



DOING WHAT MATTERS FOR THE DARLING DOWNS



REGIONAL ACTION PLAN QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2024-25

The 2024-25 Queensland Budget supports Queenslanders. On the Darling Downs it provides:

\$1,300

electricity bill support
for Queensland households – an upfront \$1,000 Cost of Living Rebate from the Queensland Government and a \$300 rebate paid in quarterly instalments from the Australian Government.

\$1.5B

for health
for the Darling Downs and South West Hospital and Health Services.

\$71M

for education
to maintain, improve and upgrade schools on the Darling Downs.

\$1.9B

for the Big Build
for productivity-enhancing infrastructure and capital works, estimated to support **5,100** jobs on the Darling Downs.

Delivering for the DARLING DOWNS



Free Kindy

Up to 3,732 children eligible for free kindy on the Darling Downs, for 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year.

(January 2024 to May 2024)



Fee-Free TAFE

5,094 fee-free TAFE courses commenced by people on the Darling Downs wanting to train, retrain or upskill in priority industries.

(January 2023 to March 2024)



Building our Regions

\$61.1 million allocated to projects for critical infrastructure on the Darling Downs, supporting an estimated 431 jobs. This has leveraged further financial co-contributions statewide of more than \$556 million from local governments, the Australian Government, and other organisations, with a total capital expenditure value of more than \$974 million.

(March 2015 to September 2025)



First Home Owner Grant

2,349 grants worth \$39.7 million paid to home buyers to help them buy their first home on the Darling Downs.

(July 2016 to April 2024)

Delivering better services for the DARLING DOWNS

Growth from March 2015 to March 2024



823 extra nurses, **up 46.9%**



143 extra teachers, **up 5.1%**



247 extra doctors, **up 74.9%**



96 extra ambulance officers, **up 35.2%**

Delivering for the DARLING DOWNS



For an even more extensive list of initiatives, see the Budget Map

1 Tara Hospital



\$20 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1 billion total spend to address ageing infrastructure. Queensland Health is investing more than \$1 billion in the Building Rural and Remote Health Program (BRRHP), which supports healthcare delivery in regional areas by enhancing or replacing infrastructure to ensure it meets the needs of the community. Tara Hospital was identified as one of the Darling Downs sites to receive funding that aims to provide safe, compliant and contemporary health services. Part of the Building Rural and Remote Health Program.

3 New Toowoomba Hospital



\$180 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1.3 billion total spend to deliver the new Toowoomba Hospital. \$1.3 billion has been committed to address increasing health service demands across the state over the next 6 years. When operationalised, the new Toowoomba Hospital will provide an additional 118 beds across medical, surgical, maternity, coronary and intensive care units. As well as additional operating theatres, Emergency Department treatment spaces, outpatient consultation rooms, diagnostic rooms, and expanded medical imaging, pharmacy and pathology. Part of the Capacity Expansion Program.

5 Warwick police facility upgrade



\$10 million in 2024-25 out of a \$21 million total spend to continue the upgrade of the police facility at Warwick. The upgraded police facility has been designed with all the features and specifications needed for a modern policing facility and will accommodate the current staffing level with room for future growth. This facility will support frontline policing services to deliver safe and secure communities and build a safer Queensland.

2 Toowoomba to Warwick Pipeline



\$56 million in 2024-25 out of a \$273.1 million total spend to continue pre-construction activities on the Toowoomba to Warwick Pipeline. The 109km pipeline will provide a permanent water supply to 3,400 residents in Toowoomba's growing communities of Greenmount, Cambooya, Nobby and Clifton and a much-needed drought contingency supply to 24,000 residents in Warwick and surrounding communities. The project will deliver an average of 400 jobs during construction and provide ongoing water security which is critical to the jobs, economic growth, and liveability of Queensland communities.

4 Gatton - Helidon Road safety upgrades



\$33 million in 2024-25 out of a \$67.1 million total spend towards safety upgrades on Gatton - Helidon Road. The Australian and Queensland governments have committed \$67.1 million to deliver the Gatton - Helidon Road, improve safety project (total commitment \$34.1 million), and the Gatton - Helidon Road, Stage 2, undertake safety treatments on high speed sections project (total commitment \$33 million). This investment will construct a range of safety treatments, including road widening, installing wide centre lines, dedicated turning lanes, audio tactile line marking, new signage and removing roadside hazards. Part of the Australian Government's Road Safety Program, delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

6 Social housing



\$33.3 million in 2024-25 to expand and improve social housing. Social housing provides safe, secure, and sustainable homes to some of the most vulnerable people in Queensland. The Queensland Government has set a social housing delivery target of 53,500 homes by 2046 as part of Homes for Queenslanders. Investment into new social housing will help to address demand as the state grows, reduce pressure on homelessness services, and provide more housing choices for individuals and families. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.





QPS programs boost community safety


Police efforts to target youth crime funded by the Queensland Government have achieved a 16 per cent decrease in youth offending across the Darling Downs district in 2023. From Taskforce Guardian, which assists local police to track down repeat offenders, to the Queensland Police Service's (QPS) award-winning early-intervention program Project Booyah, the QPS aims to divert at-risk young people. There have been five Taskforce Guardian Toowoomba deployments since the rapid response taskforce was established in May 2023, resulting in additional arrests and engagements.


Project Booyah confronts the causes of crime by steering kids back to education and training, or employment. The project is funded under the newly formed Youth Development Partnership Fund, a joint initiative between the Department of Tourism and Sport and the QPS. The first Toowoomba participants started the 16-week program in March. During 2023, 199 participants took part in the project across the state, with 84 per cent successfully graduating the course.

Delivering for the DARLING DOWNS


 **Wambo Wind Farm Stage 1 and 2**
\$376.7 million in 2024-25 out of a \$950.9 million total spend to jointly develop the 506.2-megawatt Wambo Wind Farm in the Western Downs. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.

 **Chinchilla Hospital**
\$3.5 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1 billion total spend for rural and remote health will be utilised to address ageing infrastructure and provide a facility that supports contemporary models of care for rural and remote communities. Part of the Building Rural and Remote Health Program.


 **Brigalow Hydrogen-ready Gas Peaking Plant**
\$174.6 million in 2024-25 out of a \$642.4 million total spend for Queensland's first hydrogen-ready 400 megawatt gas peaking power station near Chinchilla. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.


 **Kogan Creek Power Station**
\$25.5 million in 2024-25 to replace and refurbish existing infrastructure at Kogan Creek Power Station to ensure continued reliability of supply to Queensland and the National Electricity Market.



 **Bowenville - Norwin Road, 2022 Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements reconstruction works**
\$26.9 million in 2024-25 out of a \$33.4 million total spend towards Bowenville - Norwin Road, 2022 Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements reconstruction works. Part of the funding administered by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.



 **InterLinkSQ Intermodal Terminal**
\$8 million in 2024-25 out of a \$16.1 million total spend for delivery of a new road and rail intermodal facility to improve productivity in the transfer of freight between trucks and trains, supporting industry. Part of the Building Acceleration Fund, delivered in partnership with the private sector.

 **Water treatment to four communities in the Toowoomba region**
\$6 million in 2024-25 out of a \$15 million total spend to continue construction of water treatment and supply works for its four satellite communities of Cambooya, Greenmount, Nobby and Clifton.

 **Millmerran Multipurpose Health Service**
\$20.2 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1 billion total spend for rural and remote health will be utilised to address ageing infrastructure and provide a facility that supports contemporary models of care for rural and remote communities. Part of the Building Rural and Remote Health Program.



 **Girraween National Park Information Hub**
\$5 million in 2024-25 out of a \$7.9 million total spend for the construction of the Girraween National Park Information Hub.


 **Abandoned Mine Lands Program**
 \$36.6 million in 2024-25 out of a \$153.7 million total spend to continue the management and mitigation of significant public safety, health and environmental risks at high-risk abandoned mine sites.



 **Backing Business in the Bush Fund**
 \$10 million in 2024-25 out of a \$50 million total spend to support Queensland-based small-to-medium enterprises to deliver business improvement projects in regional Queensland.



 **Disaster Management Reforms**
 \$30 million in 2024-25 to progress the government's commitment from the Independent Review of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. Part of the government's Emergency Management Reforms.



 **Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction**
 \$188.8 million in 2024-25 for delivery of recovery and betterment projects to local government assets impacted by disaster events between 2020 and 2024 in Darling Downs. Part of the joint State/Australian Government Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

 **Free TAFE Nursing**
 \$58 million in 2024-25 out of a \$162.6 million total spend to provide 6,500 training places for eligible Queenslanders who are passionate about healthcare to study the Diploma of Nursing for free in 2024 and 2025.



 **Hall projects in Darling Downs - Maranoa**
 \$8.2 million in 2024-25 out of a \$23.1 million total spend to deliver school hall infrastructure in Darling Downs - Maranoa.



 **Homelessness services**
 \$232.2 million in 2024-25 to provide essential housing and support services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.



 **Homes for Queenslanders**
 \$600,000 in 2024-25 to support improved housing outcomes for people with disability and those experiencing domestic and family violence in Queensland.



 **Integrated Zero Emissions Vehicles charging infrastructure**
 \$8 million in 2024-25 out of a \$12 million total spend for electric vehicle charging infrastructure and to explore innovative "smart" integration and management of the infrastructure. Part of Queensland's Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy and the National Electric Vehicle Strategy.



 **Public library grants**
 \$1.4 million in 2024-25 to supply resources to public libraries in the Darling Downs. Part of the Public Library Grants.



 **Quantum Strategy and Academy**
 \$27.9 million in 2024-25 out of a \$89.7 million total spend to develop and deliver the whole-of-government Queensland Quantum and Advanced Technologies Strategy and Queensland Quantum Academy.



 **Queensland Fire and Rescue appliances**
 \$23.8 million in 2024-25 for replacement and new fire and rescue appliances.



 **Queensland Skills Strategy 2024-28**
 \$96.7 million in 2024-25 out of a \$203.1 million total spend to further strengthen the state's training system to deliver skills needed for our economy and provide access to good jobs with better pay for Queenslanders. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

 **Raise, repair and retrofit homes**
 \$76.7 million in 2024-25 out of a \$231 million total spend for eligible homeowners to rebuild, repair or retrofit their homes with flood-resilient design and materials to reduce the impacts of future flood events. Part of the Resilient Homes Fund.

 **Recruitment Drive - additional police personnel**
 \$25.9 million in 2024-25 out of a \$87.5 million total spend to support the recruitment of additional police personnel.

 **Skilling Queenslanders for Work**
 \$6 million in 2024-25 to fund more training opportunities and increase workforce participation.

 **South East Queensland Liveability Fund**
 \$85 million in 2024-25 out of a \$200 million total spend to support South East Queensland local government projects that create liveable, creative, sustainable and healthy communities. Part of the South East Queensland City Deal, delivered in partnership with the Australian Government and the Council of Mayors - South East Queensland.

 **Youth Co-Responder Teams**
 \$6.7 million in 2024-25 out of a \$20.4 million total spend to deliver and expand the youth co-responder model to divert high risk young people, including those on bail, and those subject to electronic monitoring. Part of the government's Youth Justice Investment.

Project key

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

DOING WHAT MATTERS FOR QUEENSLAND

QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2024-25

QUEENSLAND
**COST OF
LIVING
ACTION**

AT A GLANCE

Total concessions including cost-of-living relief measures available in 2024-25	\$11.2B	Total Big Build over 4 years	\$107.3B
Total health funding in 2024-25	\$28.9B	Jobs supported by the Big Build program in 2024-25	72,000
Community Safety Plan for Queensland	\$1.3B	Percentage of Big Build spend outside of greater Brisbane in 2024-25	68.5%
Putting Queensland Kids First Plan	\$502M	Total capital investment to support the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan over 4 years	\$26B
Homes for Queenslanders	\$3.1B		
Investment in school and early education facilities	\$1.3B		

Everyone is feeling cost-of-living pressures. Find support to manage household costs including bills, transport, housing, health care and education. In tough times, every little bit helps.

Apply now for a range of Queensland Government funded support. Don't miss out.



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