



Targeting multinational tax avoidance	
Party:	Australian Greens
Summary of proposal: The proposal would establish the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO), Tax Avoidance Taskforce on an ongoing basis. The proposal would start on 1 July 2025.	

Costing overview

The proposal would not be expected to impact the fiscal and underlying cash balances over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This is because the Tax Avoidance Taskforce is already funded over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period.

The proposal would be expected to have an impact beyond the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period. The proposal would be expected to increase the fiscal balance by around \$10.1 billion and the underlying cash balance by around \$5.37 billion across the medium term through to 2035-36. This impact reflects an increase in tax revenue, offset by an increase in departmental funding.

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 funding provided to the ATO is primarily expected to continue the employment of around 3,000 staff in Tax Avoidance Taskforce program roles. The funding also accounts for information and communication technology (ICT), consultation and litigation.

Table 1: Targeting multinational tax avoidance – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

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

(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.

Uncertainties

The process of collecting extra tax revenues is inherently uncertain and relies on taxpayers having not paid the full amount of tax that they should have. The quantum of these numbers is estimated by the ATO's annual total tax gap findings which stands at an estimated \$44.5 billion in 2021/22¹. Tax gap estimates also have varying levels of uncertainty. The amount of tax revenue collection costed in the

¹ [Tax gap program summary findings | Australian Taxation Office](#)

medium term is subject to economic and business conditions as well as the key assumptions of the costing and should be considered with a degree of caution.

Key assumptions

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) has made the following assumptions in costing this proposal.

- The average staffing level of this program continues at around 3,000 employees.
- The ICT, consultation and litigation expenses are included.
- The average staff hours per day, direct case workdays per year, efficiency of staff and year-on-year efficiency improvements, inferred from prior taskforce effort.
- The direct returns per full time equivalent staff member, inferred from prior year outcomes and program completions.
- The timing of case duration to a final outcome (audit liabilities raised).
- The timing of cash collection from identified tax owed.
- The proportion of newly identified tax owed that is not repaid (bad debts).

Methodology

The financial impacts of this costing have been calculated using the ATO Tax Avoidance Taskforce model, the same model used to calculate the 2024-25 budget measure: *Strengthening Tax Compliance – extending the Tax Avoidance Taskforce*² and forms part of the 2025-26 budget measure: *Strengthening Tax Integrity*³.

The ATO compliance programs that were considered in this costing were the:

- Top 100 program, Top 1,000 program
- Medium and Emerging Market
- Top 500 program
- Medium & Emerging Private Group
- High Wealth Private Groups (High Wealth Individuals Tax Gap)
- Internationals
- Trusts
- Promoters.

For each program, past ATO compliance programs were assessed and the calculated direct revenue per full time equivalent was inferred against the proposed ongoing program and assumed staffing level. The direct revenue was grown over the medium term to account for assumed staffing efficiencies. The return was then reduced for the inferred rate of bad debts, then timed to account for case duration and cash collection timing.

² [2024-25 Budget paper 2: Strengthening Tax Compliance – extending the Tax Avoidance Taskforce](#)

³ [2025-26 Budget Paper No. 2: Strengthening Tax Integrity](#)

Related payments to the ATO including departmental, ICT, consultants and litigation expenses were calculated using the ATO's Tax Avoidance Taskforce calculator.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules.⁴

Data sources

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

Commonwealth of Australia (2024) [2024-25 Budget paper 2: Strengthening Tax Compliance – extending the Tax Avoidance Taskforce](#). Commonwealth of Australia, accessed 19 May 2025.

Commonwealth of Australia (2025) [2025-26 Budget Paper No. 2: Strengthening Tax Integrity](#). Commonwealth of Australia, accessed 21 May 2025.

The Australia Taxation office (2024) [Tax gap program summary findings](#). The Australian Taxation Office website, accessed 19 May 2025.

The Australian Taxation Office provided information on Tax Avoidance Taskforce as at 22 July 2024.

The Treasury provided information on Tax avoidance Taskforce as at 15 May 2025.

⁴ <https://www.pbo.gov.au/for-parliamentarians/how-we-analyse/pbo-rounding-rules>

Attachment A – Targeting multinational tax avoidance – Financial implications

Table A1: Targeting multinational tax avoidance – Fiscal 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
Tax revenue													
<i>Tax Avoidance Taskforce</i>	-	-	-	-	1,590.0	1,930.0	2,050.0	2,150.0	2,210.0	2,260.0	2,320.0	-	14,510.0
Expenses													
Departmental													
<i>Tax Avoidance Taskforce related payments - Australian Taxation Office</i>	-	-	-	-	-601.0	-608.0	-616.0	-624.0	-632.0	-640.0	-648.0	-	-4,369.0
Total (excluding PDI)	-	-	-	-	989.0	1,322.0	1,434.0	1,526.0	1,578.0	1,620.0	1,672.0	-	10,141.0

(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.

- Indicates nil.

Table A2: Targeting multinational tax avoidance – 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
Tax receipts													
<i>Tax Avoidance Taskforce</i>	-	-	-	-	590.0	1,100.0	1,460.0	1,580.0	1,630.0	1,670.0	1,710.0	-	9,740.0
Payments													
Departmental													
<i>Tax Avoidance Taskforce related payments - Australian Taxation Office</i>	-	-	-	-	-601.0	-608.0	-616.0	-624.0	-632.0	-640.0	-648.0	-	-4,369.0
Total (excluding PDI)	-	-	-	-	-11.0	492.0	844.0	956.0	998.0	1,030.0	1,062.0	-	5,371.0

(a) 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 A3: Targeting multinational tax avoidance – 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>	-	-	-	-	..	11.0	41.0	84.0	131.0	183.0	239.0	-	689.0
<i>Underlying cash balance</i>	-	-	-	-	..	8.0	34.0	73.0	120.0	170.0	225.0	-	630.0

- (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 glossary⁵.
- (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.
- .. Not zero but rounded to zero

⁵ [Online budget glossary – Parliamentary Budget Office \(pbo.gov.au\)](https://pbo.gov.au/online-budget-glossary)