



Q3: 1 January 2026 – 31 March 2026

# Parliamentary Budget Office Activity report

---

## Contents

Enhancements to this report.....	3
Our activities in detail .....	3
Independent Review of the PBO .....	3
Parliamentarian requests.....	3
Self-initiated program .....	9
External engagement .....	9
Media Mentions .....	13
People and systems.....	14
Our Performance Measures .....	15
Attachment A: Self-initiated program.....	18

## At a glance

This report provides an update on Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) activities since the last Activity report published on 2 February 2026. Key highlights include:

- The 2025-26 independent post-election review of the operations of the PBO, conducted by Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM, was tabled in both houses of Parliament on 12 March 2026. We are now working through the recommendations and considering how best to respond to and implement these.
- Demand for costings and budget analysis services continued to follow the parliamentary cycle. Our time to deliver has increased to a median of 27 days (see Figure 4). In addition to continued high client demand compared to previous election cycles, January 2026 was used to develop costings models enable accurate and efficient costings in the later part of the election cycle.
- We produced 4 self-initiated publications since the last activity report – *2025-26 National Fiscal Outlook*, *2025-26 MYEFO Snapshot*, and updates to our *Historical fiscal data* and *Build your own Budget* publications. The March quarter is also a key period for our budget related publications.

# PLANNED ACTIVITIES BY FUNCTION

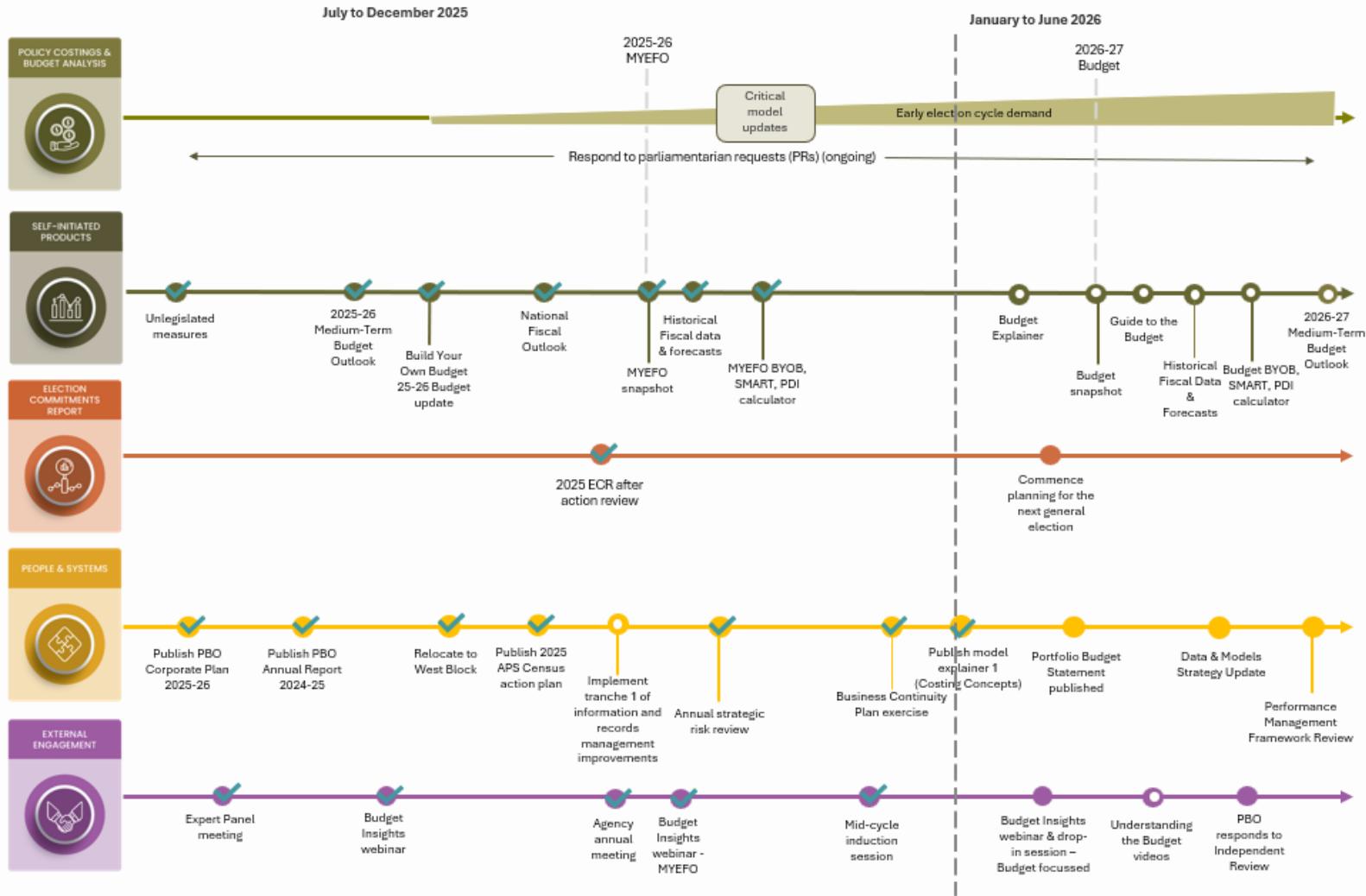
JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026



Parliamentary Budget Office

## LEGEND

- ✓ Activity complete
- Activity commenced



## Enhancements to this report

This report is the first to combine the PBO’s external activity reports with our internal performance reporting, resulting in a more efficient streamlined quarterly reporting structure that will enhance the PBO’s transparency and accountability to our performance targets going forward.

## Our activities in detail

This report provides an update on our key activities since our previous Activity report (published 2 February 2026) with information up to 31 March 2026. It also provides information on how we are delivering against the priorities in our [Corporate plan](#). More information is in our [Annual report](#) and previous [Activity reports](#).

### Independent Review of the PBO

The 2025-26 [independent post-election review](#) of the operations of the PBO, conducted by Dr Martin Parkinson AC PSM, was tabled in both houses of Parliament on 12 March 2026. The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA), which provides oversight of the PBO, had exercised their option to commission the Review on 4 September 2025.

The purpose of the Review was to examine and provide a report on the effectiveness and efficiency of the PBO in executing its purpose to inform the parliament by providing independent and non-partisan analysis of the budget cycle, fiscal policy and the financial implications of proposals. The PBO provided secretariat support to Dr Parkinson for the duration of the Review process.

The Review considered that the PBO is performing very well. The Review noted that even high performing institutions have opportunities to improve. The Review’s recommendations will be central to further enhancing our support of the Parliament over the coming years.

### Parliamentarian requests

The PBO continued to experience strong demand for costing and budget analysis services for this period of the parliamentary cycle (see Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2). Quarter 3 of 2025-26 has shown continued demand for parliamentarian request services for the third quarter post-election, with 71 requests received (Table 1). The 204 requests received since the 2025 election is 31% higher than for the first three quarters following the 2022 election.

**Table 1: Costing and budget analysis request performance**

	20-21 total	21-22 total	22-23 total	23-24 total	24-25 total	25-26 Q1	25-26 Q2	25-26 Q3	Total YTD
Requests received <sup>(a)</sup>	421	1,488	271	856	1,772	64	69	71	<b>204</b>
Requests completed <sup>(a)</sup>	272	1,021	243	722	1,709	53	67	49	<b>169</b>
Requests withdrawn <sup>(b)</sup>	48	548	11	27	180	4	5	5	<b>14</b>

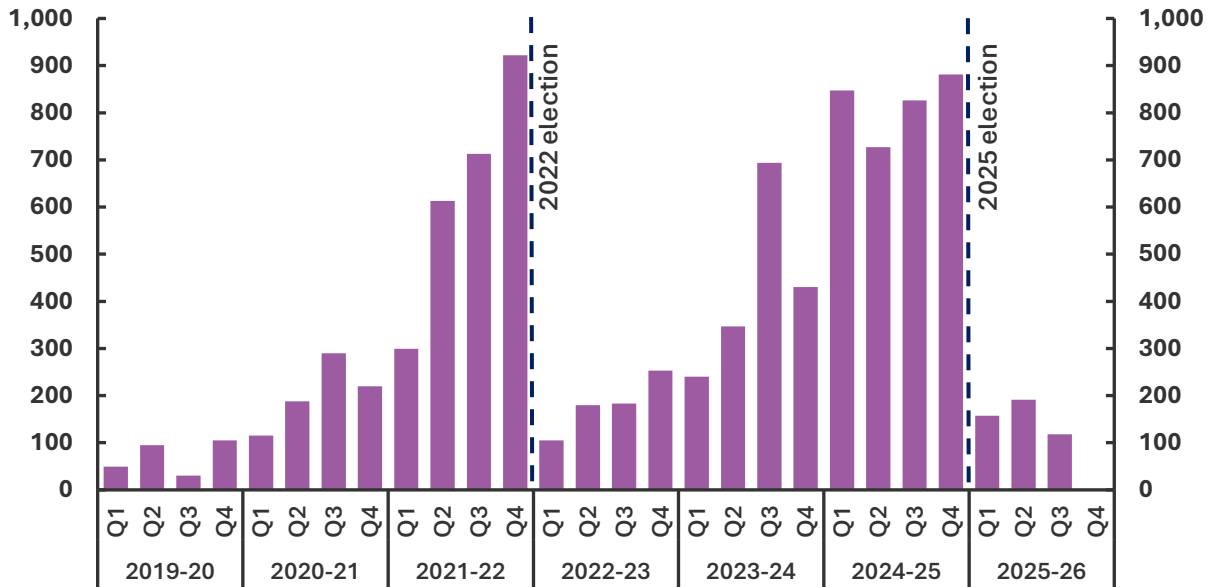
a) Costings prepared for *Election Commitments Reports* (ECR) are included in these counts as follows: 316 in the 2022 ECR and 601 in the 2025 ECR.

b) In election years (2021-22 and 2024-25), most of these requests were automatically withdrawn due to the expiration of the parliament in accordance with the PBO’s legislative mandate which does not allow for requests to carry over between parliaments. In 2022, 415 withdrawn requests related to the expiration of the parliament, and 112 in 2025.

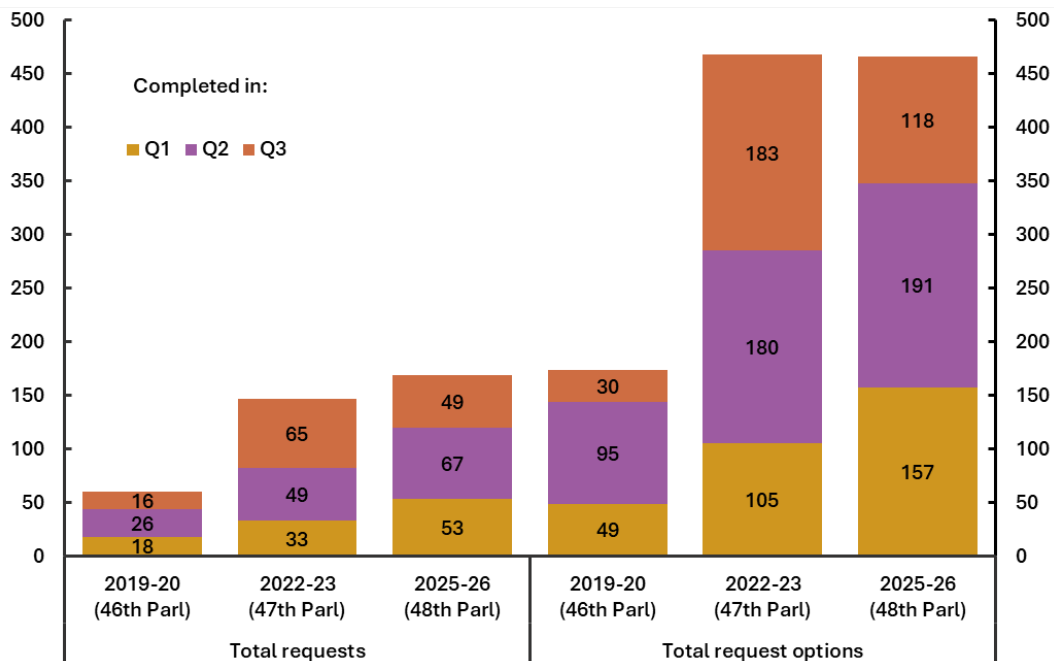
The number of request options completed in Quarter 3 is 118 compared to 191 (Quarter 2) and 157 (Quarter 1) (Table 2).

In December, the Parliamentary Budget Officer advised all parliamentarians that our January focus would be on improving internal costing models and strengthening policy documentation. This shift was intended to support accuracy of costings as well as faster delivery later in the election cycle, when timeliness is more critical. Consistent with this, 5 requests were completed in January 2026.

**Figure 1: Number of completed request options from parliamentarians**



**Figure 2: Number of completed requests and options in the first three quarters in a new Parliament**



**Table 2: Costing and budget analysis request options performance to 31 March 2026**

	20-21 total	21-22 total	22-23 total	23-24 total	24-25 total	25-26 Q1	25-26 Q2	25-26 Q3	Total YTD
Request options outstanding at the start of period	40	343	35	86	380	70	116	60	<b>246</b>
Request options received in period	1,253	3,241 <sup>(a)</sup>	786	2,046	3,268 <sup>(a)</sup>	217	111	120 <sup>(d)</sup>	<b>448</b>
Request options completed in period	813	2,550 <sup>(a)</sup>	721	1,711	3,281 <sup>(a)</sup>	157	191	118	<b>466</b>
Average time to completion per option (business days)	31	29	15	19	19 <sup>(e)</sup>	17	25	30	<b>24</b>
Median time to completion per option (business days)	35	18	14	15	15 <sup>(e)</sup>	14	24	27	<b>20</b>
Request options withdrawn in period	137	999 <sup>(b)</sup>	14	41	297 <sup>(b)</sup>	14	14	7	<b>35</b>
Request options outstanding at the end of period	343	35	86	380	70	116	60 <sup>(c)</sup>	54 <sup>(d)</sup>	<b>54<sup>(d)</sup></b>

Note, the table identifies the number of 'options' received by the PBO, noting that a single request can contain multiple options.

- For 2021-22 this includes 316 costings prepared for the *2022 Election Commitments Report*. For 2024-25 this includes 601 costings prepared for the *2025 Election Commitments Report*.
- Most of these requests were automatically withdrawn due to the expiration of the 46<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Parliaments in accordance with the PBO's legislative mandate which does not allow for requests to carry over between parliaments. 677 options were withdrawn in 2022. 197 options were automatically withdrawn in Q3 2024-25 due to the expiration of the 47<sup>th</sup> Parliament.
- Since the publication of the PBO 2025-26 Q2 Activity Report, we have re-examined metadata for Q2 of 2025-26 and recalculated the number of options for requests that were outstanding. This has led to the total request outstanding options at the end of Q2 2025-26 revised upward from 22 to 60.
- This is a preliminary number based on an initial assessment of the number of options involved in each parliamentary request and is subject to change on completion of the costing.
- Average and median day counts exclude costings prepared for the 2022 and *2025 Election Commitments Report*.

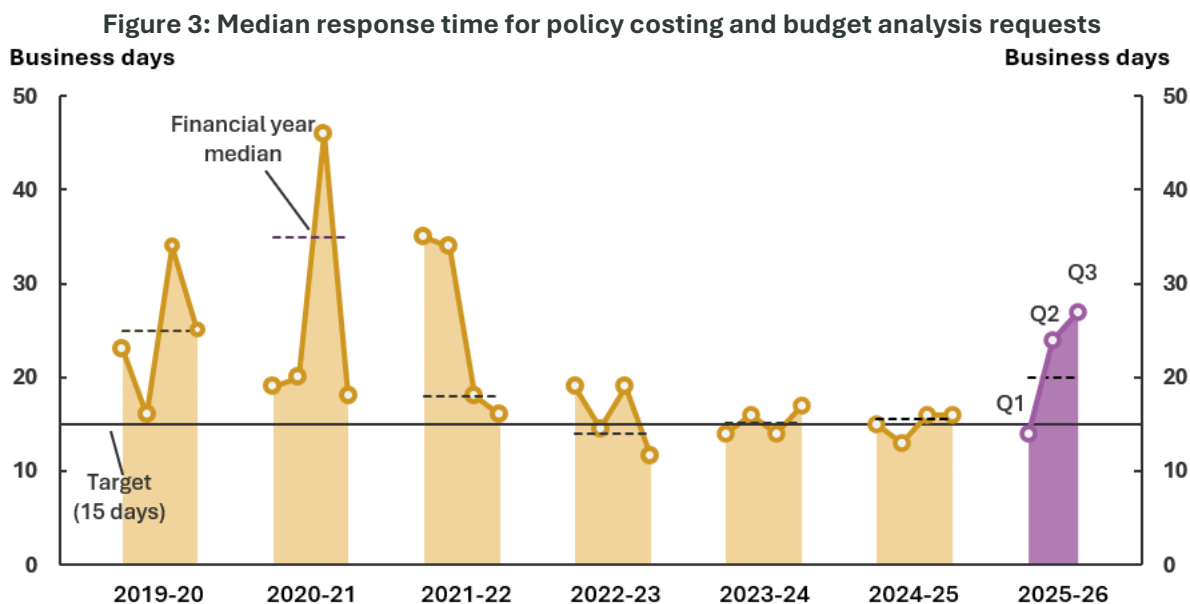
## Parliamentarian Requests - Timing

Our median time for completion of parliamentary requests increased from 24 days in Quarter 2 to 27 business days in Quarter 3 of 2025-26 (Figure 3), against our benchmark of 15 days.

The time to completion for parliamentary requests has increased over 2025-26 compared to previous years and equivalent periods in the election cycle. This is due to several reasons.

- Parliamentary requests at the start of the election cycle can tend to be newer policy ideas that require more time to analyse and develop costing models for. This compares to the later part of the cycle when often those ideas are iterated on, which allows for quicker completion times as work already exists to adjust for the new policy idea.
- Downsizing of PBO staff numbers following the 2025 election, through attrition, to bring the PBO within budget.
- Our focus in January to pause costings in order to develop our costing models. This meant that requests with the PBO over this period were kept 'active' which increased their overall time to completion.
- A redirection of some resources to support the independent review of the PBO and post-election staff leave

These factors combined to increase the time of delivery. We engaged with parliamentarians and major party co-ordinators to communicate our strategy and to complete requests according to their priority, so that we still delivered critical and important work as timely as possible. We expect the work on models to drive some efficiencies, noting that, if demand continues along current trends, returning to a 15-day median response time will be unlikely.



**Table 3: Completed costing and budget analysis requests, disaggregated by whether the request required an associated information request to 31 March 2026**

	22-23 total	23-24 total	24-25 total	25-26 Q1	25-26 Q2	25-26 Q3	Total YTD
Request options completed	721	1,711	2,680 <sup>(a)</sup>	157	191	118	466
With information requests	220	388	484	59	26	11	96
Without information requests	501	1,323	2,196	98	165	107	370
Percentage with information requests	31%	23%	18%	38%	14%	9%	21%
Average time to completion (business days)	15	19	18	17	25	30	24
With information requests	22	29	27	16	31	37	23
Without information requests	13	16	17	17	24	29	24
Median time to completion (business days)	14	15	15	14	24	27	20
With information requests	22	25	23	13	34	34	20
Without information requests	10	11	13	15	22	23	20

Note: the table identifies the number of request options completed by the PBO, noting that a single request can contain multiple options.

(a) Total excludes 601 costings prepared for the 2025 Election Commitments Report.

## PBO requests for information from Australian Government agencies

A driver of the time to completion is whether the PBO needs to source information from other agencies to complete the request. Agencies usually have 10 days to provide information to the PBO. The median time to completion is usually significantly shorter for costings and analyses not requiring information requests (Table 3).

Table 4 shows the time taken by agencies to respond to information requests. On average, requests are usually answered in 10 days, with complex requests sometimes taking longer. In 2025-26, there were 181 completed requests across 11 agencies, provided in an average of 11 business days.

**Table 4: Agency responses to PBO information requests to 31 March 2026<sup>(a)</sup>**

	20-21 total	21-22 total	22-23 total	23-24 total	24-25 total	25-26 Q1	25-26 Q2	25-26 Q3	Total YTD
Responses received in period	523	538	354	429	571	34	21	126	181
Percentage received on time (%)	99	99	99	99	99	100	100	100	100
Average response time (business days)	11	6	10	12	10	10	9	14	11

(a) Figures updated across 2024-25 to reflect final responses received.

Note: Average response time excludes agency standing information requests without due dates.

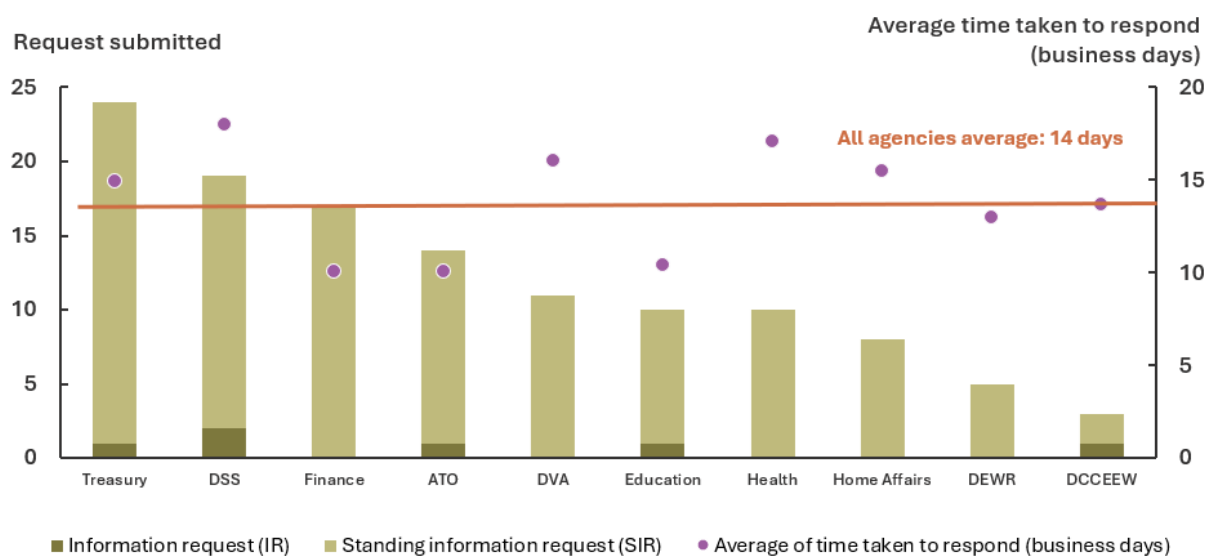
**Table 5: Information request responsiveness by agencies: 1 January to 31 March 2026**

Commonwealth entity	Responses received in period	Average of time taken to respond (business days)	Responses received after due date	% late
Australian Taxation Office	14	10	0	0
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	3	14	0	0
Department of Defence	1	13	0	0
Department of Education	10	10	0	0
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations	5	13	0	0
Department of Finance	17	10	0	0
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	2	10	0	0
Department of Health and Aged Care	10	17	0	0
Department of Home Affairs	8	16	0	0
Department of Industry, Science and Resources	1	14	0	0
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts	1	15	0	0
Department of Social Services	19	18	0	0
Department of the Treasury	24	15	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

Note: Average response time excludes agency standing information requests without due dates.

Table 5 provides the breakdown of responsiveness for individual agencies for the period 31 December to 31 March 2026 (the top 10 agencies and their responsiveness are highlighted in Figure 4). There were no late responses during the period. Where appropriate, the PBO negotiates extensions with agencies on timeframes to complete requests.

**Figure 4: Top 10 Agency responses to PBO information requests with average response time, 1 January to 31 March 2026**



### Publicly released parliamentary requests referenced in the public debate

The PBO's responses to parliamentary requests are confidential, except for those prepared for parliamentary committees or if the requestor publishes the response. Publicly released responses are published on the PBO website (Table 6). Two parliamentary requests were publicly released in Quarter 3 of 2025-26. Both responses were referenced in media.

**Table 6: Costings or budget analysis publicly released and referenced between 1 January and 31 March 2026**

Description of policy	Party or Parliamentarian	Date of PBO release	Number of references*	Media type
Cost of property investor tax breaks	Senator Larissa Waters	13 March 2026	13	Media release, print, online, radio
Operation of the CGT discount	Select Committee on the Operation of the Capital Gains Tax Discount	10 February 2026	99	Media release, print, online, radio, TV, Senate Estimates

\*Includes syndicated online publications.

Note: While the PBO endeavours to capture all policy announcements that reference PBO costings, there may be announcements missing from the table above, for example, because the announcement was not reflected in any media monitored by the PBO.

## Public reporting of PBO responses to requests

We routinely monitor references to the PBO in media articles to ensure we, and the information or advice we prepare, are referenced correctly. Our approach for assessing and reacting to public references to our work is on our [website](#).

Between 1 January and 31 March 2026, we have requested a clarification or correction 3 times. This is an increase from the previous report (2). The instances were addressed to the PBO's satisfaction.

We report this information at an aggregate level for transparency while maintaining confidentiality.

## Self-initiated program

Our self-initiated work program is set around the themes of fiscal sustainability, medium- and long-term fiscal risks, improving understanding of the budget, and distributional analysis. Since the last Activity report, we have focused on essential maintenance of key models and have not released any written publications. However, preparation work has begun on our flagship publications triggered by the Government publishing its 2026-27 Budget. We released updates of our online tools during the period: the *Small Model of Australian Representative Taxpayers* (SMART). See [Attachment A](#) for our planned publication schedule.

## External engagement

A key priority for the PBO is to elevate our interactions with parliamentarians, their staff, and committees especially leading up to the federal election. We are committed to continual improvement in our service delivery and to making our work accessible to our audience.

Parliamentarians and staff are welcome to call, email or come by our office. Parliamentarians and other stakeholders sometimes request bespoke training and education sessions. Where appropriate, the PBO partners with the Parliamentary Library to deliver these sessions either in person or via Teams.

Activities since the last report include:

- providing individual briefings to members of the 48<sup>th</sup> Parliament to assist understanding of the budget and the services provided by the PBO
- consultation with the International Monetary Fund on their Article IV report and consultation with the OECD for their 2025 Economic Survey of Australia (ESA)
- partnering with the Parliamentary Library to host the first of our refreshed mid-cycle induction sessions for parliamentarians and advisors on our services and how to best maximise the different offerings available
- hosting the Senior Economic Advisor from New Zealand on potential services to the NZ Parliament and practices of the PBO
- presenting to a range of portfolio agencies on the PBO's role, work and requirements for provision of information under our MoU with Commonwealth Agencies
- participating in professional development workshops with our Expert Panel member from the ANU's Tax and Transfer Policy Institute.

## Demand for PBO Self-Initiated products

### Media references

In Quarter 3, we published an update to one of our self-initiated items: the *Small Model of Australian Representative Taxpayers* (SMART).

Of the 8 publications mentioned in this quarter, the majority (7) were published and updated in previous quarters. This reflects that many of our publications have a long ‘shelf-life’.

**Table 7: PBO publication mentions in media during 1 January to 31 March 2026**

Publication title	Date first released	Number of references*
2025-26 Medium Term Budget Outlook: Beyond the Budget	18 Sep 2025	38
2025 Election Commitments Report	20 Jun 2025	9
2025-26 MYEFO Snapshot	17 Dec 2025	9
Build your own Budget	16 Dec 2022	7
2025-26 National Fiscal Outlook	4 Dec 2025	5
Australian’s Tax Mix	14 Nov 2025	5

\*Includes syndicated online publications.

NB: Table includes publications that received more than 5 mentions during the reporting period

### Website engagement – total page views

Interest in our products can be seen through webpage view statistics. Website engagement is measured through a collection of website analytics for website page views, adjusted for the ‘bounce rate’ (views of less than 10 seconds and no page interactions).

We measure the website page views in aggregate, to acknowledge that the stock of self-initiated products grows over time, and that many of them have a long shelf life and continue to be relevant after they have been released. Relevant products include fiscal updates, explainers, data and tools.

In Quarter 3, we received a total of 14,378<sup>1</sup> website views on publication pages.

---

<sup>1</sup> During the process of gathering data for this reporting period, abnormal pageview statistics indicated non-human traffic observed over the period 13-19 March (6 days). Data over the 6-day period was adjusted to track active users rather than page views, noting that historically these two metrics have closely aligned. This adjustment balances the need for consistent reporting for this measure across the 2025-26 year while mitigating the impact of abnormal activity on this measure.

**Table 8: Google analytics data – Total traffic to all Publications web pages**

Quarter	Total page views*
2025-26 Quarter 1	17,348
2025-26 Quarter 2	12,090
2025-26 Quarter 3	14,378
<b>2025-26 Total</b>	<b>43,816</b>
2024-25 Quarter 1	13,288
2024-25 Quarter 2	15,531
2024-25 Quarter 3	19,066
2024-25 Quarter 4	16,946
<b>2024-25 Total</b>	<b>64,831</b>

\* Adjusted for bounce rate

### Website engagement – total product views

We also measure website page views of those products delivered within the reporting period, to determine the demand and relevance of new products.

Table 9 below shows data collected from Google Analytics for the number of page views for products released this quarter and top performing publications released in prior quarters. The target of 100 page views is not applicable for the 2025-26 MYEFO update of our SMART tool. This is a regular update that does not garner significant page views and is not considered a relevant product for this measure.

Table 9 and 10 also illustrates that many of our most popular publications are from previous years, reflecting that our ‘explainers’ have continued relevance. Some of these are unlikely to generate high numbers of page views on initial release but have longer ‘lives’ than those publications related to the latest budget update. Some past products may receive a rapid increase in page views when policy debates return to those topics.

During this reporting period, the *Budget Explainer: Fuel Taxation in Australia* received a resurgence of page views.

**Table 9: Google Analytics data for publications released in 2025-26 and prior years<sup>2</sup>**

Publication	Published	Page views <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Viewed in 2025-26, but published in prior years (2025-26 year-to-date total)<sup>3</sup></b>		
Budget Explainer: Dividend imputation and franking credits	Jun 2022	4,788
Budget Explainer: Fuel taxation in Australia	Sep 2022	3,822
Build your own Budget	Dec 2022	2,211
2024-25 National Fiscal Outlook	Oct 2024	2,142

<sup>2</sup> The quarterly data for each publication shows the number of engagements received within the quarter in which they were published.

<sup>3</sup> This refers to the combined number of website page views across all publication webpages, regardless of their release date received throughout 2025-26.

Publication	Published	Page views <sup>(a)</sup>
Australia's Tax Mix Appendix A: Australian government taxes	Nov 2024	1,724
2025-26 Budget Snapshot	Mar 2025	1,660
2025 Election Commitments Report (ECR)	Jun 2025	1,628
2025-26 National Fiscal Outlook	4 Dec 2025	441
<b>Published in Quarter 1</b>		
Build your own Budget: 2025-26 Budget update	18 Sep 2025	275
2025-26 Medium-Term Budget Outlook: Beyond the Budget	18 Sep 2025	352
Unlegislated measures tracker (update) <sup>(b)</sup>	21 Aug 2025	314
<b>Published in Quarter 2</b>		
Build your own Budget – 2025-26 MYEFO update	23 Dec 2025	43
Historical Fiscal Data – 2025-26 MYEFO update	18 Dec 2025	45
2025-26 MYEFO Snapshot	17 Dec 2025	153
<b>Published in Quarter 3</b>		
Small Model of Australian Representative Taxpayers (SMART) 2025-26 MYEFO update <sup>(b)</sup>	25 Mar 2026	17

a) Adjusted for bounce rate

b) Regular updates to data packs and regularly maintained products are not expected to garner significant page views, and are not considered 'relevant products' for the purpose of the PBO's performance metrics. Guides are also not considered relevant products.

**Table 10: Top 10 performing PBO product web pages by views (1 January to 31 March 2026)**

	Page title	Date first released	Type	Total page views*
1	Phase out negative gearing and CGT tax concessions for property investors with more than one investment property (7)	20 Jan 2025	2025 ECR costing (Greens)	5,024
2	Budget Explainer: Fuel Taxation in Australia (8)	21 Sep 2022	Publication	2,274
3	2025-26 National Fiscal Outlook (new)	4 Dec 2025	Publication	1,483
4	Budget Explainer: Dividend imputation and franking credits (1)	13 Jun 2024	Publication	1,061
5	Student visa work hours increase (new)	20 Jun 2025	2025 ECR costing (Coalition)	876
6	Build your own Budget (6)	16 Dec 2022	Interactive tool	811
7	Operation of the CGT discount (new)	10 Feb 2026	Costing	711
8	2025-26 MYEFO Snapshot (new)	17 Dec 2025	Publication	525
9	Online Budget Glossary (new)	May 2023	Online tool	485
10	2024-25 National Fiscal Outlook (4)	30 Oct 2024	Publication	456

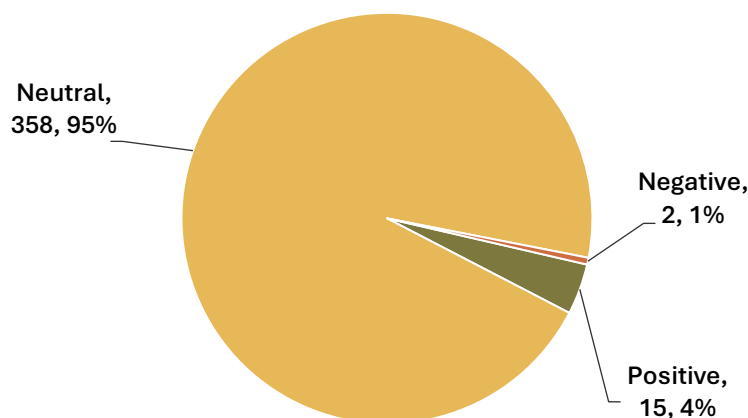
\* Adjusted for bounce rate. Where a product has been updated, the 'Date released' is when it was first released. Views are for the quarter.

# The information in the brackets is the position in the top 10 for the product in the previous report.

## Media Mentions

Media mentions demonstrate how we are perceived as an agency by our external stakeholders and suggest that the PBO’s outputs are relevant. In Quarter 3, we recorded a total of 375 media mentions. Of these, the majority were neutral (358 or 95%), and a small number were assessed as positive (15 or 4%). There were 2 (1%) sentiments in the media that were considered as negative (Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Distribution of the nature of media mentions received in Quarter 3**



Costings continued to receive the bulk of media mentions (Table 11). In Quarter 3, the majority of the costing mentions were in reference to costings that were either published in previous quarters or that had not been publicly released.

**Table 11: Distribution of media mentions – Quarterly comparison**

2025-26	Costings	Publications	Function or purpose of the PBO	Total mentions
<b>Quarter 1</b>	120	73	13	206
<b>Quarter 2</b>	79	102	20	201
<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>375</b>
<b>Total year to date</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>782</b>

## Stakeholder Feedback

Feedback from our stakeholders provides opportunities for continuous improvement and increased efficiencies in service delivery. We utilise feedback from the following sources:

1. Formal feedback – stakeholder interviews
2. Unsolicited feedback provided by stakeholders which may include:
3. Feedback via email/phone/private briefings/meetings
4. Other sources, as appropriate.

We registered 12 pieces of unsolicited feedback from clients and other stakeholders on their customer services experience and the quality of our costings. Of these 9 were positive and 3 were neutral.

## People and systems

We continue to invest in our people and systems to build depth, drive efficiency and improve resilience. A key focus is to maintain a high-performing team culture and embed an agile arrangement where all technical teams are involved in completing parliamentary requests, engagement and self-initiated activity, promoting cross-team collaboration and operational flexibility.

### Staffing

At 31 March 2026, we had 41.9 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff and a headcount of 46, a reduction from the election period peak of 61 FTE staff and a headcount of 64, reflecting the need to scale back staffing to achieve the PBO budget. The peak figures include staff seconded from other Commonwealth agencies. Throughout the year we will bring in graduate secondees.

### Employee Census

We participated in the 2025 Australian Public Service Employee Census that ran from 5 May to 6 June 2024. We continue to have a highly engaged workforce, with an employee engagement index score of 79 (down from 80 in 2024), and a response rate of 87%, down from 97% in the previous year but consistent with our 2023 participation rate.

The PBO's Staff Consultative Forum have developed an action plan to respond to feedback from the Census. The action plan sets out that communication and support for wellbeing within the agency are scored highly by staff, however there are opportunities for improvement in areas such as change management and learning and development. The action plan was published in December 2025 and is available on our [website](#), together with our 2025 Census highlights report.

The PBO will participate in the 2026 Australian Public Service Employee Census.

### Information and communication technology (ICT) capability

The PBO operates in a modern, collaborative, and integrated cloud-based ICT environment. We continue to work with the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS), our ICT platform provider, to ensure technology meets our business needs.

We continue to improve our internal ICT capability, taking advantage of the greater availability of low/no code tools such as Microsoft Power Platform. This has allowed us to internally develop and maintain a suite of workflow apps and automations to support our work with greater efficiency. By building the tools ourselves we have been agile in responding to unexpected or emerging needs, enabling us to deploy updates and new features in a highly responsive manner.

Activities since the last report include:

- Building the PBO's AI capabilities, prioritising safe and effective use.
- Automating management of the PBO Standing Information Request process.
- Successful launch of a unified internal process management repository, making it easier for staff to find current guidance and supporting consistent ways of working.

## Our Performance Measures

The PBO's performance measures are published in our [Corporate Plan](#) and results are reported in our Annual Report. For Quarter 3 of 2025-26, the performance metrics were assessed as follows:

- 6 were "on track"
- 1 was "off track"
- 3 "requires monitoring"
- 3 were not applicable as the triggering event has not happened (the majority relate to the Election Commitments Report, which is triggered by the next general election).

The PBO adopts a 3-point scale to assess and track performance each quarter:

**Off Track** - Only a minority of the criteria have been met or not at all.

**Requires Monitoring** - The majority of criteria have been met; however, the intended result was not fully achieved as planned.

**On Track** - All elements of the target have been met; the intended result was achieved as planned.

The following table provides the detailed Quarter 3 update against our performance measures.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	2025-26 TARGET	2025-26 RESULTS	LINKS TO FURTHER DETAIL WITHIN THIS ACTIVITY REPORT
<b>1. Output measures</b>			
1.1 Number of policy costing and budget analysis requests completed	Equal to or greater than historical levels in the election cycle	Requires Monitoring	<a href="#">Parliamentarian requests</a>
1.2 Number of PBO self-initiated products	Publish between 14 and 18 self-initiated products	On track	<a href="#">Self-initiated program – planned and published</a>
1.3 Publication of the Election Commitments Report within the legislated timeframe	Less than 30 days after the end of the caretaker period or 7 days before the first sitting day of parliament	Not applicable (*)	Not Applicable this reporting period
<b>2. Efficiency measures</b>			
2.1 Median time to complete policy costing and budget analysis requests	15 business days or fewer (non-caretaker)	Off track	<a href="#">Parliamentarian Requests - Timing</a>
2.2 Percentage of fiscal update related products published at the time specified by our schedule	100% of fiscal update related products are published at the time specified in our schedule	On track	<a href="#">Website engagement – total page views</a>
<b>3. Effectiveness measures</b>			
3.1 Percentage of PBO publicly released parliamentarian requests referenced in the public debate	80% of publicly released parliamentarian requests referenced by media sources	Requires Monitoring	<a href="#">Publicly released parliamentarian requests referenced in the public debate</a>
3.2 Demand for PBO self-initiated products	(a) 50% of relevant products are reported on by a major news outlet	On track	<a href="#">Demand for PBO Self-Initiated Products</a>
	(b) 45,000 web page views (p/a)	On track	<a href="#">Demand for PBO Self-Initiated Products</a>
	(c) 85% of relevant products receive at least 100 web site page views (p/a)	Requires Monitoring	<a href="#">Demand for PBO Self-Initiated Products</a>
3.3 Demand for the Election Commitments Report	Demand for the Election Commitments Report	Not applicable(a)	Not Applicable this reporting period

3.4 Proportion of pre-election PBO responses to parliamentarian requests that have informed election commitments included in the Election Commitments Report	60% of pre-election PBO responses to parliamentarian requests have informed election commitments included in the Election Commitments Report	Not applicable(a)	Not Applicable this reporting period
3.5 Proportion of feedback from stakeholders that indicates a high-level of satisfaction regarding the quality of the service and outputs provided by the PBO	85% of feedback is positive or neutral	On track	<a href="#">Stakeholder Feedback</a>
3.6 Proportion of media mentions that indicate our outputs are of high-quality and that we are perceived as independent, robust, and/or non-partisan	90% of mentions are positive or neutral	On track	<a href="#">Media Mentions</a>

a) These measures will remain unreported until after the next general election has been held – the next general election will be held sometime between 7 August 2027 and 20 May 2028.

## Attachment A: Self-initiated program

**Table A1: 2025-26 Self-initiated program – planned and published**

Title of publication	Publication	
	Planned	Actual
<b>Quarter 1</b>		
Unlegislated measures tracker	-	21 Aug 2025
Build Your Own Budget (BYOB) – 2025-26 Budget update	Sept 2025	18 Sept 2025
2025-26 Medium-Term Budget Outlook: Beyond the Budget	Sept 2025	18 Sept 2025
<b>Quarter 2</b>		
2025-26 National Fiscal Outlook	Q2	4 Dec 2025
2025-26 MYEFO Snapshot	Dec 2025	17 Dec 2025
Historical Fiscal Data – MYEFO update	Dec 2025	18 Dec 2025
<b>Quarter 3</b>		
BYOB – 2025-26 MYEFO update	Jan 2026	23 Dec 2025
Small Model of Australian Representative Taxpayers (SMART) – 2025-26 MYEFO update	Jan 2026	25 Mar 2026
Unlegislated measures tracker (post MYEFO)	Feb 2026	n/a*
Budget Explainer	Q3	-
<b>Quarter 4</b>		
2026-27 Budget Snapshot	May 2026	-
Guide to the 2026-27 Budget	May 2026	-
Historical fiscal data – 2026-27 Budget update	May 2026	-
BYOB – 2026-27 Budget update	June 2026	-
SMART – 2026-27 Budget update	June 2026	-
2026-27 Medium-Term Budget Outlook: Beyond the Budget	June 2026	-
Budget Explainer	Q4	-

\* Decision made not to update this publication at this time, as a recent publication of this had occurred in August 2025. A new publication release cycle will instead be implemented, publishing after future MYEFOs.