

ECR-2025-3220

LGBTIQA+ - Ending discrimination - Foreign Affairs and Defence								
Party:	Australian Greens							

Summary of proposal:

The proposal would seek to achieve LGBTIQA+ equality in the foreign affairs and defence portfolios through the following components:

- **component 1:** provide \$2.5 million per year in funding indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (more than \$25 million over the medium term), for inclusion training and communication efforts within the Australian Defence Force and other uniformed services
- **component 2:** conduct an independent review of historical injustices faced by LGBTIQA+ defence force veterans
- **component 3:** provide \$10 million, evenly distributed over 4 years, for the public service to examine and begin implementation of a redress scheme for defence force veterans harmed by past discriminatory practices.

The proposal would start from 1 July 2026.

Additional information (based on further advice provided):

Component 2 would be capped at \$2 million, evenly distributed over 4 years from the start date.

Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$16.7 million over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This impact reflects an increase in departmental expenses.

The proposal would be expected to have an impact beyond the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period. A breakdown of the financial implications (including separate public debt interest (PDI) tables) 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: LGBTIQA+ – Ending discrimination – Foreign Affairs and Defence – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-	-5.5	-5.6	-5.6	-16.7
Underlying cash balance	-	-5.5	-5.6	-5.6	-16.7

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

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

⁻ Indicates nil.

Key assumptions and methodology

Component 1 of the proposal is capped at a fixed amount, provided annually from the commencement date and indexed to CPI. Components 2 and 3 of the proposal are capped at fixed amounts, evenly distributed over 4 years from the commencement date. All funding is departmental in nature. We assume that no funds allocated to a given year are left unspent.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules¹.

Data sources

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

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

Attachment A – LGBTIQA+ – Ending discrimination – Foreign Affairs and Defence – Financial implications

Table A1: LGBTIQA+ - ending discrimination - foreign affairs and defence - Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)(a)

	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
Expenses													
Departmental													
Component 1 - Inclusion training	-	-2.5	-2.6	-2.6	-2.7	-2.8	-2.8	-2.9	-3.0	-3.0	-3.1	-7.7	-28.0
Component 2 - Independent review	-	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-1.5	-2.0
Component 3 - Redress scheme	-	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-7.5	-10.0
Total – departmental	-	-5.5	-5.6	-5.6	-5.7	-2.8	-2.8	-2.9	-3.0	-3.0	-3.1	-16.7	-40.0
Total (excluding PDI)	-	-5.5	-5.6	-5.6	-5.7	-2.8	-2.8	-2.9	-3.0	-3.0	-3.1	-16.7	-40.0

⁽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.

Table A2: LGBTIQA+ – ending discrimination – foreign affairs and defence – Memorandum item: Public Debt Interest (PDI) impacts – Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	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
Fiscal balance	-	-0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-1.1	-1.3	-1.5	-1.7	-1.9	-2.2	-1.1	-11.7
Underlying cash balance	-	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-1.1	-1.3	-1.5	-1.7	-1.9	-2.1	-1.0	-11.4

⁽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.²

Indicates nil.

⁽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.

Indicates nil.

² Online budget glossary – Parliamentary Budget Office (pbo.gov.au)