Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Mentoring program for young carers – exploration of models
Person requesting costing:	Andrew Barr MLA Andrew Barr
Date of request:	11 October 2024
Summary of proposal:	Explore the potential models available to establish a mentoring program for young carers, to ensure younger people in our community with caring responsibilities continue their education, find employment and build financial security.
Issue the proposal will address:	Young carers (broadly defined as those up to 25 years old) who care for family or other loved ones affected by disability, illness, mental illness, addiction or age-related conditions often need to delay or withdraw from further education or employment, putting them at long term disadvantage. By closely examining the causes and repercussions of this impact, a re-elected Labor Government will assess if a structured and supportive mentoring program will assist carers overcome these obstacles to continue studies or work while still meeting their caring obligations.
Proposal's public announcement details (media release or policy statement published on a party website)[1]:	act-labor-policy-positon-statement-2024-7-october-2024.pdf (actlabor.org.au) page 46.

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.
A re-elected Labor Government will explore the benefits and model of a structured government-sponsored mentoring program, to assist young carers strengthen their own long-term educational and employment potential, while meeting their caring obligations. CSD will administer this exploration process, which will involve liaising with key stakeholder groups in the disability support sector, as well as across government. A 1 FTE SOG C position will be allocated to undertake this assessment and prepare findings and recommendations for consideration by the CSD executive and provision to Government. This 1 FTE will commence from the 2025-26 financial year and conclude at the end of the financial year.

[1] As per Part 2, section 5 of the *Election Commitments Costing Act 2012*

This position has been costed as per the Average Salary Costing template with 3.07% workers compensation rate assumed.

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)?

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Revenue[(a)]					
Expenses[(a)]		-179.1			-179.1
Capital[(a)]					
Depreciation[(a)]					
Offset - Expenses[(a)]					
Offset - Capital[(a)]					
Full-time equivalent employees		**1**			

(a) A negative number indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses, depreciation or capital outflows. A positive number indicates an increase in revenue or decrease in expenses, depreciation or capital inflows. The expenses row is not to include depreciation costs.

Has any specific information or data been utilised in generating the proposal? Please provide links or attach information/data sources referenced.

The proposal utilised background context and data from the Carers Australia report "No Space in My Brain to Learn": carersaustralia.com.au/research/no-space-in-my-brain-to-learn-young-carers-and-their-engagement-with-education/

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

The FTE for this function is a capped and time limited amount as per the assumptions.

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?

The 1 FTE has been costed as per the Average Salary Costing template

Who will administer the proposal?
CSD
How will the proposal be administered?
CSD will be responsible for the management of this role and development of recommendations on a proposal to government over one financial year.
Is the proposal part of a broader package? If so, please identify the other elements of the package.
No
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.
1 FTE SOGC will be allocated to manage the day-to-day liaison with stakeholders and preparation of written advice for consideration by CSD executive and Government by the end of financial year 2025-26. Wider oversight of this proposal would be absorbed by CSD as part of its carers support functions.
Will the proposal generate savings or offsets? If so, please quantify any savings or offsets.
No
Has the proposal been previously costed by an external (third) party? If so, 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 proposal will directly benefit young carers, who comprise a significant percentage of the ACT population – in the first instance by being able to contribute to this process directly or through support bodies such as Carers ACT. Depending on further Government decisions, the potential introduction of a mentoring scheme could provided a wide range of financial, educational and mental health benefits for young carers.
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?
The proposal will commence from 1 July 2025 and run for 1 year.
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.
From 1 July 2025.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
The proposal will conclude at the end of the 2025026 financial year. It is assumed the examination of the benefits and costs of various possible mentoring models will have been assessed and developed for Government consideration, by June 2026. It will then be a further decision of Government to determine if and how mentoring scheme is implemented.
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?
No