



Stronger, safer communities

At a glance

The McGowan Labor Government is using its strong budget position to invest in local and regional initiatives that support safe, strong and fair communities - no matter where you live.

The 2022-23 State Budget significantly invests in community safety and wellbeing with more funding for community service providers to support our most vulnerable and additional funding to enhance community safety, reduce family and domestic violence and support justice services.

The 2022-23 State Budget includes:

- \$408 million of additional funding towards housing and homelessness measures;
- \$160.1 million in new funding for community service providers and not-for-profits;
- \$106 million of additional funding to enhance policing and community safety;
- \$95.7 million funding boost to support Western Australians with disability;
- \$67 million increase for emergency services to keep Western Australians safe;
- \$40.4 million Kimberley Youth and Community Justice Response;
- \$34.4 million has been allocated to a range of family and domestic violence prevention and support measures;
- \$114 million to boost child protection and support services to help keep Western Australian children safe; and
- \$11.1m to expand the Target 120 program from 11 to 20 locations across WA.

Investing in police and justice

The McGowan Government's police investment in the 2022-23 State Budget is delivering a record increase in the number of officers on the beat, while equipping them with world leading capabilities to keep the community safe.

An additional \$16.4 million will be invested in new staff to support the extra 950 new police officers being employed, above attrition, as part of the State Government's work to boost overall officer numbers by 15 per cent.

The record recruitment drive will also be backed by a further \$3.6 million advertising campaign ensuring the Western Australian police force continues to attract the very best candidates.

This year's State Budget also includes:

- \$60.9 million for additional COVID-19 related policing measures to keep WA safe;
- \$11.1 million towards the new Armadale courthouse and police complex;
- \$2.5 million for Operation Regional Shield, targeting youth crime as part of the Kimberley Youth and Community Justice Response;
- \$12.3 million across the forward estimates to deliver Police Compensation Scheme;

- \$47.9 million to upgrade police information and communications technology; and
- \$118 million through the Road Trauma Trust Account for road safety programs to continue efforts to reduce the senseless loss of life on our roads.

Funding for social housing and homelessness

The McGowan Government will invest an additional \$408 million towards housing and homelessness measures in the 2022-23 State Budget to build safe, strong and fair communities.

The additional \$408 million takes the housing and homelessness investment from the last two State Budgets to \$1.3 billion.

This year's State Budget includes:

- \$350 million Remote Communities Fund to support improved water, electricity and municipal services, and increase availability of appropriate housing in remote Aboriginal communities;
- \$19.7 million for the delivery of a Perth Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation;
- \$19.1 million for the development of new residential land in key regional locations of Karratha and Kalgoorlie;
- 50 per cent land tax concession for new build-to-rent developments;
- Enhancing the transfer duty rebate for off-the-plan apartment purchases, to help promote more investment in high density developments, including a 100 per cent rebate for apartments valued up to \$500,000; and
- New Keystart pilot product aimed at supporting medium and high density living around transport hubs.

Funding initiatives to prevent family and domestic violence

The McGowan Government continues to fund initiatives that support survivors of family and domestic violence (FDV) and hold perpetrators to account.

Allocated as part of the 2022-23 State Budget, the funding will improve the way FDV services are delivered in the suburbs and the regions, aim to change the underlying attitudes that lead to domestic violence and protect those at risk.

The McGowan Government has made addressing FDV a priority with an additional \$34.4 million invested this year – taking the total of new funding committed since coming into government to more than \$150 million.

The 2022-23 State Budget invests:

- \$7.7 million boost for the Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams, which includes an additional \$2.1 million to extend the Co-ordinated Response Service (CRS);
- \$7.5 million to fund a range of initiatives in the family, domestic and sexual violence sector, as part of Western Australia signing on to the Commonwealth's National Partnership on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses;
- \$14.7 million to create WA's third one-stop FDV hub in Armadale, building on the success of similar FDV hubs in Mirrabooka and Kalgoorlie. Another FDV hub is also set to be established in the Kimberley; and
- \$4.5 million to help address family and domestic violence in the Kimberley through two programs – the Derby Family Violence Service and the Change Em Ways Kimberley Project.

Responding to and preparing for natural disasters

The McGowan Government's 2022-23 State Budget continues to deliver major investment in emergency services to keep Western Australians safe in response to a number of recent natural disasters.

Western Australia is the largest emergency management jurisdiction in the southern hemisphere, which is why our Government continues to significantly invest in our emergency services.

This year's State Budget includes:

- \$15.9 million for major upgrades to the State's emergency website, Emergency WA;
- \$12.5 million to establish a new aviation and maintenance facilities base at the Jandakot Airport precinct;
- \$11 million for WA's first locally-based Large Air Tanker during bushfire season;
- an additional \$4.2 million for the deployment of more officers and contractors to assist in the recovery from recent natural disasters, including Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja and the Wooroloo bushfire; and
- \$3.9 million to upgrade the Direct Brigade Alarm Network for building alarms across the State from 3G to 4G connectivity.

Support for fair and thriving communities

The 2022-23 State Budget includes significant investments to programs that will assist communities, families, seniors and young people, including:

- \$160.1 million in new funding for community service providers and not-for-profits;
- \$95.7 million funding boost to support Western Australians with disability;
- \$40.4 million Kimberley Youth and Community Justice Response package;
- \$114 million to boost child protection and support services to help keep Western Australian children safe;
- \$11.1 million to expand the Target 120 program from 11 to 20 locations across WA;
- \$4.5 million boost to community legal services;
- \$2.5 million for the Banned Drinkers Register (BDR) and Takeaway Alcohol Management System (TAMS); and
- \$2.2 million funding boost for Cadets WA.

An additional \$152.8 million has been committed to the WA Government's ongoing response to the recommendations handed down by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, including funding to meet costs associated with the National Redress Scheme and civil litigation.

Ensuring positive outcomes for Aboriginal people

The 2022-23 State Budget invests in initiatives to support the McGowan Government's Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy and Closing the Gap Implementation Plan, targeting initiatives that will improve economic and social opportunities for Aboriginal people.

More than \$600 million has been committed in the State Budget to strengthen services that deliver positive outcomes for Aboriginal people and communities.

The funding has been targeted at priority reform areas, which align with the Closing the Gap Implementation Plan: formal partnerships and shared decision making; building the community-controlled sector and transforming government organisations.

Key initiatives in the 2022-23 State Budget include:

- \$350 million Remote Communities Fund to support improved water, electricity and municipal services, and increase availability of appropriate housing in remote Aboriginal communities;
- \$19.9 million for the implementation of joint management arrangements with the Traditional Owners of the proposed Matuwa Kurarra Kurarra National Park and the Lake Carnegie Nature Reserve;
- \$19.7 million to deliver on an election commitment to construct an Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation facility in the Perth metropolitan area, with additional funding for planning similar facilities in regional areas;

- \$16.6 million to expand earlier intervention services into regional areas, including Aboriginal Support Services and Family Support Networks;
- \$12.4 million for implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021, including the ongoing co-design process.
- \$11.7 million to extend the Kimberley Schools Project to keep young people engaged with the education system;
- \$11 million for enhancement and management of Murujuga National Park, including supporting the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation's central role in Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring program and the formal training of two Aboriginal Rangers, and a new access bridge for the Murujuga National Park; and
- \$7 million to implement an Aboriginal Midwifery Group Practice and Stronglinks, delivering on an election commitment to improve the uptake of antenatal care and improve maternity health outcomes for Aboriginal women.