



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Referred by: Australian Labor Party **Proposal No:** C1686
Date Referred: 15/03/2023 **Date Published:** 20/03/2023
Proposal Title: Additional security funding for keeping places of worship safe
Cluster: Stronger Communities

General Government Sector Impacts

	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	10,000	5,000	-	15,000
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Net Operating Balance:	-	(10,000)	(5,000)	-	(15,000)

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

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	(10,000)	(5,000)	-	(15,000)
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Total State Sector Impacts

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	(10,000)	(5,000)	-	(15,000)
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Notes and costing assumptions:

The policy proposes that \$15 million in funding will be provided for faith organisations to improve safety and security at religious institutions, including places of worship, schools, community centres and buildings.

The funding and the distribution across each year is as specified in the policy. The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) assumes funding to faith organisation would be treated as a grant from the NSW Government.

The police species that the funding will be administered by the Stronger Communities Cluster.

The PBO has consulted the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) in preparing the costing and noted that DCJ will be the likely agency to administer the policy.

Administrative costs

DCJ has advised that there will be costs related to administering the grants to faith organisations. Further planning and assessment will be needed to estimate these, which will be performed prior to implementing the policy.

The PBO considers that these administrative costs could be adequately covered by DCJ's recurrent budget (\$21.1 billion in 2022-23). DCJ advised that this can only be achieved by re-prioritising funding away from existing service delivery. The PBO notes that absorbing the costs of the policy could be difficult in practice and may affect the delivery of some services.