



DOING WHAT MATTERS FOR THE WIDE BAY



REGIONAL ACTION PLAN QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2024-25

The 2024-25 Queensland Budget supports Queenslanders. In the Wide Bay 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.

\$952M

for health
for the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service.

\$79M

for education
to maintain, improve and upgrade schools in the Wide Bay.

\$3.5B

for the Big Build
for productivity-enhancing infrastructure and capital works, estimated to support **9,400** jobs in the Wide Bay.

Delivering for the WIDE BAY



Free Kindy

Up to 2,961 children eligible for free kindy in the Wide Bay, for 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year.

(January 2024 to May 2024)



Fee-Free TAFE

5,290 fee-free TAFE courses commenced by people in the Wide Bay wanting to train, retrain or upskill in priority industries.

(January 2023 to March 2024)



Skilling Queenslanders for Work

\$63.5 million allocated to develop skills and provide training to 6,019 people in the Wide Bay, including 4,158 people who are now employed as a direct result of their participation in the program.

(July 2015 to April 2024)



First Home Owner Grant

2,652 grants worth \$44.9 million paid to home buyers to help them buy their first home in the Wide Bay.

(July 2016 to April 2024)

Delivering better services for the WIDE BAY

Growth from March 2015 to March 2024



564 extra nurses, **up 36%**



192 extra doctors, **up 51.7%**



85 extra ambulance officers, **up 34.2%**



72 extra firefighters, **up 66.6%**

Delivering for the WIDE BAY



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

1 New Bundaberg Hospital



\$68.1 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1.2 billion total spend to deliver the new Bundaberg Hospital, which will provide an increase of 121 overnight beds. This is the largest health infrastructure investment the Wide Bay region has ever seen and will transform healthcare for patients, carers, and staff. It will bring the community more quality healthcare closer to home, reduce wait times, and improve the overall patient experience. Part of the Capacity Expansion Program.

3 Queensland Train Manufacturing Program



\$786 million in 2024-25 out of a \$4.869 billion total spend towards the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program. The program has been established to meet the increasing demand for rail transport in South East Queensland over the next 10 years. A purpose-built manufacturing facility at Torbanlea will deliver 65 new six-car passenger trains. As part of the program, a new rail facility will also be constructed at Ormeau on the Gold Coast. Construction at both sites has started.

5 Bruce Highway (Cooroy to Curra) Section D, construction



\$110.6 million in 2024-25 out of a \$1.162 billion total spend to construct a new 26km, four-lane divided highway between the existing Bruce Highway interchange at Woondum, south of Gympie, and Curra. This investment will improve traffic flow, safety and reduce travel times. Once complete, there will be 42 bridges at 23 locations along the Gympie Bypass and more than 6 million cubic metres of earth will be moved from cuts to fill areas. This raises the new section of highway to a level that will increase the flood immunity to withstand a one-in-100-year flood event. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

2 Bundaberg Adult Alcohol and Other Drug Community Treatment Facility



\$8.8 million in 2024-25 out of a \$18.7 million total spend to deliver the new alcohol and other drugs residential facilities. The Bundaberg facility is a 28-bed residential rehabilitation service for adults, which includes eight withdrawal management beds and 20 residential treatment beds. The service is voluntary for people aged 18 years and over who want to make positive changes in relation to alcohol and other drug use.

4 Maryborough police facility upgrade



\$4.1 million in 2024-25 out of a \$4.8 million total spend to complete the upgrade of the police facility at Maryborough. 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.

6 Southern Renewable Energy Zone Battery



\$116.4 million in 2024-25 out of a \$514.1 million total spend for the Southern Renewable Energy Zone Battery at the Tarong Power Station. The battery will have the capacity to supply 300 megawatts (two hours) of energy into the National Electricity Market, making it one of the largest battery energy storage systems in Queensland. The project is providing local employment and supply chain opportunities for the South Burnett region, with up to 80 full-time employees engaged over the 20-month construction phase. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.



QBuild modular home


More homes faster for Wide Bay


The Queensland Government is building more homes faster for Wide Bay residents, including social housing for the region's most vulnerable. Residents will soon move into 22 new factory-built modular homes in Gympie, Eidsvoll, Maryborough and Bundaberg. Another 14 social homes, constructed through traditional means, were recently completed in Gympie.


Modular homes can be built quickly, and then transported to their destination. These homes are being constructed by the government's public building arm QBuild as well as by manufacturers across Queensland. A new QBuild modular factory opened this year in Cairns will add even more homes to those built by QBuild's original Brisbane factory. The government is boosting QBuild with up to 500 qualified tradies and apprentices expected to join its ranks by 30 June 2026.

The government has set a target of 53,500 social homes across the state by 2046 as part of its Homes for Queenslanders plan.


Delivering for the WIDE BAY


 **Bundaberg East Levee**
\$17.1 million in 2024-25 out of a \$174.7 million total spend to support the delivery of a levee to reduce the impact of flooding for parts of Bundaberg East and Bundaberg South. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.


 **Keppock State High School**
\$4 million in 2024-25 out of a \$19.8 million total spend to construct additional specialist classrooms.


 **Hervey Bay replacement police facility**
\$1 million in 2024-25 out of a \$28 million total spend to continue the replacement police facility at Hervey Bay.


 **Maryborough - Hervey Bay Road and Pialba - Burrum Heads Road, upgrade intersection**
\$8.2 million in 2024-25 out of a \$55.4 million total spend towards upgrading the intersection at Maryborough - Hervey Bay Road and Pialba - Burrum Heads Road. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.


 **Paradise Dam improvement project - planning and enabling works**
\$109.6 million in 2024-25 to continue planning and enabling works for a new Paradise Dam wall to ensure safe and secure water supply, and to support economic growth in the region.


 **Biggenden State School**
\$750,000 in 2024-25 to upgrade an existing amenities block.

 **Bruce Highway (Gympie - Maryborough), Tiaro Bypass, construct bypass**
\$5.6 million in 2024-25 out of a \$336 million total spend towards constructing the Tiaro Bypass on the Bruce Highway (Gympie - Maryborough). Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.


 **Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage**
\$935.9 million in 2024-25 out of a \$14.159 billion total spend for progression of approvals, exploratory works, and procurement for the main works of the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.


 **Meandu Mine development, mine fleet and other minor works**
\$50.2 million in 2024-25 to replace and refurbish handling equipment and infrastructure at Meandu Mine.


 **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.


 **First 5 Forever**
\$262,866 in 2024-25 to deliver the First 5 Forever family literacy initiative.


 **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.


 **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.


 **K'gari - Wongari management actions**
\$10.5 million in 2024-25 out of a \$29.2 million total spend for enhanced conservation, public safety and education programs related to the management of Wongari on K'gari.


 **Network Battery - Maryborough**
\$12.2 million in 2024-25 out of a \$13.6 million total spend to install a 4 megawatt/8 megawatt-hour battery to store excess solar PV generated by customers. Part of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan.


 **Quantum Strategy and Academy**
\$279 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 \$875 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**
\$53.4 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

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or go to:

www.qld.gov.au/costoflivingaction

