



Create Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer	
Party:	Australian Greens
<p>Summary of proposal:</p> <p>The proposal would create a Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer in the Department of Health and Aged Care.</p> <p>The proposal would be ongoing and start on 1 July 2026.</p>	
<p>Additional information (based on further advice provided):</p> <p>The Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer will be at the same level as the existing Chief Allied Health Officer and have a similar number of supporting staffing.</p>	

Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$6.3 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.

Table 1: Create Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-	-2.1	-2.1	-2.1	-6.3
Underlying cash balance	-	-2.1	-2.1	-2.1	-6.3

(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 and methodology

The staffing profile is assumed to be one senior executive officer (SES1) and a team of up to 10 staff at various levels.

The financial implications were estimated by multiplying the number of staff at each level by the relevant cost for that level using the PBO's departmental costs calculator.

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

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

Data sources

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

The Department of the Health and Aged Care provided the level and supporting staff of the Chief Allied Health Officer.

Attachment A – Create Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer – Financial implications

Table A1: Create Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer – 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													
<i>Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer</i>	-	-2.1	-2.1	-2.1	-2.2	-2.2	-2.2	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-6.3	-22.1
Total (excluding PDI)	-	-2.1	-2.1	-2.1	-2.2	-2.2	-2.2	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-6.3	-22.1

(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: Create Chief Oral and Dental Healthcare Officer – 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	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-1.0	-1.1	-0.3	-5.3
Underlying cash balance	-	..	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-1.0	-1.1	-0.3	-5.2

(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.

.. Not zero but rounded to zero.

- Indicates nil.

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