

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Community Services – Funding for VolunteeringACT
Person requesting costing:	Alistair Coe MLA
Date of request:	13 October 2020
Summary of proposal:	The Canberra Liberals will provide guaranteed funding to VolunteeringACT to run the Volunteer Ready Program.
Issue the proposal will address:	Proposal will provide funding support to the Volunteer Ready Program.

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 ACT Government will provide \$100,000 per annum to VolunteeringACT to run the Volunteer Ready Program.

The Volunteer Ready Program will provide information, training and support to prospective volunteers and volunteer involving organisations. Volunteering provides a pathway to employment through skill development and experience.

Funding will be provided to VolunteeringACT to begin running the Volunteer Ready Program from 1 January 2021.

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)	-50.0	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	-350.0
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?
VolunteeringACT's ACT Election Priorities 2020 document provides information on the program and its positive impacts.
Where relevant, is funding for the proposal to be demand driven or a capped amount?
Funding will be 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?
N/A
Will funding/the cost require indexation?
No.
Who will administer the proposal?
The Community Services Directorate will administer the proposal.
How will the proposal be administered?
The Community Services Directorate will administer the funding for the proposal and liaise with VolunteeringACT.
Is the proposal part of a broader package?
This proposal forms part of the Canberra Liberals Policy on Community Services.
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.
The Community Services Directorate will absorb administrative costs associated with this proposal.
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?

This funding is expected to provide support for young job seekers through skill develop to increase their competitiveness in the current job market. VolunteeringACT has advised in the [ACT Election Priorities 2020](#) document:

Volunteering is a proven pathway to employment, with research demonstrating that participation in volunteering can improve an individual's odds of gaining employment by 27 per cent. Research undertaken by employment company SEEK found that 95 per cent of employers identify that volunteering is just as credible as paid work. Further, 92 per cent of employers identified that relevant volunteering experience gave a candidate an advantage in job interviews.

Furthermore, by acting as a Volunteering Support Service, VolunteeringACT could save volunteer organisations up to \$10,000 a year in volunteer recruitment, training and retention costs.

The proposal will also have wider societal benefits by increasing support for volunteer organisations and their important work in the community.

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 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.

Funding \$100,000 per year will be provided to Volunteering ACT. The program will be funded to run from 1 January 2021.

Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?

The proposal will cease on 30 June 2024.

Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?