



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Referred by: Australian Labor Party **Proposal No:** 1428
Date Referred: 17/2/2023 **Date Published:** 20/03/2023
Proposal Title: Regional Newspaper Advertising
Cluster: Customer Service

General Government Sector Impacts

	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	3,000	6,000			9,000
Depreciation					-
Less: Offsets	3,000	6,000			9,000
Revenue					-
Net Operating Balance:	-	-	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets					
Net Capital Expenditure:	-	-	-	-	-

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Total State Sector Impacts

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Notes and costing assumptions:

This policy proposes to double the Government commitment¹ of \$3m to the Regional Media Fund (taking the additional contribution to the Fund to \$6m) and allocate an extra \$3 million for advertising in regional print media. This brings the total cost of the policy over two years to \$9m. The government commitment of \$3m to the Fund is an election promise that has not been included in the forward estimates.

The policy assumes the funding will be sourced from the Regional Growth Fund (RGF). The PBO considers this assumption reasonable.

Advice from the Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW) on amounts in the RGF that are committed, uncommitted, reserved and unallocated is that there is a total of \$607.9 million that is “reserved” and “unallocated” (see table 1).

¹ [\\$3 million boost for regional media to share local stories | NSW Government](#)

Notes and costing assumptions continued:

Table 1 – RGF breakdown

Expenditure type	Committed¹ \$'000	Uncommitted² \$'000	Reserved³ \$'000	Unallocated⁴ \$'000	TOTAL
Grant Expense	893,593	108,350	556,505	51,376	1,609,823
Labour Expense	86,210	0	0	0	86,210
Operational Expense	21,393	0	0	0	21,393

¹ Represents approved and committed projects with an executed Funding Deeds in place, or reasonably expected to have an executed Funding Deeds in place by 31 March 2023 based on past contracting performance.

² Represents approved grant funding through formal successful notifications and/or letters of offer but are not expected to have an executed funding deed in place by 31 March 2023.

³ Represents reserved funding for programs that are at application or assessment stage and/or planned program rounds expected to occur in 2023-24.

⁴ Represents any other funding not allocated or reserved.

The “uncommitted” funding of \$108.4 million shown above is unlikely to be possible to reallocate in practice, given letters of offer have been sent to recipients advising them their grant has been approved. The funding available for reallocation is thus the total of the “reserved” and “unallocated” funds, or \$607.9 million.