

DOING WHAT MATTERS FOR TOWNSVILLE

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN *QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2024-25*



The 2024-25 Queensland Budget supports Queenslanders.
In Townsville 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 Townsville Hospital and Health Service.

\$71M

for education

to maintain, improve and upgrade schools in Townsville.

\$1.5B

for the Big Build

for productivity-enhancing infrastructure and capital works, estimated to support **4,200** jobs in Townsville.

Delivering for TOWNSVILLE



Free Kindy

Up to 2,876 children eligible for free kindy in Townsville, for 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year.

(January 2024 to May 2024)



Fee-Free TAFE

4,123 fee-free TAFE courses commenced by people in Townsville wanting to train, retrain or upskill in priority industries.

(January 2023 to March 2024)



Skilling Queenslanders for Work

\$42.6 million allocated to develop skills and provide training to 5,866 people in Townsville, including 3,334 people who are now employed as a direct result of their participation in the program.

(July 2015 to April 2024)



First Home Owner Grant

2,528 grants worth \$42.5 million paid to home buyers to help them buy their first home in Townsville.

(July 2016 to April 2024)

Delivering better services for TOWNSVILLE

Growth from March 2015 to March 2024



490 extra nurses,
up 22.9%



304 extra doctors,
up 50.6%



96 extra ambulance
officers, **up 37.6%**



31 extra firefighters,
up 20.6%

Delivering for TOWNSVILLE



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

1 Bwgcorman Community School



\$8 million in 2024-25 out of a \$18.8 million total spend to deliver a new administration building, including visiting specialist space offices and a conference room, and a new home economics building, that will support food studies and joint school and community events. The adjacent landscaped area incorporates dance and event areas and a yarning circle for joint community use.

2 Kidston Hydro 275 kilovolt Transmission Network Connection



Powerlink is delivering a 275-kilovolt, 348-tower electricity transmission line and two switching stations to connect Genex's renewable energy generation project at Kidston to the national electricity grid. Partnering with more than 25 local suppliers in Ingham, Charters Towers, Townsville and Cairns, Powerlink's infrastructure will connect the 250 megawatt eight-hour Genex Kidston Pumped Hydro Energy Storage project - and co-located wind and solar farms - to the grid, aiding the decarbonisation of Queensland's energy system. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.

3 Townsville Connection Road (Stuart Drive), Bowen Road Bridge (Idalia), duplicate bridge and approaches



\$20 million in 2024-25 out of a \$99.8 million total spend towards Townsville Connection Road (Stuart Drive), Bowen Road Bridge (Idalia). A new upstream bridge will be built over the Ross River in Townsville, adjacent to the existing Bowen Road Bridge. This will increase the capacity of the river crossing from two to four lanes. This investment will improve safety and driveability for the 24,000 vehicles using this bridge daily. There will also be upgrades to the pedestrian and bike crossings to improve safety for all road users, as well as improved connections to a refurbished underpass pathway.

4 Townsville University Hospital Expansion



\$136.1 million in 2024-25 out of a \$530 million total spend to expand the Townsville University Hospital, to provide up to 143 additional overnight beds and the construction of a new clinical building with a rooftop helipad, which will address increasing health service demands across the state over the next six years. The Townsville University Hospital Expansion aims to enhance local access to health services by the community, enable new models of care which are better aligned to the community's changing needs, and enhance patient flow and efficiency by separating elective work and sub-acute services. Part of the Capacity Expansion Program.

5 Fast Track Sentencing Pilot (Townsville)



\$256,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$1.8 million total spend over three years (2022-23 to 2024-25) to identify and address delays in court proceedings through proactive management of matters. The Fast Track Sentencing pilot commenced on 1 March 2023 in Brisbane, Southport, Townsville and Cairns Children's Courts (Magistrates Court). The initiative coordinates with key youth justice agencies and legal service providers to support operations in each location, proactively case manage matters in accordance with timeframes set out in existing practice directions, and drive the resolution of local causes of delay in court proceedings. The Fast Track Sentencing pilot is a whole-of-system initiative proving to be effective in identifying and addressing delays in matters before the Children's Courts.

6 Townsville High Risk Youth Court Program



\$2.3 million in 2024-25 out of a \$4.5 million total spend over two years (2023-24 to 2024-25) to enable the continuation of the High Risk Youth Court program. The Youth Court was established in February 2017 as a specialist list of the Townsville Children's Court. The Youth Court ensures that identified high risk and repeat young offenders (aged 10-17) appear in court before the same magistrate. The magistrate works with the young person and monitors their engagement with intervention programs and cultural supports are available to the young person. The Youth Court aims to hold offenders to account and reduce reoffending.



Mega police complex to boost community safety

The Queensland Government is delivering the new Kirwan Police Complex at the site of the former 1300SMILES Stadium. The project will be the biggest Queensland Police Service (QPS) facility in North Queensland and is among the largest in QPS history.

The first stage will be completed in 2025, and will include the new \$45 million Kirwan Police Station, a new PoliceLink call centre with room for 50 personnel, a Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Unit, and other specialist QPS functions. The \$100 million second stage will include the relocation of the North Queensland Police Academy and Townsville Dog Squad. The new academy buildings will include purpose-built and flexible training facilities that provide for specialist scenario-based training for police.

Delivery of the new complex will support community safety and future-proof policing in North Queensland, providing state-of-the-art training facilities and equipment for officers and new recruits.

Delivering for TOWNSVILLE

- 
Palm Island multi-agency community safety facility
 \$200,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$18 million total spend to continue the new multi-agency community safety facility at Palm Island.
- 
Magnetic Island Trails network
 \$587,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$1.4 million total spend to upgrade the Magnetic Island National Park visitor trails network. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 
Channel capacity upgrade
 \$18.4 million in 2024-25 out of a \$251.2 million total spend to complete widening of the existing shipping channels. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 
Pimlico State High School
 \$1.4 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1.5 million total spend to construct additional specialist classrooms and upgrade water reticulation.
- 
Aitkenvale State School
 \$410,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$450,000 total spend to refurbish a learning space at Aitkenvale State School.
- 

Kirwan Health Campus
 \$19.7 million in 2024-25 out of a \$45.2 million total spend to expand the existing centre, delivering midwifery community clinics, dental services, refurbishment to the existing facility and an additional carpark.
- 
Townsville Basketball
 \$136,203 in 2024-25 out of a \$219,682 total spend to install changerooms to support basketball at Townsville. Part of Activate! Queensland.
- 
The new AEIOU Townsville Centre
 \$700,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$1 million total spend to build a state-of-the-art early intervention and childcare centre for 40 children with autism and provide more support services for families. Part of the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund - Round 1.
- 
Prison Capacity Uplift - Townsville Correctional Centre
 \$5.2 million in 2024-25 out of a \$22 million total spend to construct additional prison capacity at Townsville Correctional Centre to sustainably manage a growing prisoner population.
- 
Burdekin River Bridge, rehabilitation program
 \$4 million in 2024-25 out of a \$96.9 million total spend towards the Burdekin River Bridge rehabilitation program. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 
Charters Towers State High School
 \$450,000 in 2024-25 out of a \$500,000 total spend to upgrade sports courts.
- 
Burdekin Falls Dam raising and improvement project - planning and investigatory works
 \$73.9 million in 2024-25 to continue planning and investigatory works for the raising and improvement of Burdekin Falls Dam.
- 

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.
- 

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.
- 

Haughton Pipeline Stage 2
 \$63.5 million in 2024-25 out of a \$195 million total spend to construct a water pipeline from the Burdekin River near Tom Fenwick Pump Station, connecting with earlier stages of the Haughton Pipeline.
- 

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.
- 

Inland Freight Route (Charters Towers to Mungindi), funding commitment
 \$30.8 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1 billion total spend committed towards an Inland Freight Route (Charters Towers to Mungindi). Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 

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.
- 

Joint field management - Great Barrier Reef
 \$19.2 million in 2024-25 for joint management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 

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 Resources Common User Facility
 \$43 million in 2024-25 out of a \$75 million total spend to support pilot and demonstration scale trials of processing methods and technologies for critical minerals and rare earth elements. Part of the Common User Infrastructure.
- 

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.
- 

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.
- 

Reef Water Quality - Integrated Reef Water Quality Program
 \$8.3 million in 2024-25 out of a \$63.9 million total spend to support research, development and extension on land management practices that improve reef water quality as well as productivity. Part of the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program.
- 

Social housing
 \$73.5 million in 2024-25 to expand and improve social housing. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.
- 

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.



Find the savings you're eligible for

Q | Queensland Cost of Living Action

or go to:

www.qld.gov.au/costoflivingaction

