

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of policy proposal:	Speeding Up Local Adoption (5 October 2016)
Person requesting costing:	Alistair Coe MLA, Shadow Treasurer
Date of request:	10 October 2016
Summary of proposal:	The Canberra Liberals will invest further resources to assist in speeding up local adoption.
Issue the proposal will address:	Long waiting times for families wishing to adopt in the ACT.

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

Note: The costing will 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.

Costs have been calculated as:

- A one-off \$150,000 in 2016-17 for external consultants to undertake a comprehensive review of the ACT adoption system and make recommendations to government on improvements.
- Funding for two additional caseworkers for the Community Services Directorate, at ASO5 level with a worker's compensation rate of 9.96% (Community Services rate).
- Funding of \$100,000 per year (indexed) for a non-government organisation to provide support for ATSI children, which is expected to support up to two additional positions.
- Costs have been indexed at 2.5% over the forwards as per Treasury advice.

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)	-150	-330	-340	-345	-1,165
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?

No.

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 (for example, does an education

proposal add to or redirect NERA funding).
Yes. Funding for ATSI support will be provided to a third part for delivery.
Will funding/the cost require indexation?
Yes. Funding has been indexed at 2.5% per annum as it is intended to support wages.
Who will administer the proposal?
The Community Services Directorate.
How will the proposal be administered?
The Community Services Directorate will be responsible for engaging external contractors to undertake a comprehensive review into the adoption system in the ACT. The Directorate will also be responsible for engaging additional caseworkers and for administering the funding agreement with a non-government organisation to ATSI support.
Is the proposal part of a broader package?
No.
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.
No. Implementation will be met from within existing 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?
Community impacts are expected to be benefit by boosting resources to support vulnerable children.
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 January 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 review is expected to begin in the first half of 2017 with funding for additional staff to commence 2017-18.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
The proposal is ongoing.

Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?

No.