



Delivering for the Kimberley



The McGowan Government is delivering for the Kimberley, providing cost-of-living support for Kimberley residents while investing significantly in health, housing, and WA's transition to cleaner, stronger, reliable, and affordable energy.

The 2023-24 Budget features a massive \$11.2 billion investment in regional infrastructure, as well as billions more in regional service delivery.

The State Budget includes \$4 billion in Royalties for Regions expenditure over the next four years, supporting important initiatives right across the regions. This includes new spending of \$358 million towards initiatives that strengthen regional communities and ensure services remain close to where people live.

Regional Western Australians will benefit from the McGowan Government's \$715 million commitment to deliver further cost-of-living relief, including **providing every WA household with a \$400 electricity credit** and additional targeted support totalling \$826 for households who need it most.

As part of its commitment to keeping power and water affordable for all Western Australians, the McGowan Government will spend \$2.7 billion over the next four years to subsidise the costs of providing water and electricity to regional residents.

Investing in Regional Health and Mental Health

- More than \$2.2 billion per annum on regional health and mental health services
- \$5.4 million to continue delivery of important psychiatric services in the East Kimberley
- \$28.5 million for initiatives to attract and retain key health and mental health professionals, primarily to work in regional WA, including paying of up to \$12,000 of HECS-HELP loans for newly qualified nurses and midwives commencing employment in regional WA
- \$24.4 million to extend the Mental Health Emergency Telehealth Service, providing 24/7 mental health support and allowing country doctors to make referrals whenever needed
- \$8.2 million to upgrade WA Country Health Service staff housing, including safety and security upgrades
- \$6.3 million to extend regional cancer services
- \$6.7 million to continue Regional Renal Support Teams
- \$3.1 million to support the palliative care workforce and enhance end of life choices for terminally ill patients in the regions

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$25.1 million for a new renal dialysis centre in Halls Creek, currently underway

Delivering Regional Housing

- \$61.6 million boost to Government Regional Officer Housing to refurbish existing properties and add new supply
- \$49 million to partner with community housing providers to provide 100 homes across regional WA in a supported landlord model, for people in regional WA experiencing rough sleeping
- \$450 million into the Social Housing Investment Fund to boost social housing across the State
- \$12 million over four years to deliver more development ready land throughout regional Western Australia, through the Regional Development Assistance Program
- An additional \$1.3 million through the North-West Aboriginal Health Fund to deliver more affordable accommodation for medical service employees in Halls Creek

Delivering a cleaner, stronger future for the Kimberley

- \$77 million funding boost to manage and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia, including support for new Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services
- \$31.3 million for an Industry Support and Transition Package and to support management of the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks
- \$8.7 million to facilitate further agricultural development in the Ord River Irrigation Area through managing environmental obligations
- \$2.2 million to deliver an Electric Vehicle Smart Charger and Vehicle-to-Grid trial through Horizon Power
- \$10.4 million to boost Western Australia's emergency animal disease preparedness following overseas outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease
- \$7.6 million towards the Feral Cat Strategy to bolster the management of feral cats throughout regional WA
- \$6.5 million to implement the Western Australian Aquaculture Development Plan
- \$2 million from the New Industries Fund to support regional entrepreneurs in the innovation sector
- \$3 million to extend the Affordable Airfares program for a further twelve months, subsidising more than 34,000 airfares from Perth to Broome and Kununurra to stimulate visitation
- \$20 million to continue the Regional Economic Development Grants program, to drive economic development and support regional communities

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$36.3 million towards a new boating facility in Broome, planning currently underway

Delivering a Pipeline of Skills

- \$3.5 million to expand the successful Heavy Vehicle Driving Operations training program to the Kimberley and Pilbara
- \$2.5 million to increase the travel and accommodation allowance for WA apprentices and trainees who are required to travel long distances off-the-job for their training, doubling the travel subsidy to 40c per km and increasing the accommodation allowance from \$110 to \$150 per night above
- \$2.9 million to provide eligible regional Diploma of Nursing students with financial support to undertake up to 400 hours of practical placement, including an allowance of \$350 per week with a travel allowance of up to \$1,000 per training block in the Kimberley
- \$5.8 million to extend the successful Driving Access and Equity program to deliver driver training to disadvantaged young people

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$4.4 million for canteen upgrades and a new STEM classroom at Broome Senior High School, planning underway
- \$10 million for a new classroom block and upgrades at Halls Creek District High School, planning underway
- \$25.6 million major upgrade to Derby District High School, construction underway

Upgrading roads and transport networks

- A further \$407 million on regional road projects and initiatives being invested in this budget, bringing the total investment over the next four years to \$5.3 billion
- \$175 million boost to the jointly Commonwealth-State funded Regional Road Safety Program, to continue to deliver life-saving works on regional roads, which has to date sealed shoulders and installed audible edges to 2,067 kms of roads in the Kimberley region

- \$20.7 million boost to the highly-successful Regional Airfare Zone Cap, that caps airfares at \$299 one way for regional residents living over 1,000 kms driving distance from Perth, including for travel from Perth to Broome and Kununurra
- An additional \$15 million to upgrades on the Great Northern Highway, Ord River North project, bringing the total to \$113 million, with stages 1 and 2 complete and planning for stage 3 underway
- \$15 million for upgrades at the Port of Broome, including a new concrete deck
- \$1.8 million for electrical upgrades at the ports of Wyndham and Derby
- \$800,000 to lock in a permanent third weekly return air service between Kununurra, Halls Creek and Balgo, following a successful two-year trial
- \$1.35 million to ensure the continuation of the State Government subsidised flight between Broome and Derby
- \$2.3 million to seal Warmun airstrip to facilitate more reliable health clinical flights into the community

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$51 million to upgrade Duncan Road and Gordon Downs Road in the Browns Range, currently under construction
- \$141 million for the Gibb River Road upgrades, between Derby and Wyndham
- \$110 million over the next four years for upgrades to Tanami Road, near Sturt Creek, with planning underway

Building Stronger, Safer Communities

- \$13.4 million towards a taskforce to manage and support recovery, following the destructive flooding caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie, building on the multi-million-dollar support packages secured under joint Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements
- \$24.4 million to bolster the Department of Fire and Emergency Services natural disaster recovery team
- \$11.7 million to extend Operation Regional Shield, continuing to deliver police into regional communities experiencing youth crime issues
- \$11.8 million towards the Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy, including continuing successful night patrols and structured activities for young people and a new Immediate Response Safe Space initiative for street-present youth in Broome
- \$11.7 million to continue the successful Target 120 youth early intervention program, including in Broome, Derby and Kununurra, and establishing programs in Halls Creek and Fitzroy Crossing
- \$16.3 million to establish a one-stop family and domestic violence hub in Broome, delivering on a key election commitment for the Kimberley
- \$1.1 million to continue the Respectful Relationships Teaching Support Program and the provision of culturally appropriate services for victims of Family and Domestic Violence in regional areas
- \$10.4 million boost for the Banned Drinkers Register, including its continuation across Kimberley towns
- \$9.5 million to consolidate accommodation for WA Police and the departments of Communities and Justice in Kununurra
- \$4.9 million to continue the Regional Athlete Support Program to help regionally-based talented athletes meet their full potential
- An additional \$42.6 million for upgrades to water and wastewater systems in remote communities
- \$700,000 to continue the Rural, Regional and Remote Network program to support regional women

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$15 million to deliver the Marlamanu on-country diversionary program, currently underway
- \$6 million towards the redevelopment of the Kununurra Aquatic and Leisure Centre, planning underway
- \$2.3 million for upgrades to the Warmun Community sporting facility, planning underway