



Repeal ban on live sheep export by sea	
Party:	The Coalition
Summary of proposal:  The proposal would repeal the 2024-25 Budget measure <i>Phase Out of live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance</i> , <sup>1</sup> including the additional funding announced by the Government on 15 October 2024.  The proposal would be non-ongoing and start on 1 July 2025.	

### Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to increase the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$77.7 million over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This impact reflects a decrease 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 of the feasibility or legal implications of executing these changes by the policy start date, including the entering or breaking of any contracts and its implications on the broader Live Sheep Exports sector.

**Table 1: Repeal ban on live sheep export by sea – Financial implications (\$m)<sup>(a)(b)</sup>**

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	31.0	29.3	15.7	1.7	<b>77.7</b>
Underlying cash balance	31.0	29.3	15.7	1.7	<b>77.7</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.

- Indicates nil.

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<sup>1</sup> The 2024-25 Budget measure *Phase out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition support* provided \$107 million over 5 years from 2024-25 for a suite of actions for sheep producers and the supply chain, market development, sheep welfare, implementation and engagement to support an orderly phase out of live sheep exports by sea, so that individuals, supply chain businesses and communities are well positioned and ready when the trade ends. [Budget paper 2, page 43](#).

## Key assumptions and methodology

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) provided the funding profile for the policy over the forward estimates period, funded through the 2024-25 Budget measure *Phase Out of live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance* and the 2024-25 MYEFO measure *Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – additional transition support*.

Funding that was identified as uncommitted was reversed from 2025-26 onwards.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules.<sup>2</sup>

## Data sources

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry provided information related to the *Phase Out of live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance* program as at 15 January 2025.

Commonwealth of Australia (2024) *2024-25 Budget*, Commonwealth of Australia.

Commonwealth of Australia, 2023. *2023-24 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook*, Commonwealth of Australia.

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

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pbo.gov.au/for-parliamentarians/how-we-analyse/pbo-rounding-rules>

## Attachment A – Repeal ban on live sheep export by sea – Financial implications

**Table A1: Repeal ban on live sheep export by sea – 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>													
<i>Administered</i>	20.0	19.5	9.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49.4	49.4
<i>Departmental</i>	11.0	9.8	5.8	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.3	28.3
<b>Total – expenses</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>77.7</b>
<b>Total (excluding PDI)</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>77.7</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: Repeal ban on live sheep export by sea – 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><i>Fiscal balance</i></b>	0.7	2.1	3.1	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.1	9.6	40.6
<b><i>Underlying cash balance</i></b>	0.5	1.7	2.9	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.0	8.6	39.4

(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<sup>3</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>3</sup> [Online budget glossary – Parliamentary Budget Office \(pbo.gov.au\)](https://pbo.gov.au/)