



Delivering our Vision for the South West

The Cook Labor Government is delivering its vision for the South West.

The 2025–26 Budget will see billions of dollars invested in our regions, driving economic growth, diversifying regional economies, and creating jobs for our future generations.

This funding investment is supporting the Cook Government's priorities in jobs, health and housing. It is a commitment to Western Australians – that no matter if they live in our suburbs, regional centres, towns, or remote communities – they will have local job opportunities, and access to major services and infrastructure.

The Budget will keep costs down for WA families with funding to roll out the second wave of the WA Student Assistance Payment putting hundreds of dollars into the pockets of families of school-aged children, and household fees and charges kept affordable, with below inflation increases for a sixth consecutive year.

More than \$4 billion in Royalties for Regions funding will also go towards projects which enhance regional communities, ensuring they remain exceptional places to live, work and raise a family.

Made in WA

- \$5 million towards establishing the **Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Hub (AMTECH)** in Picton, to make major energy infrastructure such as transmission towers in the South West and create local jobs.
- \$30 million top up of the **Collie Industrial Transition Fund** to secure major new job creating projects in Collie, bringing the total investment in Collie's Just Transition to \$692 million.
- \$600,000 to develop a **Collie specific job-matching app** for transitioning workers.
- \$4 million to deliver the **Allanson Farm Shop Restaurant and Caravan Park** to provide an opportunity for local producers to supply products and services through a 'paddock to plate' model in the Collie region.
- Additional \$500 million to the **Strategic Industries Fund**, bringing the total to \$1 billion, to attract major job-creating projects and deliver enabling infrastructure in Strategic Industrial Areas including Kemerton Strategic Industrial Area.
- \$8 million to upgrade the entry into **Kemerton Strategic Industrial Area** at the intersection of Forrest Highway and Marriott Road, to assist with truck movements and increased worker vehicles, as well as increasing safety for commuters on Forrest Highway.
- \$6 million to double the State Government's contribution to the **Wine Industry Partnership** to help grow the volume of WA wine exports, particularly into the East Coast market.
- \$20 million to expand the **Aboriginal Ranger Program**.
- \$8.3 million to progress planning and negotiations to bring the **Freight Rail Network** back into Government hands.

- \$50 million **Battery Manufacturing Program** to support local businesses to make household batteries here in WA.

Plus we are continuing to deliver:

- \$134 million for enabling infrastructure at **Coolangatta Industrial Estate**, to help fast-track major new industries in Collie.



Supporting WA Families

- \$88.7 million in cost of living relief to families for school expenses, including \$250 for every secondary student and \$150 for every primary and kindergarten student, through the second round of the **Western Australian Student Assistance Payment**.
- \$18 million to **halve TransWA fares** including for the Australind train service and for bus services connecting towns in regional WA, including across the South West.
- \$152 million to **cap public transport fares** at the cost of a one-zone ticket including Bunbury, Busselton and Dunsborough bus services.
- \$25.7 million to deliver a further \$100 increase to the **Regional Pensioner Travel Card**, bringing the total card value to \$775 per year.
- \$8 million for the **Country Week Assistance Program**, reducing travel and accommodation costs for families.
- \$337 million towards the **WA Residential Battery Scheme**, which combined with the Commonwealth scheme, provides Synergy customers with up to \$5,000 towards the cost of a household battery, plus households with incomes of less than \$210,000 per annum can access no-interest loans of up to \$10,000.
- \$3.5 billion over the next four years to keep **regional water and power** prices in line with metropolitan prices.



Ensuring Everyone Has a Home

- \$3.1 million to expand **Housing First Support Services** in Bunbury and surrounding suburbs to support people experiencing homelessness.
- \$3 million through the **Housing Enabling Infrastructure Fund** for water and wastewater infrastructure projects to deliver more residential lots in Busselton, Dalyellup and Margaret River.
- \$25 million over four years for the **Regional Housing Support Fund** which will provide grants of up to \$5 million to support new housing and land supply across regional WA, supporting regional subdivision and key worker and community housing projects.
- \$103.8 million to double the **Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH)** construction program with over 100 new builds, plus land acquisition, across regional WA to support key government workers such as police and teachers.
- Delivering through Keystart, a **new low-deposit modular home loan** product to assist more people, particularly in regional WA, to purchase a modular home.

Plus we are continuing to deliver:

- Increased **stamp duty** threshold for first homebuyers to \$500,000, with discounted rates applied to homes valued up to \$750,000 in regional WA.

Becoming the Healthiest State in the Nation

- \$20.3 million in additional funding to the major **Bunbury Hospital Redevelopment**, bringing the total to \$471.5 million.
- \$13.8 million to establish a mental health child and adolescent **Acute Care and Response Team** (ACRT) in Bunbury. ACRTs are mobile teams that provide rapid response and support to children, adolescents, their families and carers, who are experiencing a mental health crisis.
- \$18.5 million to increase the **Patient Assisted Travel Scheme** (PATS) fuel subsidy from 26c per kilometre to 40c per kilometre.
- \$36.3 million to expand the **WA Virtual Emergency Department** and enable people to access expert emergency care from their own home, no matter where they live.
- \$12.2 million towards the **Virtual Infant Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Hub**, providing specialist mental healthcare for children and young people via telehealth.
- \$8.2 million to establish **GP ASK** to connect WA GP's to dedicated and experienced specialists without the need for patients to travel to a hospital.

Growing a Skilled Workforce

- Planning funding has been allocated to progress major school upgrades at 17 schools across the State including:
 - \$12 million new early childhood classroom block at **Cowaramup Primary School**.
- \$43.3 million for the first tranche of funding to the **Cool the Schools program** that will deliver air conditioning upgrades at schools across the State including:
 - \$1.4 million to upgrade air conditioning at **Dardanup Primary School**.
 - \$1 million to upgrade air conditioning at **Picton Primary School**.
 - \$970,000 to deliver air conditioning upgrades at **Harvey Primary School**.
- \$42 million for the first tranche of funding to deliver minor upgrades at schools across the State including:
 - \$1.8 million to deliver new STEM facilities at **Donnybrook District High School**.
 - \$1.35 million to deliver student support centre upgrades at **Bunbury Primary School**.
- \$30.3 million for the **School of Isolated and Distance Education** to support more students learning in regional Western Australia.
- \$15 million to boost **Before and After School Care** in schools.
- \$28 million to expand the **School Breakfast Program** to provide free breakfasts five days a week at more than 650 schools, including in the South West.
- \$10 million to establish a program to boost capacity in **public school canteens** through grants for canteen staff, equipment and minor facility upgrades..
- \$8.6 million to **expand fee-free TAFE in the regions** with an additional seven construction courses fee-free from 2026.
- \$100 million to **keep TAFE course fees unchanged** in 2026.
- \$11.6 million for another round of the **TAFE Modern Equipment program** to upgrade TAFE equipment across regional WA.

Plus we are continuing to deliver:

- \$1.9 million to start planning for the new **Vasse West Primary School**, to open Term 1 2028.
- \$8.5 million for a new South Regional TAFE onsite **training facility in Collie**.

Transport and Infrastructure

- \$40 million towards **Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront**, that will complete construction of the Casuarina Harbour breakwater, bringing the total project to \$112 million.
- \$250 million to expand the **Regional Road Safety program** to include local government roads, delivering road safety treatments including sealing of road shoulders and the installation of audible lines, making more regional roads safer.
- \$8.5 million towards stage one of the **signalised pedestrian crossings** program, including near Monash Boulevard in Eaton to cater for students at Glen Huon Primary School.
- \$400,000 towards the **Warren Blackwood Regional Water Supply Scheme** to purchase additional water following an extended dry season.

Plus we are continuing to deliver:

- \$80 million for **two additional rail cars sets for the Australind**, bringing the total to four new rail cars sets, ensuring more services with a more comfortable commute.

Building Safer and Stronger Communities

- \$1 million to PCYC for **youth diversion programs** in Bunbury.
- \$3 million to continue an uplift in baseline funding to **financial counselling services** across the State, including the South West District Financial Counselling Service.
- \$15.6 million to redevelop accommodation at the WA Police Academy to provide free residential accommodation for **regional police recruits** during the six-month training period, with the option for them to be placed in their home policing districts for the first four to six years of their careers.
- \$6.7 million to support **DFES' aerial fire response capability** and establish two strike teams to mitigate the threat of crop fires during the grain harvesting season.
- \$1.6 million towards rebuilding the **Argyle Irishtown Bush Fire Brigade** headquarters.
- \$3.5 million for expansion of the **Community Emergency Services Manager** program with six new positions across regional WA, to help local governments deliver emergency management services.
- \$3.1 million towards a new **State Bushfire Mitigation Branch** to undertake mitigation works on Unallocated Crown Land and Unmanaged Reserves.

Growing Regional Sport and Communities

- \$93 million for the first tranche of funding to upgrade sport and recreation facilities across the State including:
 - \$1.25 million towards the **Manjimup Rea Park and Collier Street Redevelopment**.
 - \$850,000 towards upgrades to **Eaton Boomers Football Club** including lighting upgrades, outdoor seat covers and electronic scoreboard.
 - \$700,000 towards minor upgrades at **Carey Park Football Club** in Bunbury.
- \$15.5 million to upgrade the **Leschenault Leisure Centre**, including four additional full sized courts, bringing the total investment from the State Government to \$18.5 million.
- \$3 million to increase the marron population and boost recreational fishing opportunities at **Wellington, Harvey and Logue Brook dams**.
- \$2.9 million to expand the kiosk and upgrade facilities at **Wellington National Park** in Collie, to help cater for tourists at the Wellington Dam Mural.
- \$1 million to deliver a spur trail off the **Munda Biddi trail** at Lake Brockman to Harvey Dam and back to the Munda Biddi.
- \$1 million to upgrade and improve the amenity and paths at the access to **Dalyellup Beach**, next to the Dalyellup Beach Surf Life Saving Club.
- \$1 million to deliver new recreational facilities at **Turkey Point** in Bunbury including paths, seating and barbeques.
- \$1 million towards upgrades at the **Collie Mine Workers Institute**.
- \$750,000 towards a new all abilities playground at **Meriden Park** in Harvey.
- \$750,000 towards upgrading the canteen, toilets and improving accessibility at **Bunbury Speedway**.
- \$750,000 towards clubroom upgrades at **Bunbury Motorcycle Club**.
- \$450,000 towards upgrading the toilets and ablutions at **Collie Speedway**.
- \$100,000 for medical facilities at **Bunbury City Kart Club**.
- \$25.2 million to the **Regional Racing Fund** to upgrade infrastructure at regional racing clubs across the State including:
 - \$627,000 for upgrades at **Bunbury Trotting Club**.
 - \$180,000 for upgrades at **Collie Race Club**.
 - \$109,000 for upgrades at **Bunbury Turf Club**.
 - \$20,000 for upgrades at **Busselton Trotting Club**.
- \$6 million to establish the **Boosting Women and Girls Participation in Sport** fund to encourage women and girls to get involved in community sport.
- \$4 million to establish the **Veterans Facilities fund** to help RSL and veterans organisations upgrade their local facilities and RSL clubs.