

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

19 November 2018

## **Request for costing of election commitment**

Pursuant to section 2.70 of the 2018 Guidelines on the Caretaker Conventions, Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch) has requested the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) undertake an election policy costing for the following election commitment:

### **063 – Free dental for government school students**

The election policy costing will be completed in accordance with DTF's Guidelines for managing requests from a political party for costing of its own policies (the policy costing guidelines) available at: <https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/2018-election>

The election policy costing request is attached to the media release.

A further media release will be issued once the costing has been completed.



**David Martine**  
**Secretary**  
**Department of Treasury and Finance**

Consistent with the DTF policy costing guidelines, the contact for Parties requesting DTF costings is:

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**AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY - CARETAKER COSTING REQUEST**

<b>Name of policy: Free Dental for Government School Students</b>	
Party requesting costing:	Australian Labor Party
Date of public release of policy	Submitted in response to the Department of Treasury and Finance request for further information.
Summary of policy:	School dental vans will provide annual check-up and treatment where needed to all Victorian government school students.
Description/scope of policy/assumptions:	<p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Screening and treatment will be provided to public school students only.</li> <li>● Costing assumes a total of 637,412 public school students, based on 2018 July DET data grown at 3% in 2019.</li> <li>● Costings factor in an assumption that the school population grows at 3%.</li> <li>● Costings include a provision for staffing and on-costs.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Policy and financial assumptions:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assume a roll out of 50% calendar year 2020, 75% in 2021 and 100% in 2022 (i.e. 25% in 19/20, 62.5% in 20/21, 87.5% in 21/22, and full roll out thereafter</li> <li>● Screening and treatment assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Assume a 100% take up rate. Assume 35% of students screened require treatment.</li> <li>○ Treatment costs have been based on published Dental Weighted Activity Units.</li> <li>○ Costing assumes there are 190 viable school days per year (factoring in public holidays, school holidays and pupil free days).</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Screening and treatment van assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All services (check-up and treatment) would be delivered through these vans.</li> <li>○ Screening van is assumed to cost \$100,000 and a treatment van is assumed to cost \$500,000.</li> <li>○ Each screening van is assumed to have a team of 1 FTE Oral Health Therapist and 1 FTE Grade 3 Dental Assistant.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Costing assumes an offset from the Commonwealth Dental Benefits Scheme.</p>

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY - CARETAKER COSTING REQUEST

**Output:**

	18/19 (\$m)	19/20 (\$m)	20/21 (\$m)	21/22 (\$m)	22/23 (\$m)	5YR TOTAL (\$m)
Free annual dental for government school students		41.5	94.6	122.8	137.0	395.8
<i>Commonwealth offset</i>		(10.5)	(27.6)	(40.8)	(49.2)	(128.0)
<b>Total operating impact</b>		31.0	67.0	82.0	87.8	267.8

**Note: tables may not add due to rounding.**