

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) - Minister Gentleman

EPSDD E42 - Review of *Water Resources Act 2017* and associated water policy institutional arrangements (CO2018/1280)

Government Priority: Sustainability

Election Commitment/Parliamentary Agreement: No

Deliberations of Cabinet

MINISTER'S POSITION

FUNDING

2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	Total \$'000
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Deliberations of Cabinet

Treasury Assessment

Treasury does not support progression to business case and recommends the proposal be undertaken from within existing resources.

The offset proposal in the concept brief to use proceeds from the WAC would not reduce the cost of the proposal, as WAC revenue is not hypothecated. Funding allocations for water related activities and projects are agreed through the budget process and appropriated separately.

As an alternative, revenue from water trading may represent a viable offset option for this proposal, should it prove feasible following the completion of the current scoping study and subject to Cabinet agreement. This process to consider potential options for water trading in the ACT is due to be completed prior to the 2019-20 Budget.

Should BCC wish to support the proposal to come forward, Treasury recommends it form part of a Water omnibus.

TREASURY RECOMMENDATION

FUNDING

2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	Total \$'000
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Net Operating Impact

0	0	0	0	0
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Expense

0	0	0	0	0
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Capital

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Depreciation

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Revenue/Offsets

0	0	0	0	0
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Staffing - Full Time Employees

0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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Economic and Financial Group comments: WAC revenue is not hypothecated. Funding allocations for water related activities and projects are agreed through the budget process and appropriated separately.

Offset: Yes

Legislative Impacts: Yes. Changes may be made to the *Water Resources Act 2007* as a result of the review.

Outcomes of Prior BCC Consideration: The 2018-19 Budget provided \$120,000 for the *More services for our suburbs - Healthier catchments through better water management* initiative.

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