

Wide Bay

Support for drought-affected Queenslanders

The Government's Drought Assistance Package is a \$62 million, two-year package of targeted assistance for individuals and communities in drought-affected areas. It provides both business-related support for landholders and social welfare services to get families through tough times.

Rental relief of almost \$9 million over the term of the package includes rebates for land rental and the waiving of annual water licence fees for drought-affected landholders and lessees.

\$32.75 million is being provided for freight subsidies and emergency water infrastructure rebates to support producers and communities. The Australian Government is providing \$13 million over two years to support the emergency water infrastructure rebate component of the Queensland Department of Communities' Disaster Relief Assistance Scheme.

The Government is providing an additional \$1.5 million to expand mental health support workshops and additional interventions in drought areas. \$5.9 million will be used to provide information, support, case management and coordination of community resilience-building strategies.

Learn more about drought assistance at www.daff.qld.gov.au/environment/drought/assistance/new-package or by telephoning 13 QGOV (13 74 68).



Bruce Highway Upgrade

The Bruce Highway is part of the National Land Transport Network and is Queensland's major east coast transport and economic corridor. The highway plays a significant role in freight and passenger transport and its safe and efficient operation is important nationally.

The Queensland Government's Bruce Highway Action Plan sets out a detailed program of works which will improve the safety, flood immunity and capacity of the Bruce Highway, over the next 10 years.

Projects in the action plan include:

- safety improvements including wide centre line and shoulder seals, audible edge lines, more overtaking lanes, safety barriers, intersection improvements, verge clearing, improved rest areas and critical maintenance to catch up on the backlog of maintenance on the highway
- flood immunity improvements, including raised embankments, culverts, bridges, bypasses, vegetation clearing and flood warning systems
- capacity improvements, including new alignments, extra lanes, intersections, service roads and town bypasses.

Together, the Australian and State Governments have committed \$8.5 billion over the next 10 years to implement the priorities from the Bruce Highway Action Plan including:

- \$177.3 million towards the duplication of the Bruce Highway (Cooroy to Curra) from Cooroy Southern Interchange to Sankeys Road (Section A), at a total cost of \$590 million
- \$66 million to duplicate a section of the Bruce Highway from two to four lanes, from Vantassel Street to Cluden, at a total cost of \$137.5 million
- \$47 million to provide a new elevated crossing of the Bruce Highway across the Yeppen Floodplain, at a total cost of \$296 million
- \$24.5 million to commence Stage 1, upgrading of the Bruce Highway between Caloundra Road and the Sunshine Motorway, at a total cost of \$1.134 billion (Stages 1 and 2).

A STRONG PLAN FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Regional Budget Statement WIDE BAY

This Budget continues to deliver a Strong Plan for a Brighter Future.

The 2014-15 Budget carefully balances increases in education, health and community services spending, while not introducing or raising any new taxes or reducing services.

Strong choices have to be made so that a brighter future can be ours; we need to reduce the State's \$80 billion debt and the annual \$4 billion interest bill. This Budget outlines our plan to secure our finances by making the strongest and smartest choice to reduce debt so we can sustainably invest in the schools, hospitals and infrastructure for the future.

We are making significant progress in restoring our finances, growing a four pillar economy, revitalising frontline services and funding infrastructure projects and jobs – with more than 60,000 jobs created in Queensland in the last year. To sustain this we must reduce debt, so we can truly keep building on our Strong Plan for a Brighter Future.

Health
6% to \$13.6 billion

New and improving hospitals:
 \$224.5 million towards building the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital
 \$369.8 million towards building the Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital
 \$173.3 million for the redevelopment of hospitals in Cairns, Mackay, Mount Isa, Townsville and Rockhampton

Education
7% to \$11.8 billion

Great Results Guarantee
 \$131 million to improve the numeracy and literacy of our children
10 new schools

 under the \$1.4 billion Queensland Schools Project

Transport and roads
\$5.4 billion

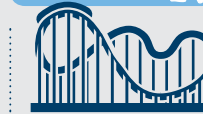
Toowoomba Second Range Crossing
 \$321 million towards the history making \$1.6 billion, 41km innovative toll road project
75 new six-car trains
Bruce Highway
 \$768 million in 2014-15 to upgrade sections of the Bruce Highway

Safe Night Out Strategy
\$44.5 million
 to address alcohol and drug-related violence

267 new police

Royalties for the Regions
\$495 million
 for infrastructure improvements
Drought assistance
\$62 million

Safer Children
\$406 million
 for child and family services in response to the Carmody Inquiry



Reef Water Quality Program
\$55 million

\$33.9 million
 for tourism marketing and event promotion

For more detail: www.budget.qld.gov.au

Wide Bay

A STRONG PLAN FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Queensland State Budget 2014–15

Royalties for the Regions

The Queensland Government has committed \$495 million over four years from 2012 for community infrastructure, roads and flood mitigation projects across Queensland's regions.

Royalties for the Regions ensures regional communities receive real long-term benefits through better planning and infrastructure investment. The program is helping communities better manage the impacts of resource sector development and ensures they remain liveable and sustainable well into the future.

To date, Royalties for the Regions has approved over \$296 million to support 93 infrastructure projects, with a total cost of over \$501 million, across 38 regional and shire councils. These include:

- 34 community infrastructure projects including 20 water, sewerage and waste management projects, six regional airport upgrades, two telecommunications projects, and other projects that will provide a variety of community facilities
- 40 projects to provide critical road safety and access improvements across regions impacted by resource development
- 16 flood mitigation projects that will provide levees, upgraded town drainage and road and bridge upgrades to improve access and safety
- 3 projects to support essential community services including two new childcare facilities and a new medical centre.

Investment in these projects is critical to managing growth and improving the liveability of resource communities.

The Wide Bay region will benefit from \$30.7 million for seven projects in the Bundaberg, Gympie, North Burnett and South Burnett Regional Council areas, including waste treatment infrastructure, flood mitigation works and road upgrades.



Year 7 moving to high school

\$14 million of up to \$25 million for education facilities at Bundaberg, Hervey Bay, James Nash and Kingaroy State High Schools as Year 7 joins high school in 2015.



Social housing

\$19.2 million to expand and improve social housing.



Supported accommodation

\$770,000 for supported accommodation in Maryborough.



Recovery and reconstruction

\$250 million for local government authorities for recovery and reconstruction projects in partnership with the Australian Government.



Improvements for Cherbourg

\$118,000 to complete the lighting and security project and to upgrade flood drainage in Cherbourg.



Tilt trains

\$11.1 million to continue the \$204 million project to produce a new and upgraded fleet of Cairns tilt trains.



Improvements for South Burnett communities

\$463,000 to complete the upgrade of Gordonbrook Water Treatment Plant, build a new amenities block at Yallakool Tourist Park and provide streetscaping in Nanango.



Kingaroy police and watchhouse

\$2.9 million to commence the \$8.3 million upgrade of Kingaroy police station and watchhouse.



Bundaberg fire and rescue

\$1 million to commence the \$5.1 million Bundaberg replacement fire and rescue station.



Bundaberg ambulance

\$500,000 to continue the replacement ambulance station in Bundaberg.



Burnett River Bridge

\$3.4 million of \$14.9 million to rehabilitate the Burnett River Bridge on the Bundaberg-Gin Gin Road in Bundaberg Central, due for completion in June 2015.



Isis Highway, Childers

\$3 million of \$12 million to rehabilitate pavements on sections of the Isis Highway at Childers, due for completion in May 2015.



Water quality

\$10,000 to improve water quality in the Burnett, Kolan and Baffle basins and adjacent coastal waters.



New oral health facility

\$7.5 million to complete the \$9.5 million new oral health facility at Bundaberg, and \$6.4 million to continue the new \$8 million facility at Hervey Bay.



Inskip Point

\$650,000 of \$750,000 to upgrade amenities at Inskip Point.



Mary Valley Heritage Railway

\$1.7 million to enable Mary Valley Heritage Railway to return as a tourist attraction.



Tackling homelessness

\$6.4 million for specialist homelessness services.



Monkland and Glanmire access

\$2.2 million to improve access between Gympie and Monkland and Glanmire during floods.



Kingaroy wastewater treatment

\$10 million to upgrade the Kingaroy wastewater treatment plant to meet increased demand from the resources sector.



D'Aguiar Highway

\$5.2 million to construct a new 1.2 kilometre overtaking lane on the D'Aguiar Highway between Yarraman and Kingaroy.

