



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA State Budget Overview

Delivering for WA

2026-27



2026-27 Budget Overview

Acknowledgement of Country

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community.

We pay our respects to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past and present.

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A message from the Treasurer

I am pleased to deliver the tenth Budget of the WA Labor Government and my third as Treasurer.

Over the past decade, Western Australia has weathered significant headwinds, but through stable leadership and strong economic and financial management, we've emerged stronger.

As we hand down this Budget, we are facing new and emerging challenges.

Escalating conflict in the Middle East is sending reverberations through the global economy and placing upward pressure on prices.

As a trading state, Western Australia is not immune from these economic impacts, and our Government recognises the pressure being placed on many families across the State. We are focused on protecting Western Australia and our community.

This Budget will respond by putting households first and ensuring our economy remains the strongest in the nation.

We will do that by delivering in our priority areas of jobs, housing and health – while ensuring we support households to manage the cost of living pressures they face right now.

Our ability to deliver in these core areas and address these unprecedented challenges is underpinned by our Government's track record of strong financial management.

Western Australia is the only state in the country with a triple-A credit rating from both major ratings agencies, while our debt levels remain the most sustainable in the country.

Through strong financial management, the 2026-27 State Budget responds to the needs of our community today, while ensuring Western Australia is in the best position to harness future economic opportunities.



Rita Saffioti MLA
Treasurer

A message from the Premier

This year's State Budget is built on the simple goals of keeping our economy strong, delivering on our priorities of jobs, health and housing, as well as providing real cost of living support for Western Australians.

In a time of global uncertainty, Western Australians can take great confidence in the experienced team I lead and the strength of our state finances. We know surging fuel prices caused by war in the Middle East have hit family budgets hard, so we have over one billion dollars in real cost of living support in this budget, including a \$100 Fuel Support Payment and a new round of WA School Assistance payments.

On housing, we're unlocking land and delivering thousands more homes, including more than 500 for frontline workers as the first major initiative of our Seven Cities vision for regional WA. We're also building homes with

innovative technology through two new advanced manufacturing facilities and we're cutting stamp duty for first home buyers, because every Western Australian deserves a safe, secure place to call home.

This budget delivers the biggest funding boost for Health in WA's budget history, supporting our record hospital building program and delivering hundreds of new beds and nurses – ensuring Western Australians can access the healthcare we need, when we need it.

We're creating thousands of jobs in construction, manufacturing, and technology with investments in infrastructure and the energy transition – becoming a renewable energy powerhouse and making more things here.

Overall, this is a responsible budget designed to keep WA strong, delivering on our priorities to keep WA the strongest economy in the nation and the best place to live, work and raise a family.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Roger Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'R'.

Roger Cook MLA
Premier

Budget highlights



Supporting WA families

Over \$1 billion of cost of living relief this year, including the new Fuel Support Payment and another round of the WA Student Assistance Payment.



Housing

\$4.7 billion new investment to boost housing supply, build thousands of homes, and help first home owners get into the market.



Economic growth

Domestic economic growth has been revised up to 3.5 per cent this year, building on 27 per cent growth over the last five years.



Seven Cities

Building more than 500 new homes for frontline workers in regional WA as the first initiation under the Seven Cities vision.



WA Jobs

Over 380,000 jobs created since 2017 and continued low unemployment.



Health and mental health

\$9.1 billion boost to our health system, delivering new hospitals and more nurses across our suburbs and regions.



Operating surplus

Eighth straight operating surplus of \$3.5 billion in 2025-26, with healthy surpluses forecast to continue.



Energy and water

\$2.6 billion new investment in water and energy, including investment in decarbonisation and to secure our water future.



Net debt

Net debt continues to be the most affordable in the nation at 7.1 per cent of GSP in 2025-26.



Infrastructure

A record \$44.3 billion infrastructure pipeline over the next four years.

Key Budget initiatives

The 2026–27 State Budget delivers real cost of living relief for Western Australians, and continues to deliver on our priorities of housing, health, and jobs.

This Budget responsibly manages the State's finances, keeping WA's economy the strongest in the nation, and delivering for all Western Australians across our suburbs and regions.

Key initiatives include:

- **Over \$1 billion in real cost of living support for WA families**, including a third round of the WA Student Assistance Payment, the new \$100 Fuel Support Payment, free public transport initiatives, capping airfares for regional residents, and boosting targeted support for those who need it most.
- **Our \$4.7 billion additional investment in housing** will unlock and deliver more land supply, build thousands of homes for Western Australians, and help first homebuyers get into the market. We're also being ambitious, investing in new initiatives such as

our \$250 million Pre-Sale Guarantee, Housing and Infrastructure Advanced Manufacturing Facilities, delivering our METRONET station precincts vision, and partnering with the Commonwealth to deliver homes targeting first home buyers.

- **\$9.1 billion to boost health and mental health**, including a record \$6.5 billion for frontline hospital services, more doctors and nurses, and initiatives to improve access to health services.

Our \$1.5 billion investment in health infrastructure and the Building Hospitals Fund will deliver new hospital capacity across our suburbs and regions, contributing to 900 additional hospital beds coming online.

- **Investing in quality jobs and business opportunities for Western Australians.** Underpinned by our Government's strong budget management since 2017, this Budget continues to invest in the energy transition, local manufacturing, developing our workforce with Fee-Free TAFE, and supporting tourism and creative industries to diversify our economy so it remains the strongest in the nation.



Economic and financial outlook

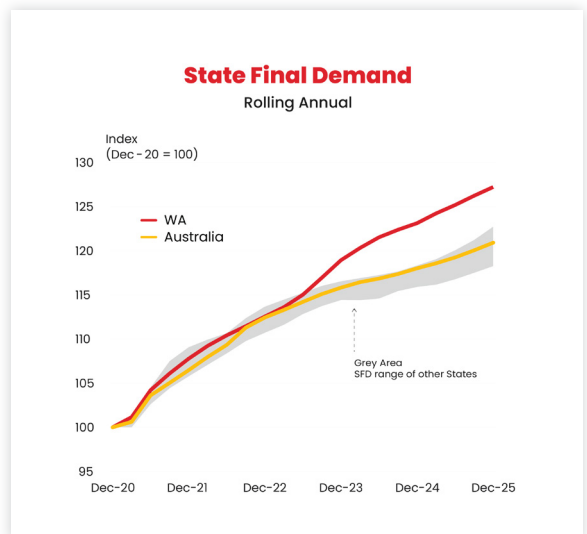
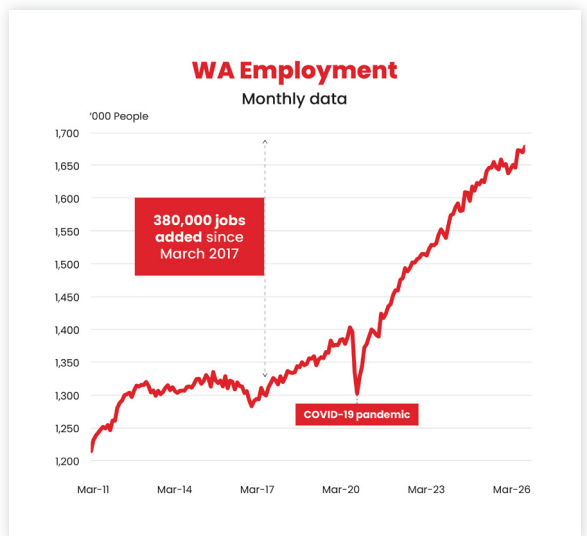
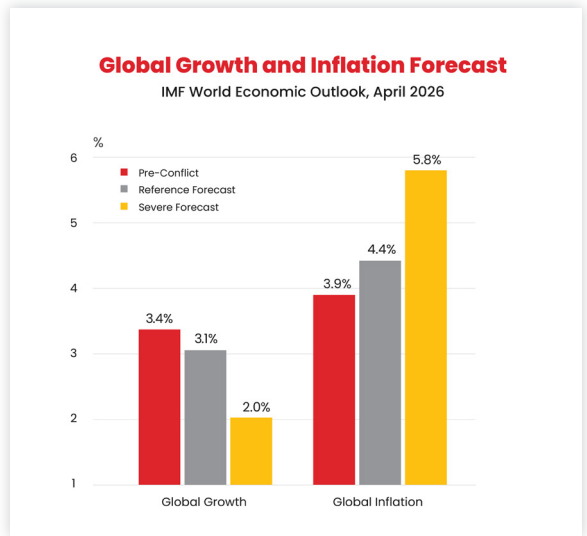
Despite significant global headwinds, Western Australia’s economy remains the strongest in the nation.

Global conditions are increasingly uncertain. Conflict in the Middle East has disrupted commodity and financial markets, while ongoing geopolitical tensions, uncertainty around US trade policy, and slowing growth in China are weighing on the global economy.

The IMF has revised global economic growth down to 3.1 per cent and inflation up to 4.4 per cent in 2026, and Australia is not immune.

Despite these pressures, Western Australia’s experienced leadership has ensured our economy remains resilient.

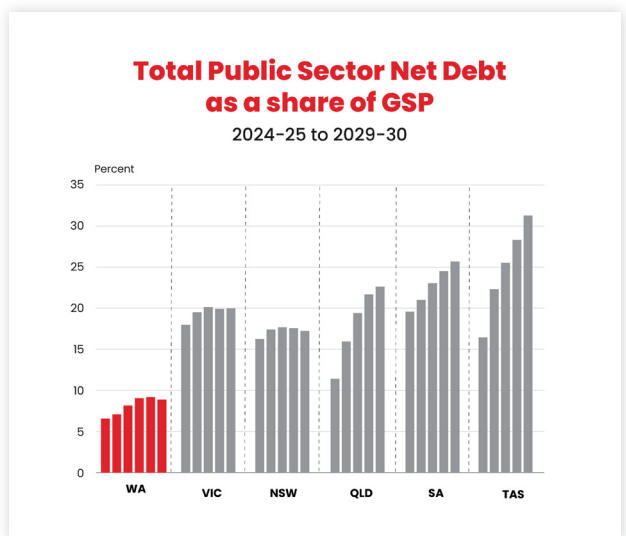
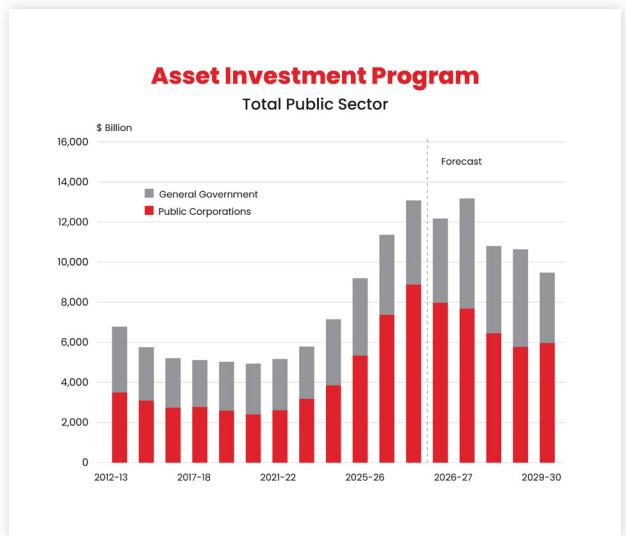
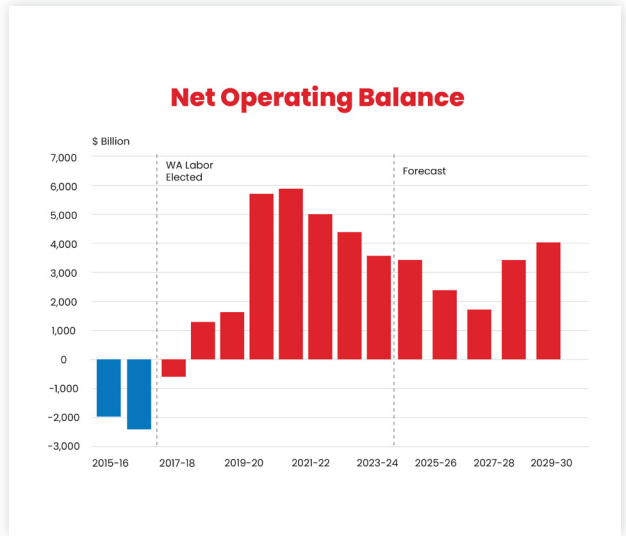
- **Labour market conditions remain strong**, with more Western Australians in work than ever before and **over 380,000 jobs created since 2017**, while unemployment remains low.
- **State Final Demand has been revised** up to 3.5 per cent in 2025–26, building on 27 per cent growth over the last five years – driven by sustained private sector activity across business, household and dwelling investment, as well as household consumption.
- **WA accounts for over 45 per cent of national exports**, growing to \$238.4 billion over the year to February and far outpacing the next closest State.



The 2026–27 Budget reinforces our Government’s commitment to responsible financial management, balancing affordable debt with continued investment in the future.

This Budget includes:

- Operating surplus of \$3.5 billion in 2025–26, with surpluses each year across the forward estimates.
- A record \$44.3 billion investment in infrastructure over the next four years to deliver our biggest ever housing and hospital construction programs.
- Net debt remains the most affordable in the country at 7.1 per cent of GSP in 2025–26, and more than \$9 billion lower than projected when WA Labor came to office.
- WA remains the only state in the country with triple-A credit ratings from both major rating agencies.
- We continue to fight for our fair share of the GST – which remains lower than any other State has ever received, while still contributing around \$2.7 billion in 2025–26 to other States through the GST.
- New measures to safeguard our finances to ensure we can continue to invest in the services and infrastructure Western Australians expect.



Delivering homes

In the 2026–27 Budget, we have invested a record \$4.7 billion in housing, lifting total additional investment since 2021 to more than \$10.8 billion.

These investments are making a real difference, with housing indicators continuing to move in the right direction:

- Building approvals growing to **25,050 homes over the year to February 2026**.
- Building commencements increasing to **23,830 new homes in 2025**.
- Our construction workforce grew to a **record 172,500** in February 2026.

We are working with industry and the Commonwealth to boost supply, including through the new 100,000 Homes for First Home Buyers Program, and Housing Australia Future Fund.

Projects delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth are marked with a ©.

Unlocking land supply

This Budget, we are investing over **\$1.3 billion in land development**, including unprecedented investment in power, water and other enabling infrastructure to unlock and deliver more land supply across Western Australia.

This includes:

- \$686 million for DevelopmentWA to **deliver thousands of new residential lots** across the State and activate METRONET station precincts.
- \$522 million to deliver power and water infrastructure that will open up thousands of residential lots in major growth corridors, including **North Ellenbrook, East Wanneroo, and METRONET station precincts** like Ballajura, Yanchep and Byford, along with other locations statewide. ©
- A \$40 million top-up to the Infrastructure Development Fund, which is already **supporting the delivery of over 10,000 homes across the State**. ©

Investment in social and affordable housing

The Cook Government will deliver more than **5,000 social and affordable homes for Western Australians over the term of this Government**. Our program of new social and affordable homes has increased to over 9,800 homes since 2021, with more than 4,000 already delivered.

This Budget includes:

- **Over \$1 billion new investment under the Housing Australia Future Fund** partnership between the State and Commonwealth Governments – to deliver an additional 1,426 homes. ©
- \$452 million to deliver a further 165 social housing dwellings, refurbish 215 houses, support land acquisitions, and undertake maintenance for WA's 45,000 social homes. ©

In March 2026, the first tenants moved into our repurposed, 236 unit Fraser Suites complex in East Perth.





First home buyer and housing finance

This Budget includes a **\$297 million housing tax package** to support **first home buyers** and **help seniors to downsize** with:

- **\$208 million for a third round of stamp duty relief for first home buyers**, including increasing exemption and concession thresholds for established properties and vacant land, assisting around 6,000 first home buyers per year.
- **\$13.8 million to increase the first home owner grant cap** from \$750,000 to \$800,000.
- **\$73 million to extend the off-the-plan transfer duty concession for two years**, increase the exemption and concession thresholds, and expand the program to include survey strata developments for the first time – particularly benefiting **first home buyers and seniors looking to downsize**.

The Budget also includes new or expanded financing options for home buyers.

- **\$375 million to build 500 affordable homes exclusively for first home buyers** – including access to shared equity loans from Keystart. ©
- An increase in Keystart property price limits from \$800,000 to \$860,000.

The State and Commonwealth Governments will support the supply of affordable homes by assisting more multi-residential developments to get off the ground sooner.

- Keystart will offer a **\$250 million Pre-sale Guarantee** to help developers meet pre-sale thresholds for apartment projects with **at least 30 per cent affordable dwellings**.
- The Commonwealth Government will offer a **\$250 million First Home Buyer Commercial Financing Facility**, providing concessional loans to developers delivering **affordable homes for first home buyers**. ©

Growing the construction workforce

The Government is investing \$51 million to boost training and workforce capacity to build more homes.

- **\$19.6 million for an additional 330 places under the GTO Wage Subsidy Program**, bringing the total funding to \$156.1 million, and supporting over 1,300 apprentices and trainees.
- **A further \$13.1 million to support an additional 1,100 places under the Construction Visa Subsidy Program and Build a Life in WA incentive**.
- **\$18.7 million of the Fee-Free TAFE extension into 2027 will support the training of new construction workers** including electricians, plumbers, bricklayers and plasterers.

Delivering homes

Housing productivity and innovation

The Cook Government continues to look at other new ways to boost housing supply and productivity.

Last Budget, we announced our \$75 million **Build to Rent Kickstart Fund**, and \$50 million **Housing Innovation Fund** – the outcomes of which are due to be announced shortly.

This Budget, we've committed **\$48 million to two new Housing and Infrastructure Advanced Manufacturing Facilities** in Kwinana and Neerabup.

These facilities are expected to **support the delivery** – by the private and government sectors – **of thousands of apartments per annum by 2030**, as well as **non-residential infrastructure such as hospitals and schools**.



Regional housing

This Budget invests \$692 million for regional housing.

As the first initiative under the Seven Cities vision for regional WA, this Budget provides a landmark **uplift in Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) to deliver more than 500 new homes** over the next five years, **supporting more teachers, police and other key Government workers** to live in one of our seven regional cities.

This includes an initial \$419 million investment:

- **\$170 million** to deliver 170 new GROH houses, through the **Resources Community Investment Initiative**.
- **Expansion of the GROH Investor Program** to fund **at least 200 additional GROH homes** targeting institutional investment.

- \$184.4 million for a revamped **Shared Equity Home Ownership Subsidy Scheme**, helping GROH tenants to buy a home in the town they live in.
- Plus, a further \$64.9 million to **acquire additional homes** and maintenance for GROH, WA Country Health Service and Horizon Power staff.

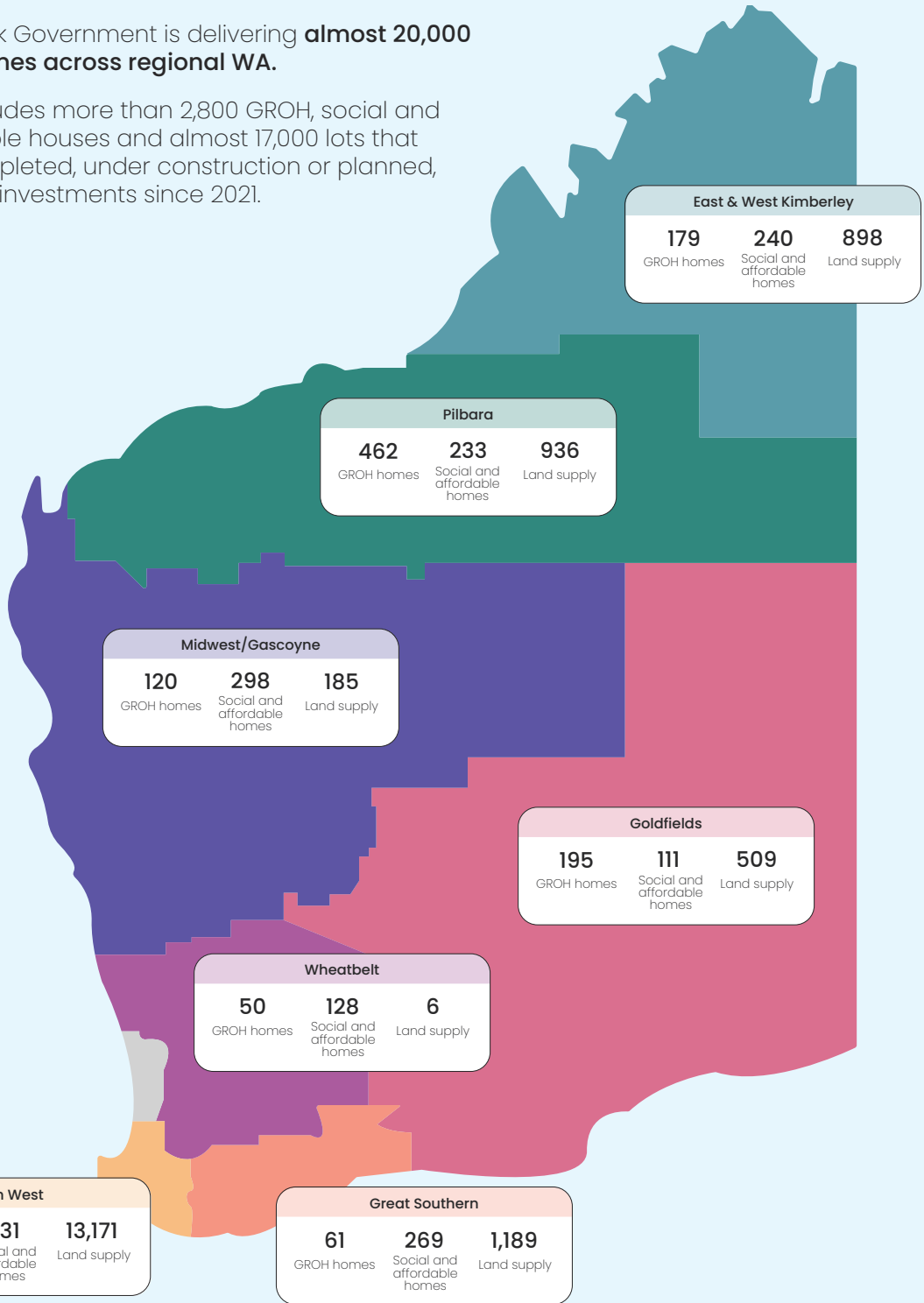
In addition, the Cook Government continues targeted measures to boost regional housing supply, including:

- A further **\$50 million boost to the Regional Housing Support Fund** to meet strong demand, investing in programs across the State. ©
- \$116 million investment to deliver **121 new lots** at the Western Edge residential development in **South Hedland**, and **111 lots at the Broome North** residential development.

Almost 20,000 new homes for regional WA

The Cook Government is delivering **almost 20,000 new homes across regional WA.**

This includes more than 2,800 GROH, social and affordable houses and almost 17,000 lots that are completed, under construction or planned, through investments since 2021.



Supporting WA households

This Budget is about delivering real cost of living support for Western Australians with over \$1 billion of support in 2026-27.

It includes additional cost of living initiatives to support WA families.

- **\$198 million for the Fuel Support Payment – providing \$100** to all Western Australians with a driver's licence to assist with higher fuel prices.
- **\$89.5 million to deliver a third round of the WA Student Assistance Payment** – \$150 for each primary and kindergarten student, and \$250 for each secondary school student.
- \$13.5 million to extend the WA Rent Relief Program.
- \$70.1 million for free public transport on Sundays, and for students travelling to and from school.
- Ongoing support for the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme.
- \$51.6 million for the Passenger Transport Subsidy Scheme.
- \$27.1 million for free flu, FluMist and RSV vaccines.
- \$33.1 million towards the nationally coordinated fuel excise cut, saving households 32 cents per litre on fuel for three months.
- \$208 million in stamp duty relief for first home buyers.

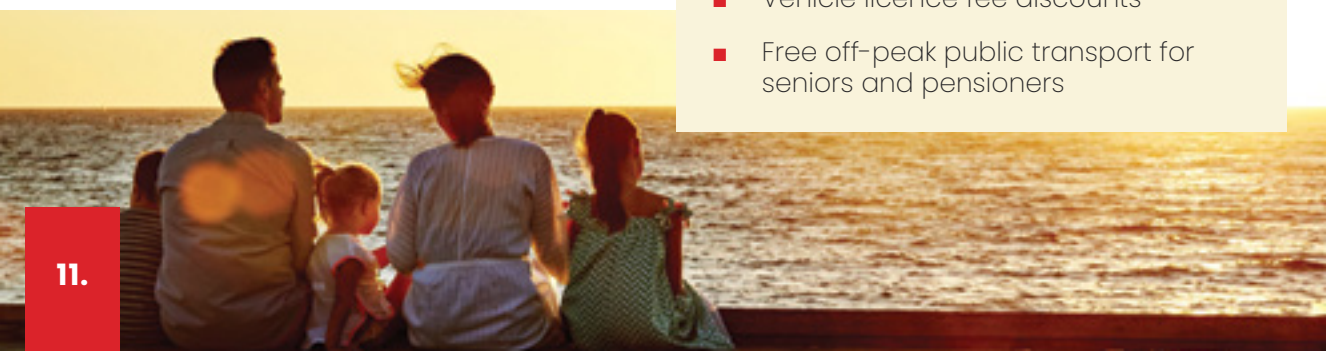
- \$51 million for a 10 per cent boost to the Energy Assistance Payment, dependent child rebate, air conditioning allowance and to extend the Energy Ahead Program.
- \$23.7 million to uplift foster carer subsidy rates by 10 per cent.

- **\$14.5 million to establish the Foster and Grand Carer Gold Card, including \$377 of energy bill relief**, recognising the important service carers provide.

- \$6.1 million in support for grandcarers, including a further cost of living payment.
- \$5.5 million to provide \$300 KidSport vouchers.
- \$124 million to continue lower fee and Fee-Free TAFE in 2027.
- Household fees and charges will reduce by 3.3 per cent in 2026-27, in-line with our long-standing commitment to keep fees and charges affordable.

\$4.4 billion for social concessions

- Energy Assistance Payment
- Dependent Child (Energy Bill) Rebate
- Air Conditioning Allowance
- Secondary Assistance Scheme Clothing Allowance
- Rebates on local government rates and water charges
- Vehicle licence fee discounts
- Free off-peak public transport for seniors and pensioners



Supporting WA households

The State Government has delivered more than \$5.2 billion in additional cost of living support for households and small businesses since 2019–20.

We're continuing our targeted support for WA families to ease everyday pressures, with specific cost of living measures to address household costs and help those who need it most.

Transport

- Fuel Support Payment
- Go Anywhere Fare
- Free public transport for school students
- Free public transport on Sundays
- Free off-peak public transport for seniors and pensioners
- Passenger Transport Subsidy Scheme

Energy and water

- WA Residential Battery Scheme
- Energy Assistance Payment
- Dependent Child Rebate
- Hardship Utility Grant Scheme
- Water Assist and Start Over Programs
- Air Conditioning Allowance

Housing

- WA Rent Relief Program
- Keystart Low Deposit Home Loan
- Keystart Shared Equity Home Loan
- Stamp duty relief for first homebuyers and seniors
- Expanded first home owner grants

Families

- WA Student Assistance Payment
- Free Full-time Kindergarten Pilot
- Free TAFE courses
- Secondary Assistance Scheme
- School Breakfast Program
- VacSwim
- KidSport vouchers
- Kids Access All Areas vouchers
- Passenger Transport Subsidy Scheme

Seniors

- WA Seniors Card discounts
- Seniors Cost of Living Rebate
- Grandcarers Support Scheme

Health

- School Dental Service
- Free Flu vaccination
- Enhanced Access Community Pharmacy Pilot to diagnose and treat common conditions
- GP ADHD Pilot to diagnose and treat patients aged 10 and older
- WA Spectacle Subsidy Scheme
- Free period products in schools and TAFEs

Regional WA

- Half price TransWA fares
- Free regional School Buses and conveyance allowance
- Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme
- Regional subsidised Regular Public Transport Air Services
- Regional Pensioner Travel Card
- Patient Assisted Travel Scheme
- Country Week Assistance Program
- Regional Air Conditioning Allowance
- Country Water Pricing Subsidy



A family with two school-aged kids could receive:

- WA Student Assistance Payments totalling up to \$500
- \$200 in Fuel Support Payments
- Free student public transport, saving up to \$560
- \$270 saved through reduction in fuel excise
- \$625 saved from Go Anywhere Fare

Total assistance: more than \$2,100

And they may benefit from:

- Free public transport on Sundays
- Free flu vaccinations
- Kids Access All Areas vouchers
- School Breakfast Program

Families living in regional WA could also receive:

REGIONAL

- Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme
- Free regional school buses and conveyance allowance
- Regional Air Conditioning Allowance
- Half price TransWA fares
- Country Week Assistance Program



A family with two school-aged kids with eligible concessions could receive:

CONCESSION

- \$377 for the Energy Assistance Payment
- Up to \$500 in Energy rebates
- WA Student Assistance Payments totalling up to \$500
- \$200 in Fuel Support Payments
- \$270 saved through reduction in fuel excise
- Free student public transport, saving up to \$560
- \$625 saved from Go Anywhere fare
- \$600 in KidSport vouchers

Total assistance: more than \$3,600

And they may benefit from:

- Free public transport on Sundays
- Free flu vaccinations
- Pet sterilisation discounts
- Kids Access All Areas vouchers
- School Breakfast Program





A pensioner in the Kimberley with eligible concessions could receive:

REGIONAL

- \$2,200 saved through the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme (two trips to Perth per year)
- \$377 Energy Assistance Payment, plus \$474 regional air conditioning allowance
- \$100 Fuel Support Payment
- \$775 Regional Pensioner Travel Scheme
- 50 per cent rebate, up to \$750, on local government rates
- 50 per cent rebate, up to \$600 for water service charges
- Around \$200 in vehicle licence fee discounts
- \$540 saved through reduction in fuel excise

Total assistance: more than \$6,000

And they may benefit from:

- Patient Assisted Travel Scheme - providing 40 cents per kilometre
- Up to 50 per cent discount on the Emergency Services Levy
- Regional water and electricity subsidies
- Pet sterilisation discounts



A foster parent with two school aged kids in their care could receive:

CONCESSION

- Over \$754 energy bill relief through new Foster and Grand Carer Gold Card and Energy Assistance Payment
- Almost \$1,500 foster care subsidy, respite and clothing allowance payments
- WA Student Assistance Payments totalling up to \$500
- Up to \$500 in Energy rebates
- \$600 in KidSport vouchers
- \$100 Fuel Support Payment
- Up to \$1,185 in public transport savings through free travel for school students and Go Anywhere Fare
- \$270 saved through reduction in fuel excise

Total assistance: more than \$5,400

And they may benefit from:

- Free public transport on Sundays
- Free flu immunisations
- Pet sterilisation discounts
- Kids Access All Areas vouchers
- School Breakfast Program



A young TAFE student studying nursing could receive:

- \$2,175 of savings from their free Diploma of Nursing TAFE course
- \$100 Fuel Support Payment
- Up to \$700 in public transport savings through tertiary student discount and Go Anywhere Fare
- \$290 from free public transport on Sundays to support hospitality/retail job
- \$270 saved through reduction in fuel excise

Total assistance: more than \$3,500

And they may benefit from:

- Free flu immunisations
- Tool Allowance and Apprentice Support Allowance for tradies at TAFE
- Up to \$5,000 in assistance through the WA Rent Relief Program

Delivering health and hospitals

This Budget delivers a record \$9.1 billion in additional health and mental health investment, helping to bring more than 900 additional beds online.

The 2026–27 Budget includes a record \$6.5 billion hospital services spending boost, and in 2026–27 alone the Cook Labor Government will spend a total of \$12.1 billion on hospital services to ensure Western Australians continue to get the healthcare they need.

Since 2017, we have added more than 6,500 nurses and 2,700 doctors (FTE).

Building hospitals

We are investing a record \$5.5 billion over the next four years - including an additional \$1.5 billion this budget - to build, buy and upgrade hospitals and health infrastructure across our State.

Since 2021, we've added more than 1,000 hospital beds to our public health system.

900 additional beds are in the pipeline, including 120 beds coming online over winter months at Joondalup Health Campus and St John of God Midland.

- **\$500 million boost to the Building Hospitals Fund** to resource major hospital projects including the New Women and Babies, Royal Perth and New Mandurah Hospitals, and the Perkins WA Comprehensive Cancer Centre.
- \$294 million additional investment in regional hospitals, including Bunbury, Albany, Tom Price, Meekatharra, Geraldton, Laverton and the South Hedland Step Up/ Step Down facility.
- \$225 million to buy, commission and commence operations at Mount Lawley Hospital, bringing 118 beds into the public hospital system from September 2026.
- \$36.2 million to establish a new Central Commissioning Office to ensure a coordinated operational readiness and commissioning program to bring beds online.
- \$214 million for capital hospital maintenance - this is in addition to the more than \$1.1 billion recurrent spend on maintaining our hospitals and medical equipment over the next four years.
- \$143 million for medical and imaging equipment.



Delivering health and hospitals

Health services

This Budget includes a record \$6.5 billion increase in frontline hospital services expenditure.

Plus, we are investing \$433 million to improve access to health services, including alternatives to ED and improvements to patient flow:

- Extending the State Health Operations Centre to improve emergency access and virtual ED.
- Investing in surge private bed capacity during peak winter months.
- Assisting older patients ready to leave hospital by delivering more Time to Think beds and transition care places.
- Supporting people experiencing homelessness with post-acute care through the Medical Respite Centre.
- Training 200 extra pharmacists to diagnose and treat common conditions in the community.
- Expanding Hospital in the Home to support patients in residential aged care.
- Enhancing immunisation access through FluMist, and free flu and RSV vaccinations.

Mental health

\$414 million boost for mental health and alcohol and other drugs services.

- \$43.8 million baseline funding uplift for community mental health and Alcohol and Other Drug services.
- \$48.6 million to provide culturally appropriate social and emotional wellbeing support for Aboriginal people.
- \$29.7 million to extend suicide prevention initiatives around the State, including \$4.9 million for supports for young people who have lost someone to suicide.
- \$15.4 million to roll out WA's first Crisis Recovery and Intervention Support Service.

Regional health

The Budget includes \$492 million new investment in regional health and mental health over the next four years.

New investment this Budget includes:

- \$294 million additional investment in regional hospitals.
- \$16.2 million additional investment in the Broome Renal Hostel project, to support delivery of renal dialysis treatments for people in the Kimberley.
- \$68.6 million to extend regional palliative care, renal care support, cancer and other regional health services.

We are supporting more than 35,000 regional Western Australians through the Patient Assisted Transport Scheme - which was increased from 26 cents to 40 cents per kilometre last Budget.

Delivering a strong economy and jobs

This Budget continues to invest in diversifying WA's economy so that it remains the strongest in the nation and resilient to future challenges.

We are delivering quality jobs and business opportunities by making more things here, investing in economic infrastructure, and developing a skilled workforce.

WA Jobs

- **\$1.4 billion boost to the Clean Energy Fund for Clean Energy Link projects** to unlock renewable energy opportunities.
- \$973 million investment to expand Western Power's network and increase electricity capacity for industrial and residential developments.
- \$647 million for Westport, including Stage 1 Anketell Road upgrades.
- **\$91.7 million from the Strategic Industries Fund** has been allocated to enable key projects at the **Western Trade Coast, Kemerton and Boodarie Strategic Industrial Areas**.
 - This includes \$53.3 million for land assembly and road infrastructure planning at Latitude 32 and the Australian Marine Complex.

- \$50 million investment in the Port of Port Hedland – funded by port users – to deliver the Channel Zone 5 Bypass, enhancing vessel safety and port efficiency.
- \$4.8 million for a business case for investment in additional capacity at the Port of Bunbury.
- **\$1.4 million for a second round of the Small Business Growth Grants Program.**

Made in WA

- Over \$150 million in loans to manufacturers to improve energy efficiency and invest in advanced manufacturing equipment as part of the **Made in WA Energy Affordability Investment Program**.
- \$48 million to build modular housing and apartments in advanced manufacturing facilities in Kwinana and Neerabup.
- **\$85 million to support development of the green iron and steel industry**, including \$75 million to support the NeoSmelt pilot project.

Plus, we are delivering on our commitment to:

- Manufacture electric buses and railcars locally.
- Build ferries as part of METRONET on the Swan.
- Establish manufacturing facilities for batteries, transmission towers and other energy components.





Delivering a strong economy and jobs

Tourism and creative industries

We are establishing a \$500 million Major Projects Fund to partner with the Commonwealth and industry to progress major projects such as Scitech and the Aboriginal Cultural Centre.

On top of this we are investing:

- \$24.6 million in preparation for the 2028 Kimberley Total Solar Eclipse.
- \$24.9 million for Perth Zoo, including expanding the African Savannah.
- \$18 million to support a range of Aboriginal tourism initiatives under the Jina: Western Australian Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan 2026–30.
- \$10 million to attract business events to Western Australia.
- **\$40.4 million support for our local creative industries and arts organisations** – including supporting the iconic FRINGE WORLD festival and backing cultural institutions like Black Swan Theatre, WA Ballet and WASO.
- This also includes \$2 million to continue our support for WA’s games and interactive technology industry.

Delivering a strong economy and jobs

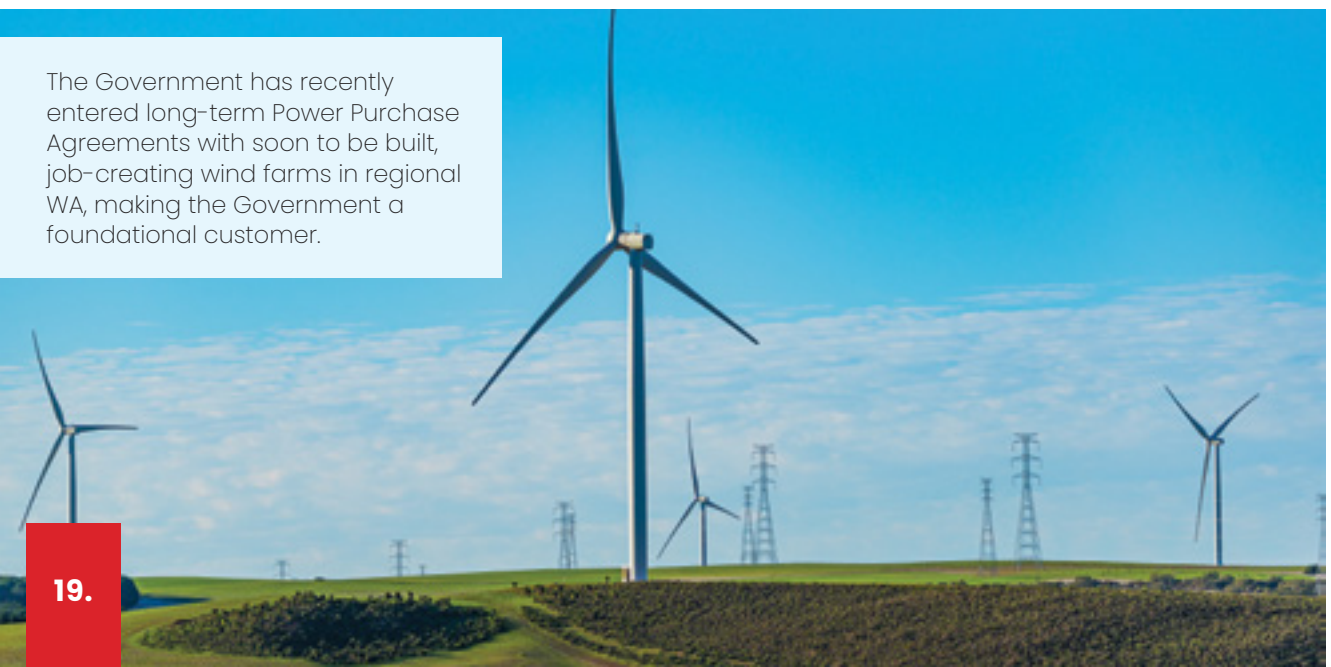
Training and workforce

- **\$124 million to continue lower fee and Fee-Free TAFE in 2027.**
- **\$24 million to expand Munster TAFE** to provide state-of-the-art facilities to support the delivery of training for renewables industries, including wind energy, battery technology, and electrification.
- **\$19.6 million to support 330 additional Group Training Organisation Wage Subsidy Program places.**
- \$13.1 million to extend the **Construction Visa Subsidy Program and Build a Life in WA incentive** with an additional 1,100 places.
- \$10.6 million for the Pilbara Development Commission to set up and operate the Clean Energy Training and Research Institute.
- \$10 million to continue WorkSafe's Mental Awareness Respect and Safety Program.

Decarbonisation

- \$150 million for the **Vanadium Battery Energy Storage System near Kalgoorlie** to enhance reliability and support the region's renewable energy future.
- \$67.3 million in continued support for PoweringWA's work facilitating the State's energy transition.
- **\$30 million for a second round of the Investment Attraction Fund - New Energies Industries Funding Stream.**
- \$16 million for the Minerals Research Institute of WA to implement and administer a clean energy and emissions research program.
- \$5 million more in the Schools Clean Energy Technology Fund, to reduce schools' energy costs and carbon emissions.
- \$4.8 million to continue implementation of the Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage industry legislative framework.

The Government has recently entered long-term Power Purchase Agreements with soon to be built, job-creating wind farms in regional WA, making the Government a foundational customer.





Protecting our environment

The 2026–27 Budget reflects new investment in water security and environmental protection, to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy the economic and lifestyle benefits of our natural environment.

Water security

The Government is making investments to secure Western Australia's water future in a drying climate.

- The Government has committed **\$606 million to secure water in the Pilbara through a joint venture with Rio Tinto to deliver Stages 1 and 2 of the Dampier Seawater Desalination Plant.**
- \$57.3 million for planning and investigations into **Perth's next desalination plant**, with our \$2.8 billion Alkimos Desalination Plant scheduled for completion in 2028.
- Water Corporation will also invest \$52.9 million through its new **Regional Water Source Fund** in water source planning and investigation in regional WA.

Protection and restoration

- **\$24.7 million to continue initiatives to ensure Western Australia's biosecurity and animal disease preparedness.**
- \$4.5 million for the Tree Treatment Project, supporting Perth's tree canopy through the removal and pruning of trees to prevent the spread of polyphagous shot-hole borer.
- A further \$8.5 million towards the Fisheries Support Package.
- \$7.1 million to enhance protection of the Swan and Canning Rivers.
- \$6.2 million investment in the Healthy Estuaries WA program.

The Government is helping to secure Albany's future water supply and has committed to Nanarup as the preferred area for construction of a desalination plant.

Building safe and inclusive communities

The 2026–27 Budget continues the Cook Labor Government’s legacy of investment to build safe and inclusive communities.

Children, young people and families

- \$421 million for child protection services.
- \$46.3 million to boost supports for foster and grandparent carers, including a **new Foster and Grand Carer Gold Card**, and increased foster carer subsidy.
- **\$29.5 million uplift for the Home Stretch WA service**, which supports young people leaving care.
- \$20.3 million to boost funding for at-risk youth services.
 - Includes \$7.3 million to continue Home Safe, providing services to unsupervised young people in Northbridge and Perth.
- \$6 million to assist with the delivery of the Binar Community Hub in Bellevue.

Homelessness

- **\$91.1 million funding boost for new and continuing homelessness services.**
- \$13.5 million to extend the WA Rent Relief Program to June 2027.

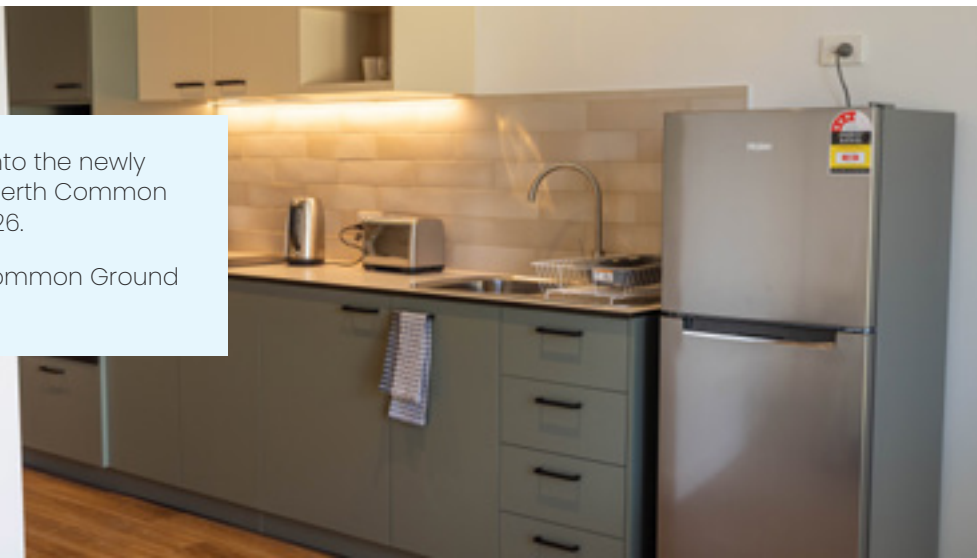
Family and domestic violence

An additional \$106 million has been committed to family and domestic violence prevention and response, bringing total investment since 2017 to \$818 million.

- \$45 million boost to FDV refuges and safe houses, including operational funding for five refuges under development in Albany, Bunbury, Narrogin, Newman, and Peel.
- \$17.2 million funding uplift for sexual abuse therapeutic, healing and support services.
- \$10 million to trial out of hours social workers at hospitals, and to continue Ngala’s Thriving Families service navigation program.
- \$3.7 million funding boost for sexual assault support services and to expand counselling at the Sexual Assault Resource Centre.

The first tenants moved into the newly constructed 112 unit East Perth Common Ground facility, in April 2026.

Once open, Mandurah Common Ground will add a further 50 units.





Building safe and inclusive communities

Youth justice

- **\$61.4 million to continue the Target 120** early intervention program for young people coming into repeated contact with WA Police.
- \$41 million to continue a range of Aboriginal-led youth programs under the Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy.

Community safety

- \$8.8 million for WA Police to employ 15 additional Community Liaison Officers.
- \$530 million for WA Police to keep our community safe.
- \$58.7 million additional resourcing for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Legal Aid and State Administrative Tribunal.

- \$33.4 million toward the management of community-based offenders.
- \$87.7 million for new and upgraded prison infrastructure, including a further expansion of Acacia Prison.
- More than \$300 million additional expenditure on justice and corrective services, including prison operations and initiatives to manage prison population growth.
- **\$31.2 million additional funding for fire and emergency services fleet replacement.**

Investing in education

Our Government continues to invest strongly in the schools our communities rely on – supporting growing enrolments, modernising facilities, and strengthening learning environments for students, teachers and the wider school workforce.

Delivering our commitments

This Budget delivers a further \$233 million of the Cook Labor Government's 2025 school infrastructure election commitments, including:

- **\$78.2 million for six major school upgrades at Champion Bay SHS, Belridge Secondary College, Byford PS, Glen Forrest PS, Cowaramup PS and Geraldton SHS.**
- \$68.4 million for land acquisition and forward works to deliver a new Alkimos North Senior High School.
- \$86.9 million for the final tranches of the Cool the Schools and minor upgrades election commitments, delivering over 100 upgrades for schools across the State.

School infrastructure

- **\$96.2 million will be invested to expand the following schools:**
 - **Harrisdale Senior High School**
 - **Piara Waters Primary School**
 - **Riva Primary School**
 - **Inglewood Primary School**
- \$219 million boost to maintenance of our growing school infrastructure base.
- Over \$100 million for minor upgrades and works at schools – including roofs, hardcourts, toilets, security, energy and accessibility.

Plus

- An additional \$7.7 million for swimming and water safety education.
- \$4.6 million further investment in the WA ClassmAlte® pilot, using AI to reduce teacher workload and support high-quality teaching.
- \$815,000 to expand the Your Move Schools program, encouraging students to walk, wheel, scoot and ride to and from school.

Disability support

- **\$310 million uplift in disability funding for public schools over the forward estimates.**
- \$15.7 million to expand access to training and supports for staff working with students with disability through the new **Disability and Inclusion Professional Learning Hub.**
- Over the next five years, the State will spend \$361 million on services and supports for children with developmental delays or autism aged 0 to 8 through the **Thriving Kids initiative**, including \$148 million in Commonwealth funding.





Aboriginal wellbeing

The 2026–27 Budget includes more than \$360 million investment in initiatives supporting Aboriginal Western Australians.

The State Government will establish an alliance with the Aboriginal Advisory Council of WA, Aboriginal Health Council of WA and Council of Aboriginal Services WA to strengthen accountability for Western Australia's Closing the Gap progress.

- **\$127 million top-up to the Remote Communities Fund for investment in housing, utilities and municipal services** across remote Aboriginal communities.
- \$26.6 million towards Aboriginal-led economic development and cultural initiatives including:
 - Jina: Western Australian Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan 2026–30.
 - Garaan-ngaddim Horizontal Falls tourism transition project.
 - Gwoonwardu Mia Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Centre in the Gascoyne.
- **\$48.6 million to continue locally-driven mental health services for Aboriginal people.**
- \$37.7 million for the Aboriginal Representative Organisation function, supporting culturally informed advice and advocacy in child protection decision-making.
- \$15.4 million to continue delivery of the following programs:
 - Yiwarra Kuju – Martu Western Desert Justice Program
 - Martu Student Hostel in Newman program
 - Kalgoorlie Transitional Services
 - Aboriginal Pastoral Program in the Pilbara and Kimberley regions
- \$11.8 million to extend the Dandjoo Bidi-Ak program in the Perth Children's Court, providing a therapeutic and culturally safe court process for Aboriginal families involved in child protection matters.
- \$10.1 million to deliver initiatives under Western Australia's Closing the Gap 2026–28 Implementation Plan.
- \$7.2 million to continue the Aboriginal Family-Led Decision Making initiative in Mirrabooka and the Mid West-Gascoyne region.

Connecting our State

The 2026–27 State Budget continues to deliver quality infrastructure across the State. The Government's transport investment focuses on keeping communities connected and ensuring people and goods move safely and reliably across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia.

Road upgrades

- **\$1.1 billion joint commitment by the State and Commonwealth Governments to upgrade Anketell Road between Leath and Abercrombie Roads.**
- \$83.2 million to deliver Stage 1 of the Great Northern Highway Fitzroy to Gogo flood resilience works.
- \$113.5 million boost to Main Roads' maintenance program.
- \$61 million additional investment in the Toodyay Road upgrades.
- \$127 million for a program of regional bridge replacements.
- \$9.4 million to replace water drainage bridges in Busselton and Harvey.

The Government is rolling out optional digital driver's licences - so Western Australians will be able to carry their licence on their phone.

Road safety

- \$60.7 million for road safety awareness campaigns and school programs.
- \$36.1 million to continue the Driving Access and Equity Program to help disadvantaged learner drivers get their licence.

Accessible and affordable transport

- **\$70 million to make public transport free for all passengers on Sundays, and for students travelling to and from school.**
- **\$45 million to increase the frequency of Australind train services** following commissioning of the new, expanded railcar fleet.
- \$51.6 million uplift in the Passenger Transport Subsidy Scheme, to support people with a severe disability or medical condition with assistance.
- **\$14.2 million to continue and expand TransBroome public transport services, including two new buses.**
- \$11.1 million for the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme; the Inter Regional Flight Network connecting Broome, Karratha, Geraldton and Port Hedland; and the Kununurra-Halls Creek-Balgo and Derby-Broome Regular Public Transport Air Services.





Investing in regional WA



The State Budget includes \$4 billion investment in Royalties for Regions, and a \$9.5 billion pipeline of regional infrastructure works over the next four years.

- \$419 million to support accommodation for essential workers in regional areas, including more than 500 GROH dwellings as part of the Seven Cities vision.
- A new Shared Equity Home Ownership Subsidy Scheme pilot for Government workers in regional WA.
- \$116 million investment toward new residential developments in South Hedland and Broome.
- \$659 million toward the Dampier Seawater Desalination Plant, including conveyancing infrastructure to connect the new plant to the West Pilbara Water Supply Scheme.
- **\$150 million for the Vanadium Battery Energy Storage System near Kalgoorlie** to enhance reliability and support the region's renewable energy future.
- Over \$125 million new investment towards the development of Boodarie and Kemerton Strategic Industrial Areas, Newman Light Industrial area, and regional port infrastructure.
- **\$294 million additional investment in regional hospitals and health infrastructure**, including Bunbury, Albany, Tom Price, Meekatharra, Geraldton, Laverton and the South Hedland Step Up/Step Down facility.
- **\$89.1 million further investment in the Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront project.**
- \$24.6 million for essential infrastructure in and around Kununurra to support a successful 2028 Kimberley Total Solar Eclipse.
- \$41 million to continue the Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy.
- **\$24.2 million for WA Police to continue Operation Regional Shield for a further two years.**
- \$6.5 million to continue the Kimberley Schools Project during the 2027 school year.
- \$5.4 million for works on the piggery at the WA College of Agriculture in Cunderdin.
- \$2.6 million to support delivery of the CinefestOZ Film Festival in regional Western Australia over the next four years.



Supporting WA women

The 2026–27 Budget delivers a range of targeted support for women through investments in secure housing, prevention and responses to family and domestic violence, health and mental wellbeing, workforce participation and skills development.

- Our \$19.6 million additional investment in the Group Training Organisation Wage Subsidy Program includes a further 50 places specifically for women wanting to work in electrical trades.
- **\$18.1 million to deliver a new 15-bed refuge in Innaloo.**
- \$10 million for a three-year trial of out of hours social workers and continuation of the Ngala Thriving Families service navigation program, as part of the State Government's FDV System Reform Plan.
- \$10 million to continue WorkSafe's Mental Awareness Respect and Safety Program, which includes initiatives focused on creating safer workplaces for women.

- **\$4.4 million for expanded capacity at BreastScreen WA's Joondalup clinic.**
- \$3.4 million to extend delivery of the Leave Safe, Stay Safe program at Bandyup Women's Prison and Greenough Regional Prison, supporting victim-survivors of family and domestic violence to transition safely back into their communities.
- **\$1.4 million for perinatal mental health support.**

This Budget includes an additional \$10.7 million for the Safe Night Space for Women in Northbridge – which was closed in 2023.

The Cook Labor Government is committed to ensuring continued safety and support for women experiencing homelessness, including survivors of family and domestic violence.

2026–27 Budget Overview

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Budget Paper No. 1 – Treasurer’s Speech

Budget Paper No. 2 – Budget Statements (Volumes 1-2)

Budget Paper No. 3 – Economic and Fiscal Outlook

Budget Overview

Reader’s Guide to the 2026–27 Budget Statements
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