

## PRO-FORMA REQUEST FOR COSTING AN ELECTION COMMITMENT<sup>1</sup>

<b>Name of policy</b>	<b>Protecting Australians Online</b>
Person requesting costing (Prime Minister/Leader of the Opposition/Leader of a minority party):	Prime Minister
Date of public release of policy:	1 May 2022
Link to the publicly released policy:	<a href="https://www.liberal.org.au/our-plan-protecting-australians-online">https://www.liberal.org.au/our-plan-protecting-australians-online</a>
Date of request to cost the policy:	2 May 2022
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	<p>The Coalition will provide \$33.0 million over four years from 2022-23 for a Protecting Australians Online package, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$23.0 million for the eSafety Commissioner for eSafety in schools. This includes giving every school in Australia materials to raise awareness of the services provided by the eSafety Commissioner; providing additional resources and training for school children on emerging online safety and mental health issues; providing in-person teacher training to help educators support students; providing an enhanced version of eSafety’s successful Online Safety Toolkit; and strengthening the</li> </ul>

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<sup>1</sup> An electronic version of this pro-forma can be found at [www.electioncostings.gov.au/templates](http://www.electioncostings.gov.au/templates).

	<p>Trusted eSafety Provider Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$10.0 million for the eSafety Commissioner to further expand coordination with other regulatory and law enforcement agencies to make it easier for Australians to report online harms.</li> </ul>
Intention of policy:	To help protect children online.
Certification that this, or a substantially similar costing request, has not been submitted to the Parliamentary Budget Office:	This, or a substantially similar costing request, has not been submitted to the Parliamentary Budget Office.
<p><b>Description of policy</b> (<i>note: where the request to cost a proposal differs from the announced policy, the costing will be on the basis of information provided in the costing request</i>)</p> <p><b>What are the key assumptions that have been made in the policy including:</b></p>	
<p>Is the policy part of a package?</p> <p><i>If yes, list and outline components and interactions with proposed or existing policies.</i></p>	No.
Where relevant, is funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount?	Capped.
<p>Will third parties (for instance the States/Territories) have a role in funding or delivering the policy?</p> <p><i>If yes, is the Australian Government contribution capped, with additional costs to be met by third parties, or is another funding formula envisaged?</i></p>	No.
<p>Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses?</p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details.</i></p>	No.

**Description of policy** (note: where the request to cost a proposal differs from the announced policy, the costing will be on the basis of information provided in the costing request)

**What are the key assumptions that have been made in the policy including:**  
(continued)

<p>Does the policy relate to a previous budget measure? <i>If yes, which measure?</i></p>	<p>This measure builds on the 2022-23 Budget measure for <i>Women’s Safety</i>, the 2020-21 Budget measure for the <i>Office of the eSafety Commissioner - additional funding</i> and the 2020 July Economic and Fiscal Update measure for <i>COVID-19 Response Package - communications, cyber safety and the arts</i>.</p>
<p>If the proposal would change an existing measure, are savings expected from the departmental costs of implementing the program? Will funding/cost require indexation? <i>If yes, list factors used.</i></p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>What are the estimated costs each year? Are these provided on a cash or fiscal basis?</p>	<p>\$7.0 million in 2022-23 \$8.0 million in 2023-24 \$9.0 million in 2024-25 \$9.0 million in 2025-26</p> <p>Cash basis.</p>
<p>Are the revenue and/or expense costs likely to be significantly different beyond the forward estimates period? <i>If yes, why?</i></p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>What assumptions have been made in deriving the expected financial impact in the party costing (please provide information on the data sources used to develop the policy)?</p>	

<p>Has the policy been costed by a third party? <i>If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?</i></p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>What is the expected community impact of the policy? How many people or businesses will be affected by the policy? What is the likely take up? What is the basis for these impact assessments/assumptions?</p>	<p>Equipping teachers and school communities with better training and resources will ensure young Australians are properly supported to deal with cyber-bullying, image-based abuse, exposure to harmful material and online predators.</p> <p>It will also better support parents, the majority of whom turn to their child's school when seeking information on online safety, even though schools may not be sufficiently aware of the support available, or equipped to provide help. Every school in Australia will be given materials to raise awareness of the services provided by the eSafety Commissioner.</p>
<p><i>Note: it will be up to the professional judgment of the relevant Secretary as to whether these assumptions are adopted in a Treasury or Finance costing of the policy.</i></p>	
<p><b>Administration of policy</b></p>	
<p>Who will administer the policy (for example, Australian Government entity, the States, non-government organisation, etc.)?</p>	<p>Office of the eSafety Commissioner</p>
<p>Should departmental expenses associated with this policy be included in this costing? <i>If no, will the Australian Government Entity be expected to absorb expenses associated with this policy?</i> <i>If yes, please specify the key assumptions, including whether departmental costs are expected with respect to program management (by policy agencies) and additional transactions/processing (by service delivery agencies).</i></p>	<p>Yes. Departmental costs are expected with respect to administering and delivering this policy.</p>
<p>Intended date of implementation.</p>	<p>1 July 2022</p>

Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	
Will the policy be ongoing or terminating*?	Terminating
If terminating: What is the intended date of termination?	30 June 2026
Are there any transitional arrangements associated with the conclusion of the policy?	No.
List major data sources utilised to develop policy (for example, ABS cat. no. 3201.0).	Not applicable.
Are there any other assumptions that need to be considered?	Not applicable.

\* Ongoing policies continue indefinitely (until a decision is made to cease or alter the program). Terminating measures end on a date set out in the initial policy and a further decision is required to continue the program beyond this date.