



Delivering for the South West

The McGowan Government is delivering for the South West, providing cost-of-living support for South West 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
- \$7.1 million to establish a pilot an Infant, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Hub in Bunbury
- \$18.3 million to develop the new South West Aboriginal Medical Service Health Hub in Bunbury
- \$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...

- \$277.9 million for the Bunbury Regional Hospital redevelopment, 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

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$5 million for the Withers renewal project in Bunbury, which will see improved amenity with refurbishments to existing homes, and improved street lighting, footpaths and road access, underway

Delivering a cleaner, stronger future for the South West

- \$2.8 billion investment to transition Western Australia's energy system for a low-carbon future, including funding to deliver a battery energy storage system in Collie, potentially one of the world's biggest battery systems
- \$77 million funding boost to manage and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia, including support for new Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services
- \$18.8 million to continue the Healthy Estuaries WA program to improve water quality of estuaries across the region
- \$36 million to create dozens of new jobs to help deliver on the historic decision to end native logging in the South West
- \$1.5 million to map climate risk and resilience for rivers in the South West
- \$22.2 million to assist industry transition to the mandatory sheep and goat electronic identification (eID) system to bolster WA's animal biosecurity defences
- \$20.2 million to extend vital drought resilience initiatives helping future-proof Western Australian farms
- \$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
- \$20 million to continue the Regional Economic Development Grants program, to drive economic development and support regional communities

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$662 million Collie Transition Package to attract new industries and create new local jobs in preparation for the retirement of State-owned coal fired power stations
- \$78.1 million for the Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront project, with Stage 2 complete and Stage 3 currently underway

Delivering a Pipeline of Skills

- \$2.5 million to increase the travel and accommodation allowance for regional TAFE students, doubling the travel subsidy to 40c per km and increasing the accommodation allowance from \$70 to \$100 per night
- \$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 \$500 per training block in the South West
- \$6.8 million for upgrades at Agricultural Colleges around the State, including Margaret River, Harvey and Manjimup
- \$810,000 to extend the South West End-to-End Young Driver Training Program to help disadvantaged young people get their driver's license

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$8.2 million for a new design and technology block at Eaton Community College, planning underway
 - \$1 million for a STEM laboratory upgrade at Dalrymple College, planning underway
 - \$1 million for upgrades at Donnybrook District High School, planning 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 1,202 kms of roads in the South West region
- Free public transport on the first Sunday of every month on TransRegional Sunday bus services, including in Bunbury
- \$17.4 million for major technology upgrades at the Southern Ports Authority
- \$6.8 million to upgrade electrical infrastructure at the ports of Albany and Bunbury
- \$5.7 million for upgrades at Berth 8 at Bunbury Port

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$1.35 billion Bunbury Outer Ring Road, currently under construction
 - \$115 million Bussell Highway duplication, currently under construction
 - Continuing work to bring regional road maintenance jobs back in-house to Main Roads, which will see 490 jobs created across regional WA, with a new depot being established in Manjimup
-

Building Stronger, Safer Communities

- \$11.7 million to extend Operation Regional Shield, continuing to deliver police into regional communities experiencing youth crime issues
- \$11.7 million to continue the successful Target 120 youth early intervention program, including in Bunbury
- \$24.4 million to bolster the Department of Fire and Emergency Services natural disaster recovery team
- \$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
- \$4.9 million to continue the Regional Athlete Support Program to help regionally-based talented athletes meet their full potential
- \$700,000 to continue the Rural, Regional and Remote Network program to support regional women

Plus we are continuing to deliver...

- \$8 million towards additional indoor multi-use courts in Bunbury
- \$3 million towards the Leschenault Leisure Centre indoor court expansion, planning underway
- \$8 million towards the redevelopment of Hands Oval in Bunbury, construction underway
- \$6 million towards the Donnybrook and Districts Sporting and Recreation Precinct, planning underway