



REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

CREATING JOBS FOR FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

The Queensland Budget will directly support job creation in the Far North Queensland region with significant expenditure including:

Infrastructure

\$1.184B

for productivity-enhancing infrastructure and capital works, estimated to support around **4,000 jobs** in this region in 2020-21.

Health

\$1.3B

for Torres and Cape, and Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Services.

Education

\$82.9M

to maintain, improve and upgrade schools in Far North Queensland.

The Far North Queensland region will also benefit from:

Social housing

\$147.7M

in 2020-21 to expand and improve social housing, including \$9.2 million Works for Tradies Initiative, contributing to Queensland's economic recovery.

COVID Works for Queensland

\$36.7M

total spend to support the delivery of job creating new infrastructure, maintenance or minor works as part of the Queensland Government's Economic Recovery Plan.

Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program

\$12.3M

to protect environmental and Indigenous cultural heritage values in Queensland, and engage indigenous youth in school and training providing pathways to ranger careers.

Delivering for the Far North Queensland region

Back to Work

\$46.9 million of payments have been paid to 2,043 employers to employ 4,546 eligible unemployed jobseekers.

(July 2016 to November 2020)

Building our Regions

\$60 million allocated to 66 projects in Far North Queensland to assist local councils to deliver critical infrastructure and support 413 jobs during construction.

(March 2015 to October 2020)

Recovery and resilience against natural disasters

An estimated \$87.7 million for the provision of financial assistance for capital and resilience works to disaster affected communities in 2020-21.

Works for Queensland

\$152.1 million provided to regional councils to undertake 437 job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects in Far North Queensland.

(February 2017 to November 2020)

Restoring frontline services for Far North Queensland

(March 2015 to September 2020)



603 extra nurses, up 27.5%



214 extra doctors, up 44.8%



212 extra teachers, up 7%



117 extra police officers, up 14.8%



CREATING JOBS FOR Far North Queensland

1 Tagai State College - Warraber Campus
\$120,000 in 2020-21 to build a new outdoor play space for the kindergarten at the Tagai State College, Warraber campus.

2 Moa Arts grant
\$45,000 in 2020-21 to Moa Arts through the Indigenous Arts Centre Uplift program.

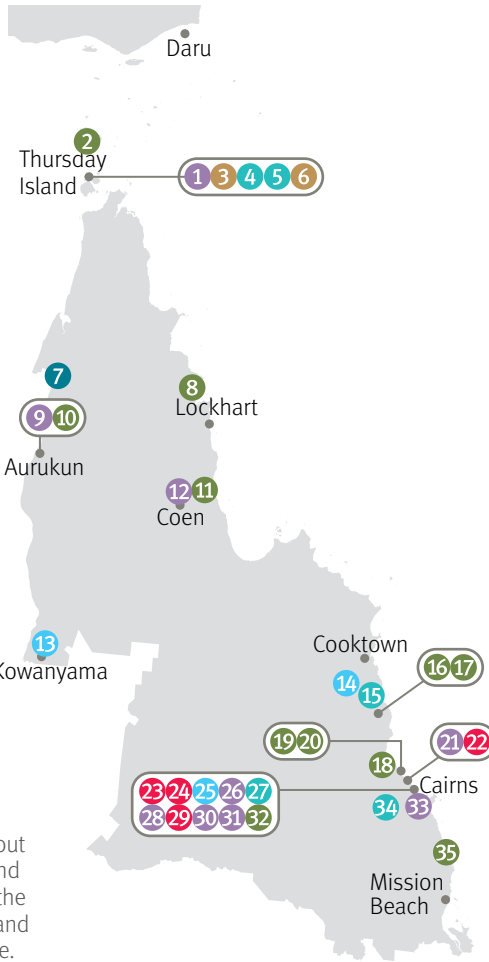
3 Thursday Island Community Centre
\$2.6 million in 2020-21 out of a \$5.5 million total spend to design and construct a neighbourhood centre to support the Thursday Island community.

4 Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service
\$5.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$17 million total spend for construction projects to improve facilities across the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service.

5 Thursday Island Health Facility
\$6.8 million in 2020-21 out of a \$46 million total spend for the redevelopment of the Thursday Island Hospital and Primary Health Care Centre.

6 Horn Island Splash Park
\$2.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$3 million total spend to build a splash park on Horn Island, contributing to positive recreation activities and community connections for families and young people.

7 Napranum lighting improvements project
\$49,094 in 2020-21 out of a \$148,500 total spend to repair 70 street lights and extend lighting along Napranum Road to improve lighting and public safety.



8 Lockhart River Sport
\$92,554 in 2020-21 out of a \$132,220 total spend to Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council to redevelop the existing football field to support multi-sport use at Lockhart River.

9 Aurukun State School
\$3 million in 2020-21 to replace the administration block.

10 Aurukun Community Facilities Access Upgrade Project
\$31,738 in 2020-21 out of a \$96,000 total spend to construct pathways to amenities at the Sports Precinct, amenities at the new cemetery and a disability ramp at the Indigenous Knowledge Centre.

11 Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program
\$240,000 in 2020-21 to protect environmental and Indigenous cultural heritage values in Port Stewart.

12 Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy
\$1.1 million in 2020-21 to replace the existing amenities block at the Coen Campus.

13 Kowanyama canteen and cafe refurbishment
\$312,975 in 2020-21 out of a \$946,688 total spend to upgrade the community's only canteen and cafe to ensure compliance with food licensing and workplace health and safety requirements to remain a place for community connections.

14 Gateway to the Cape - Tourist Information Centre and Interactive Sculpture Park
\$150,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$998,000 total spend to deliver a tourist information centre and interactive sculpture park, providing an avenue for the promotion of Cape York businesses and organisations.

15 Wujal Wujal Primary Health Care Centre
\$1.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$2.7 million total spend for construction projects to improve facilities at the Wujal Wujal Primary Health Care Centre site.

16 Daintree National Park facilities access upgrade
\$180,000 in 2020-21 to replace existing ramp access for three toilets in northern Daintree National Park.

17 Douglas Shire Council Comingled Recycling Project
\$131,000 in 2020-21 to support Douglas Shire Council transport co-mingled recycling from Douglas to South East Queensland for processing.

18 Douglas and Mareeba Splash Parks
\$3 million in 2020-21 to deliver new splash parks for the Douglas and Mareeba shires.

19 Wangetti Trail
\$9.2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$41.4 million total spend for a 94 kilometre walking/mountain biking trail from Palm Cove to Port Douglas, with public and eco-accommodation facilities. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

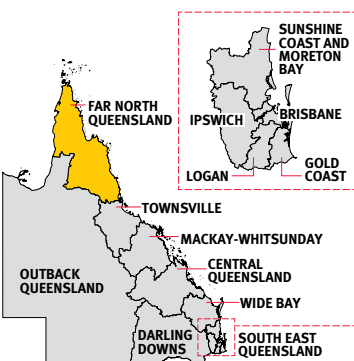
20 Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club
\$1.5 million in 2020-21 to the Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club towards essential sewerage and water service upgrades.

21 Tropical North Learning Academy - Smithfield State High School
\$14.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$17.3 million total spend for STEM building and athlete development and performing arts, sports centre and additional classrooms.

22 Smithfield Bypass, construct bypass to a sealed standard
\$42.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$164 million total spend to construct bypass route continuity on the Captain Cook Highway between McGregor Road roundabout and Caravonica roundabout.

23 Cairns Ring Road (Cairns CBD to Smithfield), construct additional lanes
\$2.9 million in 2020-21 out of a \$359 million total spend to increase capacity of the Captain Cook Highway between the Bruce Highway to the Kennedy Highway. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

24 Cairns Western Arterial Road, Redlynch Connector Road and Kamerunga Road
\$60 million to duplicate the Cairns Western Arterial Road between Redlynch Connector Road and Kamerunga Road.



25 **Advanced Fibre Composites Maintenance and Repair Facility**

\$100,000 in 2020-21 for Cairns Aviation Skills Centre to develop a business case for an advanced fibre composites maintenance and repair facility at Cairns Airport.

26 **Edge Hill State School**

\$5.2 million in 2020-21 to renew the administration building for school and student support hub.

27 **Cairns Hospital**

\$27 million in 2020-21 out of a \$129.8 million total spend for construction projects to improve facilities at the Cairns Hospital site, including a new Mental Health Unit and expansion of the Emergency Department.

28 **Cairns State High School**

\$5.8 million in 2020-21 out of a \$10 million total spend to construct a new multi-purpose sports hall and refurbish a teaching block.

29 **Port of Cairns projects**

\$5.3 million to complete the Cairns Shipping Development Project in 2020-21 and \$2.5 million for Tingira St Precinct development.

30 **Advanced Manufacturing Hub and Cyber Security Training Operation Centre**

\$5.6 million to develop a new Advanced Manufacturing Hub and new Cyber Security Training Operations Centre at Cairns TAFE.

31 **Trinity Bay State High School**

\$1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$13.5 million total spend over four years to refurbish industrial technology and design facilities and to construct a new performing arts centre.

32 **Cairns Convention Centre expansion and refurbishment**

\$85 million in 2020-21 out of a \$176 million total spend towards the refurbishment and expansion of the Cairns Convention Centre to capitalise on the national and international convention markets.

KEY	
	Community wellbeing
	Utilities
	Health
	Education
	Transport and roads
	Justice and safety
	Government services
	Recreation and culture
	Statewide/region-wide
	Relates to election commitment

33 **Woree State High School**

\$980,000 over three years to upgrade the Design Technology Lab, enabling prototype design, testing and 3D printing.

34 **Atherton Hospital**

\$21.9 million in 2020-21 out of a \$83.1 million total spend for construction projects to improve facilities at the Atherton Hospital site, including the redevelopment of the Hospital.

35 **Etty Bay Surf Life Saving Club - new roof**

\$114,000 in 2020-21 to the Etty Bay Surf Life Saving Club for a new roof.

36 **Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund 2020**

\$7.2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$9.9 million total spend to build new tourism infrastructure to help accelerate the State's recovery from COVID-19 under the Strategy: Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs. Delivered in partnership with the private sector.

Please note: Not all Government expenditure for the region is shown. Dollar amounts may include capital and operating expenditure, though may not represent the entire funding allocated.

To see more Palaszczuk Government initiatives visit budget.qld.gov.au

Cairns Marine Precinct to support economic diversification

The Queensland Government will invest \$30 million to upgrade the Cairns Marine Precinct and fund a business case for the future development of the precinct. The upgrade includes two new wharves for the Port of Cairns.

This funding will deliver 150 new jobs during construction, pay for an upgrade of services and expand Cairns' capacity to carry out in-water maintenance on vessels used by the Australian Defence Force and Border Force.

The Queensland Government is working in partnership with Ports North to deliver this infrastructure upgrade. The Precinct may require total capital infrastructure expenditure of up to \$150 million and future contributions from the Australian Government will be sought.

The Queensland Government is also investigating the potential reshoring of commercial vessel manufacture required for servicing the region, which has the potential to support local economic activity and create employment. This work will inform the business case and will also assess the feasibility of capitalising on the existing skilled workforce, contractor base and infrastructure within the Cairns Marine Precinct, which has a legacy of significant ship building over many years.



Transforming Cairns Hospital into a university hospital with research centre

Queensland Health is investing \$67.9 million to kickstart the transformation of Cairns Hospital into a university hospital for the city, including \$15 million to acquire land for a research, education and innovation precinct, fully integrated with the hospital.

Working in partnership with James Cook University, this investment will provide better health care for the Far North and attract the future generation of health professionals to Cairns. The Cairns Hospital will get an expanded emergency department and a new endoscopy suite and operating theatre, helping to meet the health needs of a growing and ageing population. These upgrades will deliver world-class health facilities for the region and support a further 150 construction jobs to underpin our economic recovery.

BUDGET 2020–21 AT A GLANCE

Jobs supported by infrastructure investment in 2020–21	46,000
Total infrastructure program over four years	\$56B
Percentage of capital spend outside Greater Brisbane	58%
Total spend on road and transport infrastructure in 2020–21	\$6.3B
COVID-19 economic stimulus measures to date	\$7B
Education and training in 2020–21	\$17.5B
Health in 2020–21	\$21.8B
Concessions and lowering the cost of living	\$6.3B
Building trains in Queensland over 10 years	\$1B
Social housing improvements in 2020–21	\$526.2M

Tax Relief Package

The Government provided significant tax relief to support Queensland businesses, landlords, tenants, pubs and clubs, including:

- Payroll tax refunds, waivers and deferrals for eligible businesses, targeted at small to medium businesses
- A payroll tax exemption for wages subsidised by the JobKeeper payment
- Land tax rebates, waivers and deferrals for eligible taxpayers.

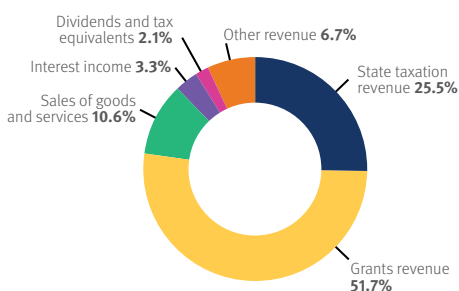
An estimated 340 businesses in Far North Queensland will also benefit in 2020-21 from the higher payroll tax threshold.

STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS

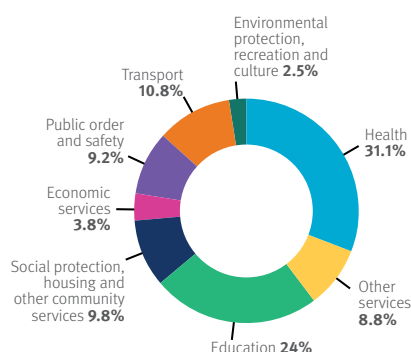
This Budget is focused on creating jobs and getting our economy moving sooner. Initiatives include:

- Driving the largest infrastructure program in over a decade - \$14.8 billion in 2020–21, directly supporting 46,000 jobs. Around 58% of the capital program and 28,700 of the jobs supported will be outside the Greater Brisbane area.
- Growing our regions and supporting key industries such as tourism, agriculture and mining. An additional \$200 million will be provided to the Works for Queensland program to support local governments outside South East Queensland.
- Enhancing frontline services. The Budget will support funding for additional frontline health staff including 5,800 nurses, 1,500 doctors and 1,700 allied health professionals through to 2024.
- Providing more Queenslanders with access to the skills and training they need for rewarding careers. \$100 million has been provided over three years to upgrade TAFE campuses.
- Backing small businesses to support jobs and communities. More than \$7 billion in COVID-19 stimulus measures have been provided so far, including reducing business costs through payroll tax relief and other tax relief measures, and accelerating projects to unlock development and increase economic activity.
- Providing concessions and easing the cost of living, with an estimated \$6.3 billion in 2020–21 in targeted discounts, fee waivers, rebates, and subsidies.
- Protecting the environment. The Great Barrier Reef will benefit from an additional \$40 million worth of support. This includes \$10 million for a Reef Assist Program and \$6 million over four years for the GBR Island Arks project to deliver ecotourism in the region.
- Increasing investment in manufacturing including \$1 billion to make trains again in Queensland.
- Delivering lower debt than New South Wales and Victoria.

2020–21 Revenue



2020–21 Expenses



Queensland's Labour Market Forecasts

