

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of policy proposal:	More graduate nurses
Person requesting costing:	Andrew Barr, ACT Labor
Date of request:	23/09/2016
Summary of proposal:	This proposal will fund the employment of 12 new graduate nurses each year in addition to the existing graduate intake.
Issue the proposal will address:	This proposal will boost the number of nurses working for ACT Health which will help address the growing demands on the ACT health system.

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 funding will start in 2017-18, with the policy to be operational in 2017-18.
- The ACT Labor Policy document funds this policy over four years from 2017-18 – representing the full four-year term of the next Assembly. This request for costing only includes funding out to 2019-20 as per the Treasury costing guidelines.
- A further 12 graduate nurses will be employed each year in addition to the existing annual intake.

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)?

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue^(a)					
Expenses^(a)		-2,127.9	-4,362.2	-6,706.9	-13,197.0
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?

Staffing costs as provided by election costing documents.

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

Capped at 12 new graduate nurses per year, for the four years from 2017-18 to 2020-21.

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 (for example, does an education proposal add to or redirect NERA funding).

N/A

Will funding/the cost require indexation?	Indexation is included.
Who will administer the proposal?	The Health Directorate will meet any policy administration costs from internal resources.
How will the proposal be administered?	Through the Health Directorate.
Is the proposal part of a broader package?	Yes – ACT Labor’s nurses package.
Has an allowance been made for expenses necessary to support the implementation of this proposal? – If no, will the government agency be expected to absorb expenses associated with this proposal? – If yes, please specify the key assumptions.	No. See above regarding Health Directorate internal resources.
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?	The community will benefit from more nurses working in the health system. More graduate nurses will benefit from gaining employment with ACT Health.
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?	1 July 2017.
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?	The proposal will be operational in 2017-18, when 12 extra graduate nurses will be employed, with a further 12 graduate nurses to be employed in 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?	The final intake of 12 extra nurses will be in 2020-21. The graduate nurses employed as part of this proposal will be employed on an ongoing basis.
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?	No.