



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, *Investing in public hospitals* (letter of 2 September 2013).

The response to this request will be released on the PBO website (<http://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

} September 2013

COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Investing in public hospitals
Summary of proposal:	The proposal would invest an additional \$1.5 billion into public hospitals. The intention of the proposal is to improve public health by providing better access to hospital care. The proposal would have effect from 1 July 2014.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	2 September 2013
Date costing completed:	3 September 2013
Date of public release of policy:	28 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 \$1.5 billion over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. This is entirely due to an increase to expenses.

As per the costing request, any departmental expenses associated with this proposal are to be met from within the capped amount.

This costing is considered to be of high reliability as it is based on the capped amount 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)	-	-500	-500	-500
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-500	-500	-500

(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 increase in expenses in cash terms.