	38	77	78	80	273
Total	69	139	141	142	491

What are the estimated revenue and operating costs each year (if available) and what are the

capital requirements for this proposal and estimated costs each year (if available)?					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue^(a)					
Expenses^(a)	-69	-139	-141	-142	-491
Capital					
Depreciation					

(a) A negative number indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses. The expenses row does not include depreciation costs.

Has any specific information or data been utilised in generating the proposal?
Remuneration Tribunal Determination 13 of 2020: https://www.remunerationtribunal.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1623986/Determination-13-of-2020-PTPOH.pdf
Where relevant, is funding for the proposal to be demand driven or a capped amount?
Capped
Will third parties, for instance the Commonwealth or other State/Territories, have a role in funding or delivering the proposal? Does the proposal provide additional funding to, or redirect, any existing Commonwealth/State or Territory funding arrangements?
No.
Will funding/the cost require indexation?
Sitting fees may change in line with future Remuneration Tribunal Determinations.
Who will administer the proposal?
Justice and Community Safety Directorate.
How will the proposal be administered?
The Justice and Community Safety Directorate will develop draft terms of reference, and seek expressions of interest from suitable qualified members. One 0.5 FTE SOGC position has been included for providing secretariat support.
Is the proposal part of a broader package?
Yes, Reducing harm from drug and alcohol use. Other elements will be costed separately or have no cost.
Has an allowance been made for expenses necessary to support the implementation of this proposal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If no, will the government agency be expected to absorb expenses associated with this proposal? – If yes, please specify the key assumptions.
Yes. One 0.5 FTE SOGC position has been included for providing secretariat support.
Will the proposal generate savings or offsets?

No.
Has the proposal been previously costed by an external (third) party? Will a copy of this material, including any assumptions, be made available to Treasury?
No.
What are the community impacts associated with the proposal? Who and how many people will be affected?
<p>The Ministerial Advisory Council for Drug Law Reform will be tasked with developing new, innovative and responsive legislation and practices to advance drug law reform and practice and towards a genuinely advanced system of harm minimisation and the treatment of drug use as a health issue.</p> <p>Drug use affects many individuals, directly and indirectly, in our community. Reducing harm from drug use will provide many benefits to our community.</p>
Are there any transitional considerations associated with implementation of the proposal? If so, how will they be managed?
No.
What is the intended implementation date of the proposal?
February 2021.
When is the proposal expected to be fully operational? Please provide details such as the start and end dates, the level of commitment during each period etc.
February 2021.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
The proposal is for funding of the Council for 3.5 years.
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?
No.