



Since March 2017, the McGowan Government has been delivering its Plan for the Mid West, creating local jobs and delivering for regional communities.

The McGowan Government has a record of major investments over the past four years and its strong investment in the Mid West region continues with the State Budget funding vital job-creating projects and services to assist with the State's recovery.

## CREATING JOBS AND SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY



- **\$600 credit to Mid West households** on their electricity bill by the end of the year
- \$3 million towards the construction of **two new fast speed ferry jetties** for passenger and commercial boats including supporting new marine tourism ventures and tourism developments at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands
- \$1.58 million for upgrades to **Geraldton Fishing Boat Harbour** including upgrades to walkways, visitor facilities, fuel bowsers and street lights
- \$2.3 million to install **Battery Energy Storage Systems** in Wiluna and Yalgoo to increase grid capacity and allow more customers to install rooftop solar systems and reduce their power bills
- \$3.81 million to **upgrade electricity infrastructure in remote communities** across WA including Buttah Windee, making it safer and more reliable
- \$9.92 million for Horizon Power to deploy **standalone power systems** that use solar and battery technology to generate and store electricity, making power safer and more reliable for regional customers, including approximately seven systems being installed across the Mid West
- \$10 million for **Geraldton Port's** Wharf 4 Strengthening and Rail Replacement project, that will upgrade a key piece of infrastructure and pave the way for long-term growth in mineral sands exports
- Funding to fast-track the design and construction of the **Geraldton Marine Finfish Nursery** and increase its production capability
- \$8.1 million to continue the **eConnected Grainbelt program** that underpins essential digital information and weather data supplied to WA's primary industries and emergency services and to maintain 187 automated weather stations
- \$18 million for the construction of a **75 bed Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation facility in Geraldton**, providing temporary accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting Geraldton
- \$8 million through the **Regional Road Safety Program** to upgrade 76 kilometres of Mid West roads with shoulder sealing and installation of audible lines, creating around 50 local jobs
- \$80 million for targeted maintenance programs for **regional social, remote and government workers housing** properties, including approximately 100 homes across the Gascoyne and Mid West regions
- \$141.7 million to **refurbish social housing** across WA's ageing housing stock, including approximately 80 homes in the Gascoyne and Mid West regions
- \$97 million to **build new social housing** including properties in the Gascoyne and Mid West regions

- \$24 million for the **Kalbarri Skywalk project**
- Invested \$7 million to build and operate a state-of-the-art **marine finfish nursery in Geraldton**
- Local recruitment program for **new Prison Officers** for Greenough Regional Prison
- \$12.3 million to **increase security** and separate the women's compound at Greenough Regional Prison
- \$4.4 million for a new roundabout and shared path upgrade at the **Hosken Street-North West Coastal Highway** junction, now complete
- \$10 million towards **Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park** for management and to create tourism and job opportunities
- \$2.3 million **upgrade of Geraldton weather radar** to Doppler capability to boost agriculture
- \$35 million to upgrade roads related to the **Square Kilometre Array project**
- \$6.5 million to upgrade the **Geraldton Airport runway**
- \$1.59 million to **construct cell fences in the Murchison** to support the sheep industry in the region
- \$24 million on **water quality improvements in the Murchison area**, including installation of water treatment facilities in Cue, Meekatharra, Mount Magnet and Sandstone to improve the water quality in each town
- \$1.59 million of **Regional Economic Development** grants delivered across the Mid West, investing in job creating projects

## INVESTING IN SCHOOLS ACROSS THE MID WEST

- \$400,000 for upgrades to classrooms at **Allendale Primary School**
  - \$400,000 for upgrades to classrooms and student areas at **Rangeway Primary School**
  - \$200,000 for upgrades to classrooms and student areas at **Bluff Point Primary School**
  - \$100,000 for upgrades to classrooms and student areas at **Geraldton Primary School**
- \$21.4 million major upgrade to **Champion Bay Senior High School** including a new dance studio, music centre, performing arts theatre and technologies centre and upgrades to the cafeteria, administration area and student services
  - \$5.53 million towards **maintenance and upgrades across schools in the Mid West** as part of our \$200 Million School Maintenance Blitz
  - Funding additional **Education Assistants** and **Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer** FTE at 31 schools across the Mid West region
  - **Converting classrooms into science labs** at 5 primary schools across the Mid West region



## REBUILDING OUR TAFE SECTOR

- \$2 million to **Central Regional TAFE's Geraldton Campus** to create more specialised art spaces for fashion design, jewellery making, multimedia and digital technologies
- \$4 million to **upgrade maritime training vessels** at TAFEs including Central Regional TAFE's Geraldton Campus to ensure safety and training using modern maritime facilities to deliver industry relevant training programs in maritime operations, fishing operations, boating services, tourism and coxswains
- \$25 million for **free TAFE short courses** to upskill thousands of West Australians, with a variety of free courses available at Central Regional TAFE campuses



- \$32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and **significantly reduce TAFE fees** across 39 high priority courses
  - \$30.6 million package to **support building and construction apprentices and trainees**
  - \$4.8 million for the **Apprenticeship and Traineeship Re-engagement Incentive** that provides employers with a one-off payment of \$6,000 for hiring an apprentice and \$3,000 for hiring a trainee, whose training contract was terminated on, or after, 1 March 2020 due to the economic downturn
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- Opened a **Jobs and Skills Centre** at Central Regional TAFE's Geraldton campus
  - \$53.5 million for the first stage of the Lower Fees, Local Skills program that **halved TAFE fees** for 34 high priority courses
  - \$23 million to **freeze TAFE fees** from 2018 to 2021

## **PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST AND INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE MID WEST**



- Recruiting **800 additional police officers** across WA, on top of the 300 already being delivered
  - \$6.8 million for the continuation of the **Aboriginal Community Connectors Program** that provides patrols and safe transport in communities across WA including Geraldton, Meekatharra and Mullewa
  - \$9.2 million for **Country Ambulance services** and enhanced access and patient flow for country patients
  - \$9.77 million for **Aboriginal regional suicide prevention plans** in each region of WA, prioritising Aboriginal-led and locally endorsed initiatives that accommodate a culturally informed social and emotional wellbeing approach to suicide prevention
  - \$3.2 million to continue the **Regional Men's Health Initiative** that focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of men in rural WA including in the Mid West
  - \$8.6 million of funding for **additional outreach workers across WA**, including two workers based in the Mid West region, to provide support to women and children experiencing or at further risk of family and domestic violence
  - \$6.7 million to bolster the **State's family and domestic violence response teams**, including one additional community sector team member in the Mid West region, to support victims of family and domestic violence after a police call-out
  - \$1.1 million over two years for **counselling, advocacy and support services** across WA, including a service in Meekatharra and in Geraldton
  - \$4.2 million to continue the **Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development** program to help increase economic participation of Aboriginal people in regional WA
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- \$82.3 million investment into the **redevelopment of the Geraldton Health Campus** including an expanded emergency department, a new Intensive Care Unit co-located with a redeveloped High Dependency Unit, a new integrated mental health service, a reconfigured main entry, essential engineering service upgrades and redesign and expansion of car parking
  - Invested \$10.2 million for a **Step Up, Step Down community mental health facility** in Geraldton
  - \$34.5 million for the **Housing First Homelessness Initiative**, which extends successful housing-first collective impact approaches to Geraldton and other locations across Western Australia
  - \$2.9 million to **deliver financial counselling services** across regional WA