



2016 FEDERAL ELECTION SURVEY RESPONSES

Implementing the National HIV Strategy

1. Promptly implement the Seventh National HIV Strategy 2014-2017 and related strategies and develop new strategies to commence in 2018 \$: Existing budget

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"Committed to delivering" the Seventh National HIV Strategy" and "will build on this work through an Eighth National HIV Strategy, to be developed in conjunction with States, Territories and community groups over the next two years."</i>	<i>"Will properly implement the Seventh National HIV Strategy 2014-2017." "Will develop the Eighth Strategy for implementation from 2018."</i>	<i>"Strong supporter of the Seventh National HIV Strategy" and note need for "early and consultative planning for the development of the next strategy for 2018 and beyond."</i>

2. Commit to the enduring principles of partnership, harm reduction and non-partisanship that are a globally recognised foundation of Australia's response to HIV. \$: Nil.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"Committed to consultation and collaboration with community-based HIV organisations and recognises the valuable role played the by AFAO." "Our response to HIV is built on a strong partnership between Governments, researchers, clinicians, community and professional organisations and affected communities. We have a proud record of working with the HIV community and will continue to consult with all stakeholders."</i>	<i>"Commits to the principles of partnership, harm reduction and non-partisanship that are the globally recognised foundation of Australia's HIV response."</i>	<i>"Are focused on the principles of partnership, harm reduction and non-partisanship." "Are committed to an evidence based approach to all drug policy... We have recently announced our Harm Reduction Innovation Fund of \$10 million per year."</i>

3. Fund the community-based, peer-led responses of AFAO and its national members. \$5m pa.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"We continue to fund AFAO and other national community based organisations AIVL (the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League), NAPWHA (National Association of People with HIV Australia), and Scarlet Alliance - Australian Sex Workers Association, to deliver the National Strategies for Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections."</i>	<i>"Recognises the importance of renewing efforts to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmissible infections, and blood borne viruses, in partnership with non-government organisations and driven by expert evidence."</i>	<i>"Recognises that the community based and peer-led work of AFAO and its national partners is crucial in ensuring the fight to eliminate HIV maintains momentum and focus. The Greens would ensure funding required to support this work."</i>

Focusing on Prevention

4. Implement a positive recommendation from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for Truvada as HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis without delay \$. As per PBAC advice.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<p><i>"Has committed to respect the independence and advice of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee."</i></p>	<p><i>"Will implement a positive recommendation from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for Truvada as HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis. This is in our national platform."</i></p>	<p><i>"Will guarantee funding for the HIV prevention drug Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) through a variety of measures to ensure continuity of access for people at high risk ..."</i></p> <p><i>"Pending implementation of a positive Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee recommendation, "\$7.2 million over the next two years" would be provided to "support personal importation of Truvada" and "an additional \$1.5 million would be allocated for administration and support for community organisations to assist clients with the personal importation of the drug."</i></p> <p><i>"Once the (Truvada) patent expires \$25.7m will be allocated to provide PrEP to high risk individuals if PrEP medication has not been approved for the PBS."</i></p>

5. Fund a sustained response to prevent further increases in HIV and address endemic rates of sexually transmissible infections (STIs) among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. \$20m pa.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<p><i>"The Coalition is working collaboratively with Indigenous communities, State and Territory Governments and across the private and non-government sectors to address the rates of HIV infection. The Coalition is providing funding for a sustained response to reduce the incidence of BBVs and STIs in Indigenous communities, and to increase testing and treatment rates."</i></p>	<p><i>"In developing the Eighth (HIV) Strategy, Labor will consider issues including the rising rates of HIV in Indigenous communities."</i></p>	<p><i>"The Australian Greens support AFAO's call for a sustained response to this issue, to be developed in collaboration with the communities and key stakeholders in the space."</i></p>

6. Review the reach of needle and syringe provision, including in settings of risk such as correctional facilities, drawing upon lessons learned overseas. \$125,000.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<p><i>"The Coalition provides \$9.5 million to the States and Territories each year for needle and syringe programmes, in addition to more than \$1.8 million to organisations to support similar programmes."</i></p>	<p><i>"Recognises the important contribution that needle and syringe programs have played in the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other blood borne viruses amongst people who inject drugs, and the importance of maintaining these services in order to prevent virus transmission."</i></p>	<p><i>"Harm Reduction Innovation Fund, announced earlier in the campaign, would offer opportunities to implement harm reduction strategies – such as ensuring that needle and syringe provision meets need, including in correctional facilities."</i></p>

Providing Treatment and Care

7. Ensure any trial of Health Care Homes includes general practices that see people with HIV who have chronic and complex health conditions. \$: Existing budget.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"As recommended by the Primary Care Advisory Group, patients eligible to participate in trials of 'Health Care Homes' will be identified using risk stratification tools. These tools will be used to identify patients requiring high levels of coordination and team care which could include people with HIV who have chronic and complex health conditions."</i>	<i>"Recognises that many Australians with HIV are on low incomes and can have three or more serious health conditions in addition to HIV."</i>	<i>"The government's Health Care Home trial announcement ... appears to be substantially under resourced and lacks any detail regarding the roll out of the trial. The Greens are seeking further clarification about the Government's Health Care Home trial, including regarding the sites to be chosen."</i>

8. Provide access to HIV treatment for people who are Medicare ineligible either through Commonwealth or State and Territory arrangements. \$: Cost neutral over five years.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
No response	<i>"Recognises the importance of access to treatment as a key factor in the prevention of the spread of HIV-AIDS and supports universal access to treatment."</i>	<i>"The Greens would pursue options to allow all those living with HIV, including those who are ineligible for Medicare, have access to the lifesaving treatment they need."</i>

Strengthening the Enabling Environment

9. Ensure infectious diseases, including HIV, other blood borne viruses and STIs are recognised as strategic priorities by research funding bodies. \$: Existing budget.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"As well as substantial funding for medications, pathology and diagnostic services, the Coalition has provided \$28.5 million between 2013 and 2016 for BBV and STI research. This is in addition to research funded through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and Australian Research Council (ARC)."</i>	<i>"Will take advice from the National Health and Medical Research Council on making infectious diseases, including HIV, other blood borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections, strategic priorities. ... Labor sought amendments to the Abbott-Turnbull Government's Bill to introduce stronger governance arrangements for the Medical Research Future Fund."</i>	<i>"It is clear that the rise in infectious diseases, including HIV and blood-borne viruses in Australia and around the world warrants prioritisation by Australia's medical research bodies. The Greens would ensure these infections are prioritised by the NHMRC and MRFF."</i>

10. Implement the Australian Red Cross Blood Service's recommendation to reduce the deferral period for men who have had sex with another man from 12 to six months. \$: Nil.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>"The Coalition has ... provided \$59.19 million from 2014-2015 to 2017-2018 to support delivery of education and prevention activities linked to the national BBV and STI strategies and activities that assure the quality of the Australian blood supply."</i>	<i>"Will task the TGA (Therapeutic Goods Administration) with reviewing Australia's policy on blood donation by men who have had sex with another man including in light of international evidence."</i>	<i>"Believe that the recommendation of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service to reduce the period of deferral for men who have had recent sex with another man (MSM) from 12 to six months should be adopted by the TGA. The Greens believe the maintenance of this restriction is in contravention of the available evidence and represents unnecessary discrimination."</i>

Strengthening the Enabling Environment ctd.

11. Establish a dialogue of law enforcement, community and public health experts to strengthen cross-portfolio understanding of new HIV prevention science. \$: Nil.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
No response	<i>" Will establish a dialogue of law enforcement, community and public health experts to strengthen cross-portfolio understanding of new HIV prevention science."</i>	<i>" Recognise how critical it is to establish a constructive dialogue with law enforcement, community and public health experts regarding prevention and harm reduction on HIV and a range of issues, particularly relating to use of illicit drugs."</i>

12. Extend federal anti-discrimination protections to include protection on the basis of occupation so that sex workers are shielded from discrimination. \$: Nil.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
No response	No response	<i>" Key aims of the Australian Greens Policy on Women included a commitment to end to the criminalisation of consensual adult sex work and to free sex workers from the threat of prosecution, stigmatisation, fear and exploitation. As such, the Greens would pursue measures to eliminate discrimination of sex workers."</i>

Leading our Region

13. Re-establish Australia's leadership role in HIV in the Asia Pacific by restoring funding for regional responses and for partnerships between Australia's peak HIV community organisations and their regional and country counterparts. \$3m pa.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>" Recognises our responsibility to our Pacific neighbours in addressing HIV infection. Our investment in health is guided by the Health for Development Strategy 2015-2020. We are working at country, regional and global levels to respond to the health needs of our neighbours."</i>	<i>" Will reverse the \$224 million cut to overseas aid in the Liberals' last Budget. Labor will also commit an extra \$40 million a year."</i>	<i>" The Greens would restore the funding to these crucial programs to ensure that the fight to eliminate HIV can continue in our neighbouring countries."</i>

14. Increase Australia's contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to \$A300 million for 2017 to 2019. \$100m pa.

Liberal National Coalition	Australian Labor Party	Australian Greens
<i>" Coalition Government is contributing to global public-private partnerships, multilateral agencies and international non-Government organisations such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS and UNAIDS to address HIV issues in our region."</i>	<i>" Will stand by Australia's pledge of \$200 million to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria 2014-2016 allocation period."</i> <i>" Will consider Australia's contribution to the 2017-2019 allocation in consultation with Australia's multilateral partners."</i>	<i>" Would commit \$100 million per year from 2017- 2019 from the overseas aid budget to set a strong example around the world and ensure the Fund can continue its work in a sustainable and consistent way. The Greens commit to a pathway for achieving 0.7% of GNI in overseas aid funding over the next decade, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals"; and to "achieving overseas aid of 0.7% of GNI over the next decade."</i>



**Australian Federation
of AIDS Organisations**

Leaders in the HIV community response

AFAO's members are the AIDS Councils in each state and territory; the National Association of People With HIV Australia (NAPWHA); the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL); Anwernekenhe National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander HIV/AIDS Alliance (ANA); and Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association.

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