



# WA STATE BUDGET 2018-19

## INVESTING IN THE WHEATBELT

**The McGowan Labor Government is putting the State to work, creating jobs for people in the Wheatbelt and turning the State's finances around.**

The State Budget includes \$4 billion in Royalties for Regions funding across the State, delivering important services to people in regional Western Australia.

The McGowan Labor Government will spend \$3.4 billion on infrastructure across regional WA.

### SNAPSHOT

- \$295.8 million for **job-creating infrastructure in the Wheatbelt**
- \$45 million over four years for the **Building Western Australia's Grains Research and Development Capacity**
- \$22.5 million for the Regional Economic Development Grants Scheme to **drive economic development in regional Western Australia**
- \$20 million on **upgrades to Indian Ocean Drive**
- \$17.2 million towards **road safety treatments to the Great Eastern Highway**
- \$2.4 million is being made available to continue **improvements on Toodyay Road**
- \$20.5 million for the Target 120 program for **early intervention into young offenders**
- \$80 million to **enhance rural bushfire capacity** across the State through the new Rural Fire Division
- \$70 million **improvements to regional roads** across the State identified as high risk for runoff crashes

### PROJECTS UNDERWAY IN THE WHEATBELT

- \$10 million funding allocated to AgLime transport networks to **support the safe and efficient travel of freight vehicles**
- \$3.7 million to **support educational programs at Muresk Institute of Agriculture**
- \$1.5 million over three years for a **capability building program for Aboriginal businesses**, to support the Aboriginal procurement policy
- \$16 million to continue the **Aboriginal Rangers Program over the next 4 years, to provide jobs looking after State parks and protected areas**
- \$5.5 million investment into the Narrogin and Northam Cancer Centres to **strengthen cancer services in regional WA**
- \$12 million towards **replacing two bridges in Williams along the Albany Highway**
- \$4.8 million to **upgrade the Cunderdin Pump Station**
- \$17.7 million for the **redevelopment and upgrade of Merredin District Hospital** in the Eastern Wheatbelt District and the **Narrogin District Health Campus** in the Upper Great Southern District

## SUPPORTING REGIONAL WA

- \$18.5 million over four years for the **Regional Enforcement Unit** to increase traffic enforcement on country roads
- More than \$2 billion will be spent on the State's regional roads between 2018-19 and 2021-22
- \$39.7 million over four years to **boost tourism funding to showcase regional destinations**
- \$4.5 million over four years for **new and emerging regional businesses** as part of the New Industries Fund
- \$1.6 million over four years for the **Find Cancer Early program in regional areas**
- \$6.8 million over two years for **the renal dialysis program**
- \$182.3 million over four years for the **Patient Assisted Travel Scheme** to support regional Western Australians when they need to travel for medical treatment
- \$136 million over four years for the **Country Age Pension Fuel Card** and \$4 million for the **volunteer fuel card**
- \$37 million for **Community Resources Centres** across regional Western Australia
- \$24.8 million for the **Natural Resources Management Program**
- Putting education assistants and **Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers back into regional classrooms**
- Funding to put **Independent Learning Coordinators** in 10 regional schools will assist students undertaking courses through the School of Isolated and Distance Education
- Eight **Regional Learning Specialists** allocated to the **School of Isolated and Distance Education** to provide specialist classes for Year 11 and 12 students