

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Building Safer Communities - Improvements to Justice Health in the Alexander Maconochie Centre
Person requesting costing:	Shane Rattenbury MLA
Date of request:	12 October 2020
Summary of proposal:	As part of the Building Safer Communities initiative, this proposal is to fund improvements to Justice Health in the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). We would employ a new team of 6 advanced care nurses with multi-disciplinary backgrounds to: - better respond to women offenders' unique health needs; - enhance First Nations people's health services; and - engage in developing longer term care plans that would continue from inside to out of the AMC. Further information on the 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, acknowledging that many people who engage in offending behavior have at some point been victims of crimes and subjected to trauma themselves. The health of offenders has clear links to broader community outcomes and improving their mental and physical health may in part support reduced reoffending.

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.

Administration of the program will be met through existing resources.

Nurse salaries include on-costs and overtime and are indexed.

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)	-543	-1,104	-1,126	-1,148	-3,921
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?
Not identified for the purpose of this costing, however Commonwealth aligned programs may see additional funding.
Will funding/the cost require indexation?
Wages are indexed.
Who will administer the proposal?
The Justice Health component of the proposal will be administered by Canberra Health Services.
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 .
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 Directorate will absorb administration costs for this proposal.
Will the proposal generate savings or offsets?
No

Has the proposal been previously costing 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. This proposal would mean, for example, that people with substance use issues would be appropriately treated and clean when they were released, that detainees with mental health issues would have mental health care plans and warm referrals to appropriate mental health services outside, and would have dietary and dental conditions addressed while they were in prison. Improving detainees' health will give them the best chance of a fresh start on the outside.
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?
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.
It is intended that all aspects of the proposal will be formally commenced by July 2021, and continue for the term of the next Assembly.
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". To achieve reduced recidivism, Justice Health, as a division of Canberra Health Services, needs to be better supported and have extended responsibility for providing health care management for detainees leaving custody, as well as increased specialist care for vulnerable offenders on community based orders and parole.