



2013-14

# BUDGET

At a glance

- The Western Australian economy is forecast to grow by 3.25 per cent in 2013-14. It is the highest rate of growth forecast for any State this year and above the 2.5 per cent forecast for the Australian economy.
- A general government operating surplus of \$386million is forecast for 2013-14, following an estimated surplus of \$239million in 2012-13.
- Western Australia's share of national GST revenue continues to decline – to just 45 per cent of our population share in 2013-14, an all-time low for any State or Territory, leading to a fall in the State's GST revenue of \$477million.

## Investing in infrastructure to support our growing State

- Infrastructure program totals \$26.9billion over the next four years, including \$7.5billion in 2013-14.
- \$432million over the next four years for the \$1.9billion MAX light rail service.
- \$174million over the next four years for the \$2billion airport rail link.
- \$325million over the next four years for the Perth to Darwin Highway.
- \$46.5million over the next three years to construct a new multi-storey car park at Edgewater train station.
- Total spending of \$1.8billion on roads in 2013-14, including new roads and maintenance of existing road network.
- \$2.6billion in 2013-14 on electricity and water infrastructure.
- \$1.1billion in 2013-14 to continue the hospital rebuilding program, including \$417million for the New Children's Hospital.
- \$582million in 2013-14 for school infrastructure.

## Protecting our community

- Extra funding of \$282million over the next four years to recruit 550 extra police and auxiliary officers.
- \$15.4million for new safety systems to protect our fire fighters.
- \$15.3million for a new emergency rescue helicopter service in the South-West.

- \$10.3million to upgrade Police and Community Youth Centres.
- \$4.5million to allow the courts to sit for additional hours at nights and weekends.
- Electronic flashing speed signs will be installed at every school in Western Australia with a 40 kilometre per hour zone at a total cost of \$36million.

## Efficient delivery of quality services

- Increased spending of \$2.5billion on health services over the next four years to meet additional hospital activity, wage increases for nurses, and 155 extra school health nurses.
- Additional \$1.2billion on education services over the next four years to accommodate record growth in student numbers, six additional child and parent centres, and additional funding for Independent Public Schools.
  - In 2013-14 we will spend an extra \$513 per student.
- Low Interest Loan Scheme for private schools doubled to \$53million in 2013-14, or \$114million over four years, to help provide more choice and education opportunities to Western Australian students.
- Roll out of My Way program for disability services, and an extra \$3.7million for free ACROD parking permits.
- More than \$40million to build and improve camping facilities in Western Australia's national parks and promote affordable holiday opportunities for Western Australian families.

## Securing our economic future

- \$6.8billion Fiscal Action Plan will ensure the sustainability of the State's finances. Includes new revenue measures, a cap on public sector wages, funding for 1,000 voluntary severances, re-prioritisation of infrastructure spending and targeted program rationalisation.
- A Housing Supply Package designed to increase the supply of housing to accommodate our rapidly growing population, including increasing the First Home Owner Grant to \$10,000 for first time buyers of new homes. First time buyers of established homes will receive \$3,000.
- Raising the payroll tax exemption threshold to \$850,000 by 2016-17, benefiting more than 16,000 employers.
- Strong focus on agricultural, scientific and medical research, including \$40million for agriculture science, research and development programs and an additional \$12million for health and medical research.