

Appendix A: Concessions statement

Context

The Queensland Government provides a wide range of concessions across a variety of services and products. In addition to targeted discounts, rebates and subsidies for Queenslanders based on eligibility criteria relating to factors such as age, income and special needs or disadvantage, broader concession arrangements are in place to reduce the price paid by all consumers in areas such as transport, electricity and water.

The majority of Queenslanders benefit from at least one concession and in many cases, may benefit from multiple concessions each year. For example, aged pensioners are eligible for a number of Queensland Government concessions, such as discounts on their council rates, water, gas and electricity bills, vehicle registration fees as well as subsidised optometry and dental services.

Further information on the eligibility requirements and benefits of a range of Government concessions can be found at:

<http://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions/>.

Focus

This statement highlights the cost and nature of concessions provided by the Queensland Government. It covers both concessions that are direct Budget outlays (for example, fee subsidy payments), and concessions that are revenue foregone through fees and charges that are set at a lower rate than applies to the wider community or, in the case of broader concessions, the full cost of service provision.

Sections A.2 and A.3 set out the individual concessions by agency and government-owned corporation (GOC) respectively, sorted in descending order. The total value of these concessions is estimated to be \$5.66 billion in 2019-20. This represents a significant Government and taxpayer commitment to improving the accessibility and affordability of a diverse range of services, and reducing the price paid by consumers of those services to ease cost of living pressures.

The 2019-20 concessions estimate is almost \$29 million higher than the 2018-19 estimated actual amount of \$5.631 billion, and more than \$75 million higher than the 2018-19 budget amount of \$5.584 billion. This takes into account the cessation of the Electricity Asset Ownership Dividend, which was a temporary measure to provide Queensland households with a \$50 electricity rebate in 2017-18 and 2018-19. This initiative was funded from the dividends of Queensland's GOCs and formed part of the \$2 billion Affordable Energy Plan.

Explanation of scope

For the purposes of this document, concessions include:

- discounts, rebates and subsidies to improve access to, and the affordability of, a range of services for individuals or families based on eligibility criteria relating to factors such as age, income and special needs or disadvantage
- concessional prices for Government services, where the price charged to all consumers is less than the full cost of service provision.

Both General Government and Public Non-financial Corporations (PNFC) Sector concessions are included. Where a payment is made from a General Government Sector agency to a PNFC entity for a concession arrangement, the expenditure is reported against the General Government Sector agency only to avoid double counting. To be included in this statement, concessions must meet the minimum materiality threshold of estimated expenditure or revenue foregone of \$50,000 in 2019-20.

Varying methods have been used to estimate the cost of concessions depending on the nature of the concessions, including:

- direct Budget outlay cost (for example, direct subsidy or rebate payments or Government's contribution in the case of items such as rental subsidies)
- revenue foregone (for example, concessional fees and charges)
- cost of goods and services provided.

For the purposes of illustration, the document often uses averages to demonstrate the potential value of the concession to consumers. However, averages are not reflective of individual circumstances, meaning the actual dollar value of the concession to consumers may vary from person to person.

The Concessions Statement does not include Tax Expenditures (for example, tax exemptions, reduced tax rates, tax rebates and deductions). Information on Tax Expenditures can be found in Appendix B – Tax expenditure statement.

A.1 Concessions summary

Table A.1.1 Concession by entity¹

Concession by entity	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Agency		
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	32.9	42.4
Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors	371.6	283.1
Department of Education	128.3	139.7
Department of Employment, Small Business and Training	450.5	470.7
Department of Environment and Science	11.0	9.8
Department of Housing and Public Works	461.3	457.1
Department of Justice and Attorney-General	94.6	101.5
Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy	755.5	802.2
Department of Transport and Main Roads	2,874.8	2,918.2
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	9.9	10.3
Queensland Health	308.0	292.8
Total Agency	5,498.4	5,527.8
Government-owned corporations		
Energy Queensland	25.6	25.5
Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited	0.9	0.8
Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited	47.0	45.8
North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited	1.7	1.7
Port of Townsville Limited	5.9	6.0
Queensland Rail Limited	1.9	2.0
Sunwater Limited	49.4	50.2
Total Government-owned corporations	132.4	132.0
Total all entities	5,630.8	5,659.8
Note:		
1. Numbers may not add due to rounding.		

A.2 Concessions by agency

Table A.2.1 Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Drought Relief Assistance Scheme ¹	16.5	21.0
Primary Industry Productivity Enhancement Scheme (PIPES) ²	15.0	18.0
Vessel Tracking Rebate Scheme ³	0.4	2.5
Farm Management Grant ⁴	1.0	0.9
Total	32.9	42.4

Notes:

1. In 2019-20 the Government is providing funding of up to \$21 million, held centrally, for subsidies and rebates associated with the continuation of the Drought Relief Assistance Scheme (DRAS). The demand for DRAS assistance is expected to increase in 2019-20, based on current forecasts which show that the percentage of the State drought declared may increase.
2. The variance is due to an anticipated increased take up of PIPES lending from \$80 million in 2018-19 to \$100 million in 2019-20. The 2018-19 year is considered to have been affected by prolonged adverse seasonal conditions of drought and the northern Queensland flooding event.
3. The variance is due to an anticipated increased take up of the Vessel Tracking Rebate Scheme in 2019-20. During the 2018-19 year there has been slow take up of the scheme due to supply issues; clarifying the requirements of the scheme, with most applications being processed after 1 January 2019.
4. The scheme closes 30 June 2019, however there is expected to be an increase in applications at the end of the financial year which will be paid in the 2019-20 financial year.

Drought Relief Assistance Scheme

The Drought Relief Assistance Scheme provides freight subsidies and emergency water infrastructure rebates to support producers and communities that have been affected by drought conditions across the State. Freight subsidies of up to 50% and emergency water infrastructure rebates of up to 50% are available to eligible applicants, up to a maximum of between \$20,000 and \$50,000 per property, per financial year. This is funded through the Drought Assistance Package.

Primary Industry Productivity Enhancement Scheme (PIPES)

PIPES is administered by the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) and provides concessional rates of interest on loans to eligible primary producers in need of financial assistance. First Start Loans and Sustainability Loans of up to \$2 million and \$1.3 million respectively support applicants to enter primary production and to improve productivity and sustainability. The average concessional interest rate for new lending is 3.69%. The amounts shown in the above table represent the fair values of the interest rate concessions pertaining to loans issued in each of the financial years shown.

Vessel Tracking Rebate Scheme

The *Queensland Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017-2027* requires vessel tracking on all commercial fishing boats by 2020 to assist in the management of Queensland Fisheries. This initiative is designed to assist commercial fishers by providing rebates up to prescribed amounts, to offset the cost of purchasing and installing approved vessel tracking units.

Farm Management Grant

The Farm Management Grant aims to assist eligible Queensland primary producers, or their relatives, to offset the costs of professional advice associated with succession planning. The grant provides rebates of up to 50% of the amount paid for professional advice, up to a maximum of \$2,500 per financial year.

Table A.2.2 Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Electricity Rebate Scheme ^{1,2}	187.0	192.3
Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme	53.0	55.2
South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme	17.4	18.9
Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme	8.0	10.0
Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme	2.5	2.6
Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme ²	2.2	2.3
Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme ²	1.5	1.8
Electricity Asset Ownership Dividend	100.0	..
Total	371.6	283.1
Notes:		
1. The variance is primarily due to the estimated growth in recipients, primarily Health Care Card holders.		
2. Electricity price rebates are adjusted annually according to the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) price determination for the general household electricity tariff (Tariff 11). For 2019-20, the QCA determined Tariff 11 will decrease by 4.4%. However, Government has determined existing rebate values will not be decreased and will continue to apply in 2019-20.		

Electricity Rebate Scheme

The Electricity Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to approximately \$341 per annum, to assist with the cost of domestic electricity supply to the home of eligible holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, a Queensland Seniors Card or a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card (and receive a War Widow/er Pension or special rate Totally or Permanently Incapacitated Pension).

Additionally, the rebate was extended to Commonwealth Health Care Card Holders and asylum seekers from 1 January 2017, allowing an estimated 157,000 additional Queensland families to access the rebate.

Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme

The Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme offers a 20% subsidy (up to a maximum of \$200 per annum) to lessen the impact of local government rates and charges on pensioners, thereby assisting them to continue to live in their own homes.

South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme

The South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme provides a subsidy of up to \$120 per annum to eligible pensioner property owners in the South East Queensland Water Grid to lessen the impact of water prices. This subsidy is in addition to the Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme.

Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme

The Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme provides emergency assistance of up to \$720 once in a two-year period to assist low income households experiencing a short-term financial crisis and who are unable to pay their current electricity and/or reticulated natural gas account. It is not a requirement for the claimant to hold a concession card.

Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme

The Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to approximately \$74 per annum to assist with the cost of reticulated natural gas supplied to the home of eligible holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card or a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card (and receive the War Widow/er Pension or special rate Totally or Permanently Incapacitated Pension).

Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme

The Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme is aimed at assisting seriously ill people who use home based life support systems by providing a rebate of up to approximately \$694 per annum for users of oxygen concentrators and a rebate of up to approximately \$465 per annum for users of kidney dialysis machines to meet their electricity costs. The concession is paid quarterly and is subject to the patient being medically assessed in accordance with Queensland Health eligibility criteria.

Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme

The Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme provides a rebate of up to approximately \$341 per annum for eligible concession card holders with a medical condition who have dependence on air conditioning to regulate body temperature.

Table A.2.3 Department of Education

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Textbook and Resource Allowance ¹	60.3	67.7
School Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities ²	42.2	45.8
Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme ²	7.4	7.5
Tuition Fee Exemptions/Waivers - Dependants of International Students ²	7.1	7.3
Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme ²	6.1	6.2
Dalby State High School - Bunya Campus Residential Facility	2.5	2.5
Spinifex State College - Mount Isa Student Residential Facility	1.1	1.1
Distance Education - Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme	0.9	0.9
Distance Education - Non-Government Student Fee Subsidy	0.7	0.7
Total	128.3	139.7
Notes:		
1. The variance is due to a combination of indexation and student enrolment growth due to the full cohort of students in 2020.		
2. The variance is due to indexation.		

Textbook and Resource Allowance

The Textbook and Resource Allowance is available for all parents/caregivers of secondary school age students attending State and non-government schools, and children registered in home education of equivalent age, to assist with the cost of textbooks and learning resources. Parents may sign over this allowance to the school to reduce the fees associated with participating in the school's Student Resource Scheme. In 2019, the rates per annum are \$127 for students in Years 7 to 10 and \$276 for students in Years 11 and 12.

School Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities

School Transport Assistance for Students with Disability is provided for eligible students to attend State school programs that meet their individual education needs. This assistance includes co-ordinated service delivery in taxis or specialised contracted minibuses, payment of fares on buses, ferries and trains, or an allowance for parents who drive their children to school or a transport point. The benefit level is to a maximum of \$400 per week, per student, however in exceptional circumstances higher amounts may be approved. A separate scheme is in place for students with disabilities attending non-government schools (refer 'Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme').

The COAG Disability Reform Council has agreed that states and territories will continue to deliver these services for National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants on an 'in kind' basis until the end of the 2023 school year. The Department of Education is working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR), the Australian Government, the National Disability Insurance Agency and other jurisdictions to develop viable national models for the delivery of school transport for students with disability under the NDIS.

Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme

The Living Away from Home Allowances Scheme provides financial assistance to support geographically isolated families. The scheme assists with the costs of children required to live away from home to attend school. This concession is available to Queensland students attending both state and non-state schools.

The benefits available for eligible students in 2019 are:

- Remote Area Tuition Allowance - assistance is available for primary students of up to \$3,808 per annum and for secondary students of up to \$5,483 per annum.
- Remote Area Travel Allowance - available where the distance from the family home to the boarding location is at least 50km. Benefit levels depend on the distance travelled, and range from \$144 to a maximum of \$1,756 per annum.
- Remote Area Allowance - assistance of \$2,394 per annum is available to students attending campuses of the Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges in lieu of Years 11 and 12.
- Remote Area Disability Supplement - available to students with disabilities who incur additional costs associated with living away from home to attend school. Benefits are up to \$7,789 per student per annum.

Tuition Fee Exemptions/Waivers - Dependants of International Students

International students who meet the approved exemption criteria and wish to enrol their child in Preparatory (Prep) Year to Year 12 of schooling are exempt from paying dependant tuition fees. The exemption only applies for the duration of the main temporary visa holder's (parent) course of study in Queensland. A dependant student (Prep to Year 12) of a temporary visa holder may also be eligible for a tuition fee waiver in certain circumstances, including financial hardship.

The estimated average amount exempted or waived per student is \$7,469 for the 2019-20 financial year.

Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme

The Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme assists families by providing funding towards the transport costs of students attending non-government schools outside of the Brisbane City Council area. Under the scheme, payments are provided for transport expenses above a set weekly threshold amount. In 2019, the weekly threshold is \$20 per family, or \$15 for families with a current Health Care, Pensioner or Veteran's Affairs Card.

The program also assists families of students with disabilities who attend a non-government school. The level of assistance provided is dependent on the type of transport needed and travel assistance already provided by the DTMR. For families using taxis, assistance is capped at \$300 per week.

The Department of Education is working with the DTMR and other jurisdictions to establish a long-term solution for the delivery of school transport for students with disability under the NDIS.

Dalby State High School - Bunya Campus Residential Facility

The Dalby State High School - Bunya Campus Residential Facility provides affordable residential accommodation for secondary school students in a boarding facility. The concession particularly targets secondary school students from rural and remote communities, however, any secondary age student is eligible. Students accommodated at the residential facility are enrolled at Dalby State High School and participate in agricultural education programs.

Spinifex State College - Mount Isa Student Residential Facility

The Spinifex State College - Mount Isa Student Residential Facility provides an affordable residential facility in Mount Isa for students from the North Western area of the state whose home community does not provide secondary schooling. The funding meets the cost of wages for the residential college, increasing the affordability of the accommodation rates charged to students.

Distance Education - Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme

The Distance Education - Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme provides assistance to students enrolled in a school of distance education that are geographically isolated or in the medical category.

The scheme provides \$250 per annum to assist with purchasing, replacing or upgrading computer hardware for students in the distance/geographically isolated and medical categories, and \$500 per annum to assist students in the distance/geographically isolated category to meet the costs of broadband Internet access and download charges for the home classroom. Eligible students also receive access to free software licences.

Distance Education - Non-Government Student Fee Subsidy

The Distance Education – Non-Government Student Fee Subsidy is available to students who are enrolled in non-government schools and also choose to access distance education subjects. It provides an average annual subsidy of approximately \$1,390 per distance education subject enrolment.

This subsidises approximately 50% of the total average cost per annum of providing a subject through distance education for non-government school student. The concession contributes towards the state continuing to make distance education available to non-government schools, ensuring the widest possible subject choice for students, while recovering a proportion of the teaching and overhead costs.

Table A.2.4 Department of Employment, Small Business and Training

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
User Choice - Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy ¹	187.0	199.0
Vocation Education and Training (VET) - Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy ¹	189.2	193.7
VET - Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy ¹	72.0	75.0
Travel and Accommodation Subsidy ¹	2.3	3.0
Total	450.5	470.7
Note:		
1. The variance is due to the anticipated increase in activity due to the demand driven nature of the programs.		

User Choice - Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy

The User Choice - Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy program provides government funding towards the costs of training and assessment for eligible Queensland apprentices and trainees or complementary pathways leading to apprenticeship and traineeship outcomes. The subsidy is available to public and private registered training organisations (pre-approved as pre-qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees to reduce the cost of required accredited, entry level training for apprentices and trainees. The program provides greater flexibility for apprentices, trainees and their employers to select a preferred registered training organisation and to negotiate the type of training to meet their specific needs.

The value of this subsidy for each qualification ranges from \$1,150 to \$50,720 depending on the eligibility and qualification subsidised. The average subsidy value is \$9,673.

Vocation Education and Training (VET) - Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy provides a government subsidy to allow eligible Queenslanders to obtain their first post-school Certificate III qualification to gain a job or to improve their employment status. The subsidy is available to private and public registered training organisations (pre-approved as pre-qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees paid by students undertaking eligible vocation education and training qualifications (primarily Certificate III qualifications).

The value of this subsidy for each qualification ranges from \$448 to \$6,400 depending on the eligibility and qualification subsidised. The average subsidy value is \$2,934.

VET - Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy

The VET Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy provides a government subsidy to eligible students and employers to undertake a priority Certificate IV, diploma or advanced diploma or industry endorsed skill set. This program will help individuals gain employment in a critical occupation, career advancement in a priority industry or transition to university to continue their studies. The subsidy is available to private and public registered training organisations (pre-approved as pre-qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees paid by students undertaking eligible vocational education and training qualifications at Certificate IV or above.

The value of this subsidy for each qualification ranges from \$1,130 to \$9,979 depending on the eligibility and qualification subsidised. The average subsidy value is \$4,041.

Travel and Accommodation Subsidy

The Travel and Accommodation Subsidy provides financial assistance to Queensland apprentices and trainees for travel expenses incurred in attending off the job training at a registered training organisation. To be eligible, apprentices must attend the closest registered training organisation that offers the required qualification and travel a minimum of 100 kilometres (km) return from their usual place of residence to the registered training organisation. The subsidy provides for:

- return land travel to the registered training organisation of 15 cents per km for distances between 100-649 km, increasing to 19 cents per km for distances between 650-1,400 km
- cost of ferry travel if necessary
- a return economy air ticket to the location of the registered training organisation if necessary
- accommodation assistance of \$28 per day for overnight stay within Queensland and \$68 for interstate travellers, if it is necessary to live away from their usual place of residence to attend training.

Table A.2.5 Department of Environment and Science

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Queensland Performing Arts Trust - Arts concessional entry fees ¹	4.2	3.0
Queensland Museum - Arts concessional entry fees ²	2.6	2.3
Queensland Art Gallery - Arts concessional entry fees ³	0.1	0.6
Arts Queensland - Discount on property lease rentals	0.7	0.6
Queensland Performing Arts Trust - Venue hire rebates	0.5	0.5
State Library of Queensland - Venue hire rebates	0.5	0.5
Arts Queensland - Venue hire rebates	0.2	0.3
Tour fee and access permit concessions	2.2	2.0
Total	11.0	9.8
Notes:		
1. Variance between published budget and estimated actual is due to an increase by Queensland Performing Arts Centre in the net investment of International Series events in 2018-19, thereby allowing more concessional tickets to be offered and greater than expected levels of activity compared to budget.		
2. Variance is mainly due to higher level of visitation as a result of programming and events, i.e. spaces being re-opened at Southbank campus, for example Sparklab that were not included in the original budget calculation. Reduction in next year's estimate is based on changes in programming in the current year.		
3. Increase in concessions in 2019-20 is due to a planned ticketed exhibition.		

Queensland Performing Arts Trust - Arts concessional entry fees

Concessional entry fees are offered for specific Queensland Performing Arts Trust productions and to provide support for other not for profit theatre companies to enable tickets to be sold at concessional prices. The level of concession provided varies depending on the number and size of events being held each year.

Queensland Museum - Arts concessional entry fees

Queensland Museum provides concessional entry fees to seniors, students, children, families and a variety of concession card holders for ticketed exhibitions at Queensland Museum and Sciencentre and for general entry to Cobb & Co Museum Toowoomba, The Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich and Museum of Tropical Queensland Townsville. Concessions are also provided to targeted groups, such as schools, to encourage visits to museums. The level of concession provided varies depending on the venue and the event.

Queensland Art Gallery - Arts concessional entry fees

Queensland Art Gallery's ticket prices are set to ensure that they are affordable and to maximise attendance, with additional concessions provided to seniors, students, children, families and a variety of concession card holders. The purpose of the Queensland Art Gallery Arts concessional entry fees concession is to contribute to the cultural, social and intellectual development of Queenslanders, and encourage diverse audiences.

Arts Queensland - Discount on property lease rentals

Property lease rentals are provided to arts and cultural organisations at a discount from market rental rates at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Festival House and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts. Discounts range from 20% to 100% of the market rate (dependent on location) of the commercial office space. Further discounts on specialist rehearsal and gallery space are given as negotiated at the time of entering the lease and dependent on the individual arts or cultural organisation and its funding.

Queensland Performing Arts Trust - Venue hire rebates

Venue hire rebates are offered to Government funded cultural organisations, charitable organisations, government departments and educational institutions. Organisations currently receiving discounts are Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Queensland, Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Ballet.

State Library of Queensland - Venue hire rebates

State Library of Queensland provides venue hire concessions to targeted community and non-profit groups including cultural and charitable organisations and educational institutions in order to support events and programs directly linked to State Library of Queensland's services, programs and activities.

Arts Queensland - Venue hire rebates

Venue hire rebates support Queensland Government funded arts organisations and professional artists to develop and present new work at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts.

Tour fee and access permit concessions

Admission and ranger guided tour fee concessions are available at several attractions for children, pensioners and educational purposes. Vehicle access permit concessions are available in the Cooloola Recreation Area, Moreton, Bribie and K'gari (Fraser) islands. Camping concessions are available in all national park and forest camping areas for educational purposes and children under five.

Table A.2.6 Department of Housing and Public Works

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Government managed housing rental rebate ¹	404.1	398.0
National Rental Affordability Scheme	29.3	29.9
Home Assist Secure	20.8	21.5
Non-residential buildings - subsidised rents	5.9	6.5
Rental Bond Loans	0.9	0.9
Queensland Recreation Centres - Concessional usage rates	0.3	0.3
Non-government managed housing ²
Total	461.3	457.1
Notes:		
1. The concession is estimated to decrease in 2019-20 due to a variation in the estimated amount of rent charges.		
2. The value of this concession arrangement cannot be easily quantified.		

Government managed housing rental rebate

The Government managed housing rental rebate targets low income families and individuals and represents the difference between the rents that would be payable in the private market and rent that is charged by Government based on household income.

Assistance is provided to approximately 53,700 households. The estimated average yearly subsidy per household for 2019-20 is \$7,416.

National Rental Affordability Scheme

The National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) is an Australian Government initiative, delivered in partnership with the Queensland Government, to increase the supply of new affordable rental housing. The scheme provides financial incentives to investors to build well located dwellings and rent them to eligible low to moderate income households, at a discounted rate at least 20% below market rent.

Under the scheme, the concession to the tenant is provided by the property owner. Due to the nature of the arrangement, the overall value of the concession to the tenant cannot be quantified. In 2019-20, the Government has allocated \$29.9 million for the payment of financial incentives to NRAS investors who are then required to discount rents to tenants.

Home Assist Secure

Home Assist Secure provides free safety related information and referrals, and subsidised assistance to eligible clients unable to undertake or pay for critical maintenance services without assistance. To be considered for assistance, home owners or tenants over the age of 60 or of any age with a disability must hold a Pensioner Concession Card and be unable to complete the work themselves. In addition, they must be unable to access assistance from other services. Labour costs (up to \$500 per household per year) for the assistance provided are subsidised by Home Assist Secure while the balance of the costs (including the materials) are met by the client.

Home Assist Secure targets home owners and those in rental housing who are over 60 years of age or have disability, and who require assistance to remain living in their home. In 2019-20, it is estimated that over 40,000 households will be assisted.

Non-residential buildings - subsidised rents

Accommodation is provided to 41 community, education, arts and not-for-profit organisations in Government owned non-residential buildings. Tenures for the occupancies are by way of leases, licences or month to month arrangements. Rents paid by the organisations are often below independently assessed market rent levels. Subsidised rental arrangements are provided to 25 properties comprising a total floor area of approximately 27,631 square metres. The total subsidy is calculated by deducting the actual amount paid by the occupants from the total estimated annual market rent for the office space.

Rental Bond Loans

The Government provides interest-free rental bond loans through two products, 1. Bond Loans: equivalent to a maximum amount of four weeks rent or 2. Bond Loan Plus: equivalent to a maximum amount of six weeks rent, to people who cannot afford to pay a full bond to move into private rental accommodation reducing the need for more costly, subsidised housing assistance. The interest free bond loan targets low-income households and can stabilise tenancies, prevent households from entering the cycle of homelessness and engaging with fringe, high interest credit providers. The concession represents the interest saving for the client on the bond loan. In 2019-20, \$28.5 million in bond loans and bond loan plus may be advanced to an estimated 22,000 clients.

Queensland Recreation Centres - Concessional usage rates

Concessional usage rates are offered to students and children 17 years and under, for the use of Queensland Recreation Centres, primarily at Currimundi and Tallebudgera. These concessional rates provide a discount between 3.25% to 18% of the full charge to approximately 31,000 recipients.

Non-government managed housing

The Government provides contributions to social housing providers, including capital grants, granted land or properties, or recurrent funding, to assist in increasing housing affordability and access to social housing. Due to the nature of the arrangement, the overall value of the concession provided by the Government cannot be easily quantified.

Rents charged for social housing managed by the providers are based on between 25% and 30% of a household's assessable income or the market rent, whichever is lower, which substantially reduces accommodation costs for eligible individuals and families. Many of these families may also be eligible for Commonwealth Rent Assistance to assist in the cost of their accommodation.

Table A.2.7 Department of Justice and Attorney-General

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Public Trustee of Queensland – Concessions	37.9	39.4
Court Services - Civil Court	24.4	26.4
Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal	19.3	21.8
Blue Card - Volunteer Applicants	10.5	11.0
Body Corporate and Community Management - Dispute Resolution	2.5	2.5
Office Liquor and Gaming Regulation - Rural Hotel Concessions	..	0.4
Total	94.6	101.5

Public Trustee of Queensland - Concessions

The Public Trustee of Queensland (the Public Trustee) is a self-funding organisation and uses a scale of fees which is designed to reflect a fair cost for the services provided.

The Public Trustee has established a safety net limit on the annual fees payable by certain clients which provides for a rebate of fees for some clients with limited assets. The rebate is applied to clients such as financial administration clients with impaired capacity, or estate administration clients of limited means. The Public Trustee also provides Will making services at no cost for all Queenslanders.

In addition, the Public Trustee provides funding to the Public Guardian and financial assistance under the Civil Law Legal Aid Scheme administered by Legal Aid Queensland, to enable these organisations to provide services to the people of Queensland.

Court Services - Civil Court

The Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts hear civil disputes between two or more parties (people or organisations) where one party sues the other, usually to obtain compensation, or seek some other remedy. These disputes may involve anything from defamation to outstanding debts. Civil Court Fees are prescribed under the *Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2009* for proceedings commenced in civil matters and are set below full cost recovery to ensure that civil remedies are accessible to all Queenslanders.

Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal

The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) is an independent tribunal which makes decisions and resolves disputes across a wide range of jurisdictions for the community. Fees for these services are set below cost recovery to ensure services are accessible, fair and inexpensive. QCAT provides human rights services with no application fees for matters in guardianship and administration of adults, children and young people and anti-discrimination.

Blue Card - Volunteer Applicants

Individuals providing child-related services or conducting child-related activities in regulated service environments are required to undergo an assessment of their police and relevant disciplinary information, and if approved, are issued with a blue card. A blue card is valid for three years unless cancelled or suspended earlier. Since the inception of the blue card system in 2001, Government has met the cost of blue card assessment for volunteer applicants.

Body Corporate and Community Management - Dispute Resolution

The Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management provides a dispute resolution service to parties unable to resolve disputes themselves. The service consists of conciliation, with the aim of achieving a voluntary agreement, and adjudication, which results in a formal order. The service is delivered below full cost recovery so as to not restrict access to justice due to affordability reasons. The commissioner has the discretion to waive application fees on the grounds of financial hardship.

Office Liquor and Gaming Regulation - Rural Hotel Concessions

The Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation licenses hotels and clubs under the *Liquor Act 1992*. Under the *Liquor (Rural Hotels Concession) Amendment Act 2019*, the Rural Hotels Concession provides licence fee relief to establishments in remote communities by reducing the base licence fees for hotels and community clubs with no more than 2,000 members for eligible licences from July 2019.

Table A.2.8 Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems) ¹	413.5	440.3
Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems ¹	48.3	57.9
Powering Queensland Plan Electricity Affordability Package ²	259.2	247.6
Affordable Energy Plan - Energy Savers Program ³	0.7	14.8
Affordable Energy Plan - Solar & Storage Interest Free Loans Scheme	4.6	4.8
Affordable Energy Plan - Energy Savvy Families ⁴	2.5	1.4
Extending existing drought relief arrangements - Water Licence Fee Waiver and Land Rental Rebates	4.2	4.2
Origin Energy - Uniform Tariff Policy	2.8	2.8
Solar for Rental Property Rebate ⁵	0.3	2.7
Sunwater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy	2.1	2.2
Cloncurry Pipeline Water Supply Subsidy	5.9	6.3
Extending existing drought relief arrangements - Electricity Charge Scheme ⁶	9.3	15.0
Seqwater Bulk Water Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy	2.1	2.2
Total	755.5	802.2
Notes:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> For 2019–20, the increase in the community service obligation (CSO) largely relates to an increase in Ergon Energy’s distribution charges relative to Energex’s charges. All CSO payments are agreed by both parties prior to execution of the CSO Deed. This means that DNRME must be in agreement with the assumptions applied. The annual CSO payment for 2019-20 is higher than the 2018-19 CSO payment because the consumption volume assumed for 2019-20 is higher than 2018-19. Financing of the Solar Bonus Scheme was moved from electricity distribution network prices to the state budget from 1 July 2017 for three years until 30 June 2020, as part of the Powering Queensland Plan. The government will make a decision about the ongoing costs of the Solar Bonus Scheme closer to when this current commitment will end. The variance between the 2018-19 estimated actual and 2019-20 budget is due to the transfer of \$12.5 million in 2018-19 to QRIDA from DNRME. This was to support program administration of the application for grant funds under the Affordable Energy Plan - Energy Savers program. The remainder estimated actual relates to the delivery of free energy audits under the program. Delivery of goods and services to the value of the outstanding expenditure are already substantively delivered, and anticipated to be completely delivered and the department invoiced by the end of the financial year. This project was launched on 5 March 2019. The increase from 2018-19 estimated actuals to 2019-20 budget is due to the expected uptake of the solar for rental property rebate. Expenditure is dependent on the number of registered eligible parties in drought declared areas seeking a rebate for fixed charges of their electricity accounts. This includes annual fixed charges under Tariff 66, service fees and minimum payments. The arrangement only applies to electricity used to pump water for farm or irrigation purposes. 		

Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems)

The Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems) ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non-market electricity customers of a similar type pay a similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. As the notified prices do not reflect the full cost of electricity supply for most remote and regional Queenslanders, a subsidy is provided. The community service obligation (CSO) payment to the regional retailer Energy Queensland covers the difference between the revenue earned by charging customers notified prices and the actual costs in the regional areas (due to differences in network costs and energy losses).

Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems

The Energy Queensland - Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non-market electricity customers of a similar type pay a similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. Energy Queensland owns and operates 33 isolated power stations which supply electricity to remote and isolated Queensland communities. Energy Queensland retails electricity to these customers at the notified prices, and the Government provides funding to the retailer to cover the difference between the revenue earned and the cost of supplying electricity to these customers.

Powering Queensland Plan – Electricity Affordability Package

The Powering Queensland Plan provided one-off funding in 2016-17 of \$771 million to support the stabilisation of electricity prices for Queensland consumers, by funding the removal of costs of the Solar Bonus Scheme from electricity prices for three years from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2020, and directing Energy Queensland to remove costs from network charges. This has placed downward pressure on electricity prices, with an average saving of \$51 for households and \$90 for small businesses, compared with the increase which would have occurred in 2017-18, without Government intervention. It is estimated that the benefit to Queenslanders in 2019-20 as a result of this measure will be \$247.6 million.

Affordable Energy Plan - Energy Savers Program

The \$20 million Business Energy Savers Program, an initiative under the Affordable Energy Plan, provides free energy audits for agricultural customers and large business customers, and co-contributions to fund energy efficiency upgrades. It includes a three year extension of the existing Energy Savers Plus Program (for agricultural businesses) and the Large Customer Adjustment Program (for large electricity users).

Under the expanded Energy Savers Plus Program, up to 200 additional audits for agricultural customers will be completed. In addition to this, co-contribution grants of up to \$20,000 will be made available to assist businesses in implementing the recommendations from the audit.

Under the expanded Large Customer Adjustment Program up to 30 additional audits of large customers will be completed and 50% co-contributions, capped at up to \$250,000, will be made available to help encourage the business to implement the audit recommendations.

Affordable Energy Plan - Solar & Storage Interest Free Loans Scheme

This scheme is designed to assist households and small businesses address electricity affordability by providing upfront capital to those who otherwise would not have access to funds to invest in rooftop solar and battery energy storage technology.

Affordable Energy Plan - Energy Savvy Families

Under this plan, \$4 million has been provided over three years to enable the provision of digital electricity meters as well as providing educational material and information to low income families in regional Queensland to help them better understand and manage their energy use.

Extending existing drought relief arrangements - Water Licence Fee Waiver and Land Rental Rebates

As part of the Government's drought assistance package, the annual water licence fee of \$82 will be waived for 2019-20 for landholders in Local Government Areas (LGA) that are drought declared and other properties that are individually drought declared. The estimate is dependent on drought declarations and the demand for drought assistance.

Category 11 Grazing and Primary Production landholders under the Land Act 1994 will also be eligible to a rent rebate in 2019-20. The rebate is available to lessees, other than those on minimum rent that are in a drought declared LGA and to individually drought declared properties. In addition to this rebate, drought declared landholders will be granted a hardship deferral for required rent payments.

Origin Energy - Uniform Tariff Policy

The Origin Energy - Uniform Tariff Policy ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non-market electricity customers of a similar type pay the similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. Origin Energy retails electricity to approximately 5,450 Queensland non-market customers in the Goondiwindi, Texas and Inglewood areas who are supplied electricity through the New South Wales (NSW) Essential Energy distribution network.

The Government provides a rebate to these customers, via a CSO payment to Origin Energy, to ensure they pay no more for electricity than similar customers in Queensland. Therefore, the CSO amount depends on the relative difference between Queensland and New South Wales retail electricity tariffs for non-market customers.

Solar for Rental Property Rebate

The \$3.58 million solar for rentals trial is an initiative of the government's affordable energy plan. It aims to help landlords and tenants share the value of installing solar systems. As part of the trial, around 1,000 rebates of up to \$3,500 are available for eligible landlords to install solar and monitoring at their rental properties in the Bundaberg, Gladstone and Townsville local government areas.

Sunwater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy

Sunwater owns and operates water supply schemes across regional Queensland. As the owner of Sunwater, the Government decides how much to recover of Sunwater's costs through irrigation prices. Currently, Sunwater's irrigation water prices for some schemes are set below the level necessary to recover the cost of supplying water to the irrigators.

Government funding is provided to Sunwater to offset the reduced revenue and to ensure that increases in water prices paid by rural irrigation customers to recover costs are gradual.

Cloncurry Pipeline Water Supply Subsidy

North West Queensland Water Pipeline Limited (NWQWP), a Sunwater Limited (Sunwater) subsidiary, owns and operates the Cloncurry Pipeline between the Ernest Henry Mine and Cloncurry. The pipeline guarantees Cloncurry Shire Council's long-term water supply and supports industrial development in the region. As the construction and operation of the Cloncurry Water Pipeline is a non-commercial investment, the Government provides funding to NWQWP to ensure that Sunwater receives a return on its investment in the pipeline.

Extending existing drought relief arrangements - Electricity Charge Scheme

Drought Relief Arrangements provide relief to farming customers from fixed charges for electricity accounts that are used to pump water for farm or irrigation purposes during periods of drought. The concessions can vary depending on the shires that are drought declared and the number of eligible customers.

Seqwater Bulk Water Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy

Seqwater owns and operates water supply schemes across South East Queensland which also supply bulk water services to rural irrigation customers. Currently Seqwater's rural irrigation prices for some schemes are set below the level necessary to recover the cost of supplying water to the irrigators. Government funding is provided to Seqwater to offset the reduced revenue and to ensure that increases in water prices paid by rural irrigation customers to recover costs are gradual.

Table A.2.9 Department of Transport and Main Roads

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland) ¹	1,433.3	1,410.5
Rail Network and Infrastructure Funding	684.6	700.4
General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland)	256.1	270.7
Vehicle and boat registration concessions ²	175.9	185.1
School Transport Assistance Scheme	137.1	139.0
TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)	78.4	83.4
Rail Concession Scheme	37.4	38.5
Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts	37.2	37.4
Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies	27.2	25.4
Mount Isa Line Below Rail subsidy	..	20.0
Practical Driving Test	3.8	3.9
Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders	3.8	3.9
Total	2,874.8	2,918.2
Notes:		
1. The decrease is due to the continuing negotiations for a new contract with Transport for Brisbane (TfB) and an increase in fare revenue.		
2. The increase is due to the increasing number of vehicles and boats becoming eligible for concessions as the population ages and the value of the concession.		

General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)

The General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland) represents the direct funding contribution that Government makes towards the cost of operating public transport services within South East Queensland. This contribution effectively reduces the ticket price paid by all public transport users on bus, rail and ferry services, increasing the affordability of these services.

Rail Network and Infrastructure Funding

Rail network and infrastructure funding ensures that the State supported rail network is safe, reliable and fit for purpose. The contract also provides funding to Queensland Rail to support major capital projects and related asset strategies. The funding provided via this contract directly benefits customers of the State supported rail network, including both freight and passengers. Without this funding, rail access charges (including public transport fares) would be significantly higher for all users of the rail network.

General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland)

The General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland) represents the financial contribution that Government provides across a range of transport services in regional Queensland. The impact of this contribution benefits all public transport users through reduced transport fares. This concession covers:

- TravelTrain (excluding the 'Rail Concession Scheme' for eligible pensioners, veterans and seniors)
- subsidies for Kuranda Scenic Railway
- subsidies for Heritage Rail Services
- subsidies for regional bus and ferry operators (excluding concessional top up amounts and School Transport Assistance Scheme related amounts)
- subsidies for the Rail XPT Service (Sydney-Brisbane) and Savannahlander (Atherton Tableland)
- subsidies for air services to remote and rural communities within the State
- subsidies for long distance coach services to rural/remote communities within the State.

Vehicle and boat registration concessions

Registration concessions for light and heavy motor vehicles and recreational boats are provided to holders of the Pensioner Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card and to those assessed by the Department of Veterans' Affairs as meeting the necessary degree of incapacity or impairment. The concession is aimed at improving access to travel for pensioners, seniors and persons with a disability by providing a reduced rate of registration fees. For most eligible card holders, a concession for a family 4-cylinder vehicle would reduce the 12 month registration charge from \$328.60 to \$164.30. For a recreational boat, up to and including 4.5 metres in length, the concession reduces the registration charge from \$88.70 to \$44.35 (based on registration charges at 1 July 2019).

A Special Interest Vehicle (SIV) registration concession is offered for motor vehicles that have low use associated with vintage and historic and street rod car club events. A 12 month registration for a 6-cylinder SIV concession reduces registration from \$520.30 to \$92.60. A concession is also available for specific purposes such as water, mineral or oil exploration and bee keeping. Other motor vehicle registration concessions are also provided to primary producers, local governments, charitable and community service organisations, and people living in remote areas without access to the wider road network. Other vessel registration concessions may be provided to accredited surf lifesaving clubs and schools.

School Transport Assistance Scheme

The School Transport Assistance Scheme assists students that do not have a school in their local area or who are from defined low income groups with travel costs. The scheme provides funding to reduce the cost of travelling to school on bus, rail and/or ferry services, with allowances for private vehicle transport in certain circumstances. A typical concession would be to fully fund the cost of travel from home to the nearest State primary or high school where no local primary or high school is available (for example, from Bargara to Bundaberg High School).

TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)

The TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland) are provided by the Government to ensure access and mobility for Queenslanders who require assistance because of age, disability or fixed low income. Passengers entitled to receive public transport concessions include holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, Seniors Card (all states and territories), Companion Card, Vision Impairment Travel Pass, Total Permanent Incapacitated (TPI) Veteran Travel Pass, children, secondary and tertiary students, Newstart and Youth Allowance (Job Seeker) recipients, asylum seekers and White Card Holders. Under the new 2019 fares, for a peak one zone journey using a go card, the concession will reduce an adult fare from \$3.31 to \$1.66.

Rail Concession Scheme

The Queensland Rail Concession Scheme improves the affordability of long distance and urban rail services for eligible pensioners, veterans, seniors and current/past rail employees with 25 years of service. Assistance for long distance rail services is provided through discounted fares and free travel vouchers. For TravelTrain (long distance rail) services, depending on the service, the concession may be for free travel for up to four trips per year for Queensland pensioners (subject to availability of seats and payment of an administration fee).

Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts

The Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts provide funding to support the movement of cattle (via rail only) and freight (via road and rail) to and from regional areas of Queensland. The funding provided directly benefits the cattle industry and enables regional Queensland communities to maintain employment and directly benefits those communities who are reliant on rail freight services by reducing the cost of these freight services for users.

Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies

Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies are provided by the Government to ensure access and mobility for Queenslanders who require assistance because of age, disability or fixed low income. Passengers entitled to receive public transport concessions include holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, Seniors Card (all states and territories), Companion Card, Vision Impairment Travel Pass, TPI Veteran Travel Pass, children, secondary and tertiary students, Newstart and Youth Allowance (Job Seeker) recipients, asylum seekers and White Card holders. The Taxi Subsidy Scheme aims to improve the mobility of persons with severe disabilities by providing a 50% concession fare up to a maximum subsidy of \$25 per trip.

Practical Driving Test

As part of the State's driver licensing arrangements, applicants for new licences are required to undertake a practical driving test. The total cost to pre-book driver examinations and to perform the practical driver assessment is not fully recovered by the fee charged (\$53.82 (ex GST) as at 1 July 2019), providing a direct concession to applicants.

Mount Isa Line Below Rail Subsidy

In recognition of the importance the Mount Isa Line plays in facilitating the transportation of the freight task from pit to port, the Queensland Government will introduce a \$20M per annum Transport Services Contract payment for this freight line.

This payment will be to reduce below rail access costs for users and further promote rail for freight, as well as support continued development of the North West Minerals Province.

Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders

Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders allows visitors from interstate, who hold a state or territory Seniors Card, to access public transport concessions within Queensland and is fully funded by the Queensland Government.

Table A.2.10 Queensland Fire and Emergency Services

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Emergency Management Levy Concession	9.9	10.3
Total	9.9	10.3

Emergency Management Levy Concession

The Emergency Management Levy applies to all prescribed properties within Queensland. The levy provides a funding base for emergency services including emergency management, fire and rescue services. Owners of prescribed properties who are in receipt of an Australian Government pension are eligible to receive a discount of 20% on the levy payable for a property that is their principal place of residence. In addition, community organisation owners of specified properties are exempt from payment of the levy.

Table A.2.11 Queensland Health

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Oral Health Scheme	163.6	163.6
Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme	90.2	92.5
Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme ¹	35.9	27.4
Spectacle Supply Scheme	9.3	9.3
Community Aids Equipment, Assistive Technologies Initiative and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme ²	9.0	..
Total	308.0	292.8
Notes:		
1. The 2019-20 estimate is lower than the 2018-19 estimated actual as funding of activity for NDIS eligible applicants is transferred to the NDIS.		
2. CAEATI and VOSS stopped receiving applications from 1 October 2018 in preparation of full transition of clients to the NDIS.		

Oral Health Scheme

The Oral Health Scheme provides free dental care to eligible clients and their dependants who possess a current Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card or Commonwealth Seniors Card. The average value of a course of treatment for eligible clients is approximately \$600 for general care, \$1,600 for treatment involving dentures, and \$250 for emergency dental care. In rural and remote areas where no private dental practitioner exists, access to dental care for the general public is provided at a concessional rate, generally 15% to 20% less than average private dental fees.

Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) provides financial assistance to patients travelling for specialist medical services that are not available locally. The PTSS provides a financial subsidy toward the cost of travel and accommodation for patients and, in some cases, an approved escort when patients are required to travel more than 50 kilometres from their nearest public hospital or public health facility to access specialist medical services.

Patients receive fully subsidised commercial transport for the most clinically appropriate cost-effective mode or will be subsidised at the economy/government discount rate (less GST). A mileage subsidy rate of 30 cents per kilometre is paid where patients travel by private car. Accommodation subsidies are \$60 per person per night, for the patient and approved escort if they stay in commercial accommodation, or a subsidy of \$10 per person per night if staying with family or friends.

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme

The Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS) provides access to subsidy funding assistance for the provision of a range of aids and equipment to eligible Queensland residents with permanent and established conditions or disabilities. Aids and equipment are provided primarily to assist people to live at home therefore avoiding premature or inappropriate residential care or hospitalisation.

Subsidies vary based on service category and clinical criteria and are provided to assist with the costs of communication aids, continence aids, daily living aids, medical grade footwear, mobility aids, orthoses and oxygen. The scheme provided over 63,000 occasions of service to approximately 54,000 clients during 2018-19.

The NDIS is currently being rolled out in Queensland. MASS clients who are NDIS eligible are being transitioned to the scheme with associated funding progressively cashed out to the NDIS. As the NDIS is rolled out, it is assuming responsibility for the provision of necessary supports for eligible Queenslanders, including medical aids and equipment. The transition point from state funded to NDIS is the implementation of an NDIS plan or when an area has been classified as fully transitioned.

Spectacle Supply Scheme

The Spectacle Supply Scheme provides eligible Queensland residents with free access to a comprehensive range of basic spectacles every two years including bifocals and trifocals. Applicants must be holders of eligible concession cards and be deemed by a prescriber to have a clinical need for spectacles.

The scheme provides around 82,000 items each year to approximately 72,000 clients (some clients require more than one pair of spectacles due to clinical need). The average cost of services provided to applicants is approximately \$114.60 per item, including the costs of administering the scheme through the Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme.

Community Aids Equipment, Assistive Technologies Initiative and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme

The Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative (CAEATI) and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme (VOSS) provide financial assistance to eligible Queensland residents to support them to be more independent, participate further in social and economic opportunities in the community and contribute to a better quality of life.

CAEATI funding is capped at \$10,000 per client over a three-year period. CAEATI includes aids, equipment and assistive technologies for postural support, communication support, community mobility and active participation.

VOSS funding is capped at \$10,000 per client over a five-year period. VOSS provides subsidies for a range of vehicle access options, including the subsidy of driving lessons on a suitably modified vehicle, modifications to a vehicle, purchase of a suitably modified vehicle or vehicle suitable for modification.

To receive funding through either of these schemes, an individual must be assessed as eligible for specialist disability support under the Disability Support Act 2006. Queensland resident eligibility is determined during the intake process, and confirmed as part of the assessment process.

The NDIS is currently being rolled out in Queensland. CAEATI and VOSS clients who are NDIS eligible are being transitioned to the scheme with associated funding progressively cashed out to the NDIS.

CAEATI and VOSS stopped receiving applications from 1 October 2018 in preparation of full transition of clients to the NDIS.

A.3 Concessions by entity – Government-owned corporations

Table A.3.1 Energy Queensland

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Regulated Service Charges – Energex	17.8	17.0
Regulated Service Charges – Ergon Energy	7.8	8.5
Total	25.6	25.5

Regulated Service Charges - Energex

Under Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006*, charges for a range of services provided by Energex Limited (Energex) to energy retailers, for example disconnection and reconnection of supply, are capped. The maximum amount Energex is able to charge for these services is, on average, less than the value which the Australian Energy Regulator ascribes to the provision of these services by Energex, resulting in a concession provided to energy retailers and in turn, to households.

Regulated Service Charges – Ergon Energy

Under Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006*, service charges for a range of services provided by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (Ergon Energy) to energy retailers, for example disconnection and reconnection of supply, are capped. The maximum amount Ergon Energy is able to charge for these services is, on average, less than the value which the Australian Energy Regulator ascribes to the provision of these services by Ergon Energy, resulting in a concession provided to energy retailers and in turn, to households.

Table A.3.2 Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Concessional Port Charges	43.7	42.9
Total	43.7	42.9

Concessional Port Charges

The Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited (GPC) is subject to a number of long-term major industry contracts where port charges are significantly lower than market rates. These historical contracts were entered into to support various industries and government initiatives from time to time. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by GPC as a result of being unable to charge commercial rates.

Table A.3.3 Sunwater Limited

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Water Supply Contracts	49.4	50.2
Total	49.4	50.2

Water Supply Contracts

Sunwater Limited has a number of historic non-commercial water supply contracts that benefit specific entities (including local governments). The amount shown represents the difference between the estimated revenue under these contracts and that which could be recovered under a full cost allocation model. Sunwater is continuing to work together with stakeholders to agree new arrangements for water supply.

Table A.3.4 Concessional Leases (Industry, Commercial and Community) by entity

Concession	2018-19 Est. Act. \$ million	2019-20 Estimate \$ million
Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited	0.9	0.8
Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited	3.3	2.9
North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited	1.7	1.7
Port of Townsville Limited	5.9	6.0
Queensland Rail Limited	1.9	2.0
Total	13.7	13.4

Concessional Leases (Industry, Commercial and Community)

The above government-owned corporation entities provide leases to various community organisations, local councils, Government departments and industry participants at below commercial rates. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.