



Parliament of Australia
Parliamentary Budget Office

Phil Bowen PSM FCPA
Parliamentary Budget Officer

Senator Christine Milne
Leader of the Australian Greens
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Milne

Please find attached a response to your costing request, *Rural and Regional Mental Health* (letter of 29 August 2013).

The response to this request will be released on the PBO website (www.aph.gov.au/pbo).

If you have any queries about this costing, please do not hesitate to contact Colin Brown on (02) 6277 9530.

Yours sincerely

Phil Bowen

30 August 2013

COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Rural and Regional Mental Health
Summary of proposal:	The proposal would provide funding to increase support for rural and regional mental health services. The intention of the proposal is to improve the health of Australians living in rural and regional Australia. The proposal would have effect from 1 July 2014.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	29 August 2013
Date costing completed:	30 August 2013
Date of public release of policy:	14 August 2013
Agencies from which information was obtained:	Not applicable

Costing overview

This proposal is expected to decrease both the underlying cash and fiscal balances by \$552.6 million over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. This impact is entirely due to an increase in expenses. This proposal would terminate on 30 June 2017.

Departmental expenses associated with this proposal are incorporated into the capped amount as per the costing request.

This costing is considered to be of high reliability as it is based on the capped amounts and profile as specified in the costing request.

Table 1: Financial implications (outturn prices)^(a)

Impact on	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	-184.2	-184.2	-184.2
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-184.2	-184.2	-184.2

(a) A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in expenses in accrual terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in expenses in cash terms.