

APPENDIX C – PRO-FORMA REQUEST FOR COSTING AN ELECTION COMMITMENT¹

Name of policy	The Coalition's plan to support your local parks and environment
Person requesting costing (Prime Minister/Leader of the Opposition/Leader of a minority party):	Prime Minister
Date of public release of policy:	24/05/2016
Date of request to cost the policy:	17/06/2016
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	The Coalition will invest \$24 million in a new Improving your Local Parks and Environment Programme (\$22.5 million in grants to local councils, community groups, environment groups and others; and \$1.5 million to improve the Tamar River), \$5 million in an expanded Solar Communities Programme, and \$1 million to support upgrades to cleaner outboard engines used by surf lifesaving clubs.
Intention of policy:	To improve local environments across Australia.
Certification that this, or a substantially similar costing request, has not been submitted to the Parliamentary Budget Office	This costing has not been submitted to the Parliamentary Budget Office.
Description of policy (please note that, 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:	
Is the policy part of a package? If yes, list and outline components and interactions with proposed or existing policies.	No.
Where relevant, is funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount?	Capped amount.
Will third parties (for instance the States/Territories) have a role in funding or delivering the policy? If yes, is the Australian Government contribution capped, with additional costs to be met by third parties, or is another funding formula envisaged?	No.
Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.	Yes. \$6.5 million will be redirected from the <i>National Landcare Programme – Emerging Priorities</i> measure from the 2016-17 Budget.

¹ An electronic version of this pro-forma can be found at www.electioncostings.gov.au/templates.

Description of policy (please note that, 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? If yes, which measure?</p>	<p>The \$1.5 million to improve the Tamar River builds on the 2014-15 Budget measure <i>Coastal Rivers Recovery Initiative</i>. A total of \$6.5 million of funds will be redirected from the <i>National Landcare Programme – Emerging Priorities</i> measure from the 2016-17 Budget.</p>
<p>If the proposal would change an existing measure, are savings expected from the departmental costs of implementing the programme? Will funding/cost require indexation? If yes, list factors used.</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>What are the estimated costs each year? Are these provided on a cash or fiscal basis?</p>	<p>The policy provides \$30 million in funding for local parks and environment. \$6.5 million will be redirected from existing programs in the Environment portfolio. The net impact of this policy on the UCB will be \$23.5 million.</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>See attached.</p>
<p>Has the policy been costed by a third party? If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>What is the expected community impact of the policy? How many people will be affected by the policy? What is the likely take up? What is the basis for these impact assessments/assumptions?</p>	<p>This policy will provide funding to improve local parks and environments across Australia.</p>

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.

Administration of policy	
Who will administer the policy (for example, Australian Government entity, the States, non-government organisation, etc)?	Department of the Environment
Should departmental expenses associated with this policy be included in this costing? If no, will the Department be expected to absorb expenses associated with this policy? If yes, please specify the key assumptions, including whether departmental costs are expected with respect to programme management (by policy agencies) and additional transactions/processing (by service delivery agencies).	No. All departmental costs should be absorbed by the department, including ASL.
Intended date of implementation.	As soon as practicable in the 2016-17 fiscal year.
Intended duration of policy.	The grants provided as part of this policy will be delivered by 30 June 2020.
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	No.
List major data sources utilised to develop policy (for example, ABS cat. no. 3201.0).	N/A
Are there any other assumptions that need to be considered?	No.

Costing Assumptions

1. Improving your Local Parks and Environment Programme (net impact of \$22.5 million)

- \$24 million will be invested in a new Improving Your Local Parks and Environment Programme. This will include:
 - \$21.5 million in grants to local councils, community groups, environment groups and others.
 - \$1 million in grants to organisations that build environmental awareness to reduce local littering and keep local environments healthy.
 - \$1.5 million to build on the *Coastal Rivers Recovery initiative* in the 2014-15 Budget.
 - This will be funded through a redirection from the *National Landcare Programme – Emerging Priorities* measure from the 2016-17 Budget.

2. Local responses to Climate Change (nil net impact)

- \$5 million will be invested in an expanded Solar Communities programme. This will deliver funding of up to \$15,000 to community groups for the installation of rooftop solar PV, solar hot water, and small scale renewables on community owned or used buildings.
 - This will be funded through a redirection from the *National Landcare Programme – Emerging Priorities* measure from the 2016-17 Budget.

3. Providing cleaner outboard engines for Australian surf life savers (\$1 million net impact)

- \$1 million will be invested to support upgrades to cleaner outboard engines used by surf lifesaving clubs. Grants will average around \$1000 per outboard engine.

ASL – Nil

- Any ASL requirements associated with implementation of the Programme should be absorbed from within the Environment portfolio.