



End Australia's epidemic of violence against women and children – increase the Escaping Violence Payment

Party: Australian Greens

Summary of proposal:

The proposal would double the Escaping Violence Payment (EVP) to a grant of up to \$10,000 to cover expenses such as relocation, bond, food, clothing, and medical needs and remove the requirement of receiving a large portion of the payment in the form of vouchers.

The proposal would also provide:

- \$1 million annually in departmental funding to improve the administration of the EVP
- \$2 million in 2025-26 for an independent review of the EVP.

The proposal would start from 1 July 2025.

Additional information (based on further advice provided):

The \$1 million in annual departmental funding would be ongoing and not indexed.

Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$251.1 million over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This impact reflects an increase in administered and 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: End Australia's epidemic of violence against women and children – increase the Escaping Violence Payment – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-63.0	-61.8	-62.7	-63.6	-251.1
Underlying cash balance	-63.0	-61.8	-62.7	-63.6	-251.1

(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.

Methodology and key assumptions

Administered expenses for the EVP grant are capped at a fixed amount of benefit per person as specified, are ongoing and not indexed. The current maximum payment under the existing program is \$5,000. The financial impact was estimated by multiplying the difference between the existing maximum payment (\$5,000) and the proposed payment (\$10,000) by the assumed base population of 12,000 beneficiaries. The number of beneficiaries was uplifted every year by the 10-year average annual population growth rate of 1.4%.

Administered expenses for the independent EVP review are as specified in the proposal.

Departmental expenses are also as specified in the proposal and are not indexed.

We assume that no funds allocated each year are left unspent.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules.¹

Data sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2022-base---2071), [Population Projections, Australia](#), ABS Website, accessed 18 May 2025.

Department of Social Services (2023) [Department of Social Services Report: Evaluation of the EVP](#), dss.gov.au, accessed 18 May 2025.

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 – End Australia’s epidemic of violence against women and children – increase the Escaping Violence Payment – Financial implications

Table A1: End Australia’s epidemic of violence against women and children – increase the Escaping Violence Payment – 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
Administered													
<i>Survivor Grants</i>	-60.0	-60.8	-61.7	-62.6	-63.4	-64.3	-65.2	-66.1	-67.1	-68.0	-69.0	-245.1	-708.2
<i>Independent review of the EVP program</i>	-2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2.0	-2.0
Total – administered	-62.0	-60.8	-61.7	-62.6	-63.4	-64.3	-65.2	-66.1	-67.1	-68.0	-69.0	-247.1	-710.2
Departmental													
<i>Additional EVP resourcing</i>	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-4.0	-11.0
Total – departmental	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-3.0	-11.0
Total – expenses	-63.0	-61.8	-62.7	-63.6	-64.4	-65.3	-66.2	-67.1	-68.1	-69.0	-70.0	-251.1	-721.2
Total (excluding PDI)	-63.0	-61.8	-62.7	-63.6	-64.4	-65.3	-66.2	-67.1	-68.1	-69.0	-70.0	-251.1	-721.2

(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: End Australia's epidemic of violence against women and children – increase the Escaping Violence Payment – 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
<i>Fiscal balance</i>	-1.4	-4.2	-7.2	-10.3	-13.6	-17.1	-20.8	-24.7	-28.9	-33.3	-38.1	-23.1	-199.6
<i>Underlying cash balance</i>	-1.0	-3.5	-6.4	-9.5	-12.8	-16.2	-19.9	-23.7	-27.9	-32.2	-36.9	-20.4	-190.0

- (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 glossary².
- (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.

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