

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Best and safest learning environments – One Million Trees - Kindergarten Vouchers
Person requesting costing:	Alistair Coe MLA
Date of request:	30 September 2020
Summary of proposal:	The Canberra Liberals will provide a \$20 voucher to every kindergarten student for a tree or plant of their choice.
Issue the proposal will address:	Part of the One Million Trees initiative to increase tree canopy, improve air quality, and ensure a sustainable future for all.

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.

Every child will receive a voucher on their first day of kindergarten for a tree from a Canberra nursery of their choice. Families can use the voucher to redeem a tree, or a pot plant if that is more suitable to their premises, to plant in their own backyard.

The uptake rate has been based on the New South Wales Active Kids program. The Active Kids program has a voucher creation rate upwards of 60% in 2019 and 2020 to date, however the redemption rate fluctuates. Calculations have assumed a 60% redemption rate.

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Students	6,120	6,197	6,289	6,400	25,005
60% take up	3,672	3,718	3,774	3,840	15,003
\$20 voucher	\$73,440	\$74,358	\$75,473	\$76,794	\$300,060

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)	-73.4	-74.4	-75.5	-76.8	-300.1
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?

Number of students has been taken from the [ACT Schools Census - February 2020](#) and subsequently escalated in line with population growth per the Standard Costing Parameters.

Information on the [Active Kids program in New South Wales](#) has also been used.

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

N/A

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 proposal will be administered by the Education Directorate.

How will the proposal be administered?

The Education Directorate will provide vouchers to kindergarten students on their first day of school and liaise with nurseries regarding redemption of vouchers.

Is the proposal part of a broader package?

This proposal forms part of the Canberra Liberals Policy on Education.

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.

The Education Directorate will absorb the administrative costs associated with this

proposal.
Will the proposal generate savings or offsets?
N/A
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?
N/A
What are the community impacts associated with the proposal? Who and how many people will be affected?
These vouchers will enable thousands of trees to be planted each year. The vouchers will encourage children to take a practical and engaged approach to environmental issues.
Are there any transitional considerations associated with implementation of the proposal? If so, how will they be managed?
Nil.
What is the intended implementation date of the proposal?
Start of the 2021 school 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.
Vouchers will be able to be redeemed from the first half of each calendar year.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
The proposal is ongoing.
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?
N/A