



## PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

<b>Referred by:</b>	Australian Labor Party	<b>Proposal No:</b>	C1623
<b>Date Referred:</b>	10/03/2023	<b>Date Published:</b>	20/03/2023
<b>Proposal Title:</b>	Silicosis policy including funding for the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute		
<b>Cluster:</b>	Cross cluster		

### General Government Sector Impacts

	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation					-
Less: Offsets					-
Revenue					-
<b>Net Operating Balance:</b>	-	-	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets					
<b>Net Capital Expenditure:</b>	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Net Lending/(Borrowing):</b>	-	-	-	-	-
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### Total State Sector Impacts

<b>Net Lending/(Borrowing):</b>	-	-	-	-	-
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### Notes and costing assumptions:

This policy proposes a range of initiatives to address emerging concerns over the risks of silicosis in the community. Five measures are proposed:

1. Banning manufactured stone with silica concentrations above 40 per cent;
2. Introducing a licensing scheme and register for at-risk sites;
3. Ramping up health screening and tracking of at-risk workers;
4. Strengthening workplace health and safety across all high-risk industries; and
5. Providing \$6 million over 3 years to the Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) for silicosis research and a patient support program providing a respiratory nurse specialist and social work support for patients and families navigating silicosis.

Measures 1, 2 and 4 involve legislative and regulatory changes and the PBO assumes costs for these can be absorbed within agency budgets for these business-as-usual activities. This would also include setting up a register for all workers engaged in the fabrication of engineered stone.

Measure 3 is primarily a cost for business with the policy placing the onus on relevant employers to provide for the screening of their workers. The PBO assumes the costs of administering this

**Notes and costing assumptions continued:**

aspect of the policy can be absorbed, including the establishment an expert panel to review and strengthen the screening regime.

Measure 5 is to provide a \$6 million grant to Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) over 3 years by way of a grant provided from Insurance and Care NSW's (icare) Dust Diseases Board Grants Program. Based on the current range of grants offered by icare, the PBO believes the proposed grant to the ADRI can be funded from existing resources.