

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Building Safer Communities – Implementing the Disability Justice Strategy Action Plan
Person requesting costing:	Shane Rattenbury MLA
Date of request:	12 October 2020
Summary of proposal:	As part of a broader Building Safer Communities initiative, this proposal is to fund implementation of the Disability Justice Strategy Action Plan. The Greens will fund the implementation of the Strategy's 2019-2023 Action Plan over the next four years, through the resourcing of 8 new full time staff over the forward years. The Greens will also provide ongoing funding for the intermediary scheme, which provides for specialised assistance for vulnerable victims of crime to engage with the criminal justice system. This will include two additional in-house intermediaries to meet the needs of both child witnesses and adult witnesses with communication difficulties, as well as some funding to evaluate the effectiveness of the ACT's intermediary scheme. Further information: https://greens.org.au/act/building-safer-communities.
Issue the proposal will address:	Supporting people, and preventing the drivers of crime, which are often complex health, social and economic factors, is better achieved in the community than inside prison. To ensure equality before the law, the justice system must be responsive to those experiencing disadvantage and prejudice. The Greens are committed to the Disability Justice Strategy which will improve the safety and rights of people with disability, the responsiveness of the justice system and how we achieve and measure change. The Strategy was the culmination of significant collaboration and co-design with people with disability.

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.

This proposal assumes two ASO6 in the first year, increasing to four ASO6 in the second year, six ASO6 in the third year and finally 8 ASO6 in the final year.

The proposal assumes that a capped amount is allocated to the existing "Intermediary Scheme" of \$1.534 million in 2022/23 and \$1.967 million in 2023/24.

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)	-126	-511	-2,315	-3,029	-5,980
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?

No.

Will funding/the cost require indexation?

Included in staff costs.

Who will administer the proposal?

This will be administered by Justice and Community Safety Directorate, in collaboration with other Directorates as required.

How will the proposal be administered?

The items in the proposal will be managed in line with existing practices.

Is the proposal part of a broader package?

Yes: Building Safer Communities <https://greens.org.au/act/building-safer-communities>. Other elements will be costed separately.

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.

Staffing costs are included. Any additional costs will be absorbed by the Directorate.

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 broad Building Safer Communities package is designed to improve community safety for Canberrans, reduce offending and reoffending/recidivism, and increase support to vulnerable Canberrans. The Disability Justice Strategy will improve the safety and rights of people with disability, the responsiveness of the justice system and how we achieve and measure change.
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?
Early 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.
Early 2021
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
June 2024
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?
The broad Building Safer Communities package builds on the existing work and funded programs of Justice and Community Safety Directorate, such as “Reducing Recidivism by 25% by 2025”, “Justice Reinvestment”, and “Building Communities, Not Prisons”.