



Agricultural and mining roads program	
Party:	The Coalition
Summary of proposal:  The proposal would provide \$600 million to upgrade agricultural and mining roads critical to getting product to domestic and export markets.  The program would be delivered over 4 years, would be non-ongoing and would start on 1 July 2025.	

### Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by \$600 million over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This impact reflects an increase in administered expenses.

The proposal would not be expected to have an impact beyond the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period, other than for public debt interest (PDI) costs. A breakdown of the financial implications over the period to 2035-36 is provided at Attachment A.

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) has not made any assessment as to whether the specified funding would be sufficient to meet the objectives of the proposal.

**Table 1: Agricultural and mining roads program – Financial implications (\$m)<sup>(a)(b)</sup>**

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	<b>-600.0</b>
Underlying cash balance	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	<b>-600.0</b>

(a) A positive number represents an increase in the relevant budget balance; a negative number represents a decrease.

(b) PDI impacts are not included in the totals.

## Key assumptions & Methodology

Administered expenses were as specified in the proposal, distributed evenly over 4 years from the commencement date.

The costing assumes all allocated funds for each year would be fully spent, and departmental expenses would be managed within from within existing resourcing.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules.<sup>1</sup>

## Data sources

Commonwealth of Australia (2025) *Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2025*, Commonwealth of Australia.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.pbo.gov.au/for-parliamentarians/how-we-analyse/pbo-rounding-rules>

## Attachment A – Agricultural and mining roads program – Financial implications

**Table A1: Agricultural and mining roads program – Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)<sup>(a)</sup>**

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Total to 2028-29	Total to 2035-36
<b>Expenses</b>													
<b>Administered non-tax</b>													
<i>Agricultural and Mining Roads program</i>	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	-150.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-600.0	-600.0
<b>Total (excluding PDI)</b>	<b>-150.0</b>	<b>-150.0</b>	<b>-150.0</b>	<b>-150.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-600.0</b>	<b>-600.0</b>

- (a) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in receipts or a decrease in payments or net capital investment in cash terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates a decrease in receipts or an increase in payments or net capital investment in cash terms.
- Indicates nil.

**Table A2: Agricultural and mining roads program – Memorandum item: Public Debt Interest (PDI) impacts – Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)<sup>(a)(b)</sup>**

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Total to 2028-29	Total to 2035-36
<b>Fiscal balance</b>	-3.3	-10.1	-17.2	-24.6	-29.0	-30.3	-31.7	-33.1	-34.6	-36.2	-37.9	-55.2	-288.0
<b>Underlying cash balance</b>	-2.5	-8.4	-15.4	-22.8	-27.9	-30.0	-31.3	-32.7	-34.2	-35.8	-37.5	-49.1	-278.5

- (a) As this table is presented as a memorandum item, these figures are not reflected in the totals above. This is consistent with the approach taken in the budget where the budget impact of most measures is presented excluding the impact on PDI. If the reader would like a complete picture of the total aggregate, then these figures would need to be added to the figures above. For further information on government borrowing and financing please refer to the PBO's online budget glossary<sup>2</sup>.
- (b) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in receipts or a decrease in payments or net capital investment in cash terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates a decrease in receipts or an increase in payments or net capital investment in cash terms.

<sup>2</sup> [Online budget glossary – Parliamentary Budget Office \(pbo.gov.au\)](https://pbo.gov.au/)