



Invest in disability awareness training for healthcare professionals and the Primary Care Enhancement Program	
Party:	Australian Greens
<p>Summary of proposal:</p> <p>The proposal consists of 2 components, both with a start date of 1 July 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Component 1: Invest \$10 million over 4 years to develop curricula for health professionals focused on disability awareness.• Component 2: Extend the <i>Primary Care Enhancement Program</i> (PCEP) for people with intellectual disability to cover all 31 Primary Healthcare Networks (PHNs).	
<p>Additional information (based on further advice provided):</p> <p>Departmental costs for Component 1 would be drawn from the capped amount.</p> <p>Component 2 would be rolled out over 2 years.</p>	

Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$41.3 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 assessed whether the funds for Component 1 would be sufficient to achieve the objectives of the proposal.

The estimated financial impacts for Component 2 are sensitive to PHN and departmental costs including wages and location, noting the program is currently in a pilot stage.

Table 1: Invest in disability awareness training for healthcare professionals and the Primary Care Enhancement Program – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-	-10.0	-16.7	-14.6	-41.3
Underlying cash balance	-	-10.0	-16.7	-14.6	-41.3

(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.

- Indicates nil.

Key assumptions

The PBO has made the following assumptions in costing this proposal.

Component 2: Primary Care Program Expansion

- Annual administered expense for the *Primary Care Enhancement Program* would be approximately \$350,000 per PHN in 2026-27 and would grow with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
 - This was informed by the funding allocation of the *Primary Care Enhancement Program* pilot in 2025-26, adjusted for the CPI.
- Approximately half of all PHNs would be covered by the program in 2026-27, with coverage expanding to all 31 PHNs in 2027-28.
- Start-up departmental expenses during the rollout of *Primary Care Enhancement Program* would be equal to approximately 42% of total administered expenditure, informed by the departmental costs of *Primary Care Enhancement Program* pilot extension.

Methodology

Component 1: Disability Awareness Curricula

- Proposed capped funding of \$10 million for developing disability Awareness Curricula was distributed evenly over 4 years from the commencement date.
- Administered expenses are as specified in the proposal, less expected departmental expenses. Departmental expenses were estimated based on the cost of administering similar programs.

Component 2: Primary Care Program Expansion

- Total administered expenses for *Primary Care Enhancement Program* were calculated by multiplying the CPI adjusted per-PHN funding in the pilot measure by 15 PHNs in 2026-27 and by 31 PHNs from 2027-28 onwards.
- Start-up departmental expenses were calculated as per *Key assumptions*.
- Ongoing departmental expenses for this component beyond the roll out period were estimated based on the cost of administering similar programs.

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

Data sources

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

Departmental expenses were informed by similar measures in the Commonwealth budgets from 2015-16 to 2021-22.

The Department of Health and Aged Care provided historical and forecast funding profiles of the *Primary Care Enhancement Program* pilot.

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

Attachment A – Invest in disability awareness training for healthcare professionals and the Primary Care Enhancement Program – Financial implications

Table A1: Invest in disability awareness training for healthcare professionals and the Primary Care Enhancement Program – 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													
Administered													
<i>Curricula development</i>	-	-2.3	-2.4	-2.4	-2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-7.1	-9.5
<i>Primary Care Enhancement Program</i>	-	-5.3	-11.3	-11.5	-11.8	-12.1	-12.4	-12.7	-13.1	-13.4	-13.7	-28.1	-117.3
Total – administered	-	-7.6	-13.7	-13.9	-14.2	-12.1	-12.4	-12.7	-13.1	-13.4	-13.7	-35.2	-126.8
Departmental													
<i>Curricula development</i>	-	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.5
<i>Primary Care Enhancement Program</i>	-	-2.2	-2.9	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-5.7	-9.9
Total – departmental	-	-2.4	-3.0	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-6.1	-10.4
Total (excluding PDI)	-	-10.0	-16.7	-14.6	-14.9	-12.7	-13.0	-13.3	-13.7	-14.0	-14.3	-41.3	-137.2

(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: Invest in disability awareness training for healthcare professionals and the Primary Care Enhancement Program – 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>	-	-0.2	-0.8	-1.5	-2.3	-3.0	-3.7	-4.5	-5.3	-6.1	-7.1	-2.5	-34.5
<i>Underlying cash balance</i>	-	-0.2	-0.7	-1.4	-2.1	-2.8	-3.5	-4.3	-5.1	-5.9	-6.8	-2.3	-32.8

- (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.
- Indicates nil.

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