



Premier's Message

My Government is continuing our investment to ensure a positive future for all Queenslanders.

We are committed to work with all to ensure we create opportunities for our regions and to continue building on the Smart State's strong and stable foundations.

This Regional Budget Statement outlines the Government's ongoing investment in the Greater Brisbane region and its delivery on key election commitments for 2004-05.

The Government is meeting the needs of the people of Greater Brisbane through these initiatives and by improving services, especially in the areas of health, employment, education and child safety.

In 2004-05, our Smart State initiatives in education and training will enable the region to harness the creativity and talent within the community. This Statement demonstrates a significant commitment to a strong and prosperous Greater Brisbane region.

My Government will work with the people of Greater Brisbane to continue creating opportunities for all Queenslanders to grow and enjoy a better quality of life.

Peter Beattie MP
Premier and Minister for Trade

Delivering on our election commitments for the Greater Brisbane region, the 2004-05 State Budget highlights include:

- \$20 million for a world-class brain research institute at the University of Queensland
- \$10 million towards construction of the \$26.5 million Linkfield Connection Road
- \$1 million towards the Government's funding of the \$88 million public component of the Mater Hospital redevelopment
- \$5 million of \$77 million total Government funding to upgrade Prince Charles Hospital
- \$3.7 million as part of total Government funding of \$120 million to construct the South-West Arterial Road from Springfield to Ripley
- \$6.66 million to establish the Office of Urban Management
- \$2.34 million for improvements to the Brighton-Redcliffe Road between Bells Creek and Oxley Avenue
- \$2.2 million for the replacement of Balmoral Ambulance Station and \$836,000 for fire stations at Taringa and Mt Gravatt
- \$750,000, including \$75,000 for fit out, for upgrades to Craigslea State High School.



Greater Brisba

This Regional Budget Statement for Greater Brisbane outlines the Government's State Budget 2004-05 spending commitment to this region and its people. As a Government, we recognise the regions' valuable contributions to making Queensland the Smart State and home for over 3.8 million people. In South East Queensland, including Brisbane, we will spend \$3.39 billion on capital works.

The Greater Brisbane region covers less than 0.3% of the State. However, it is home to over 1.48 million Queenslanders, nearly 41% of the State's population. It is growing at the rate of 1.7% per year, with some areas growing at rates as high as 3% per year. This region is the State's centre for administration, with a well developed knowledge economy supported by several universities, and research and training facilities. The region is the national headquarters for a number of businesses and is the transport and distribution hub for the State.

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

We are committed to providing better hospitals, services and health care for all Queenslanders. Our commitment to improving the standard and accessibility of Greater Brisbane's hospital and health services includes spending on key initiatives such as:

- \$5.15 million for new and redeveloped ambulance stations at Balmoral, Springwood and Birkdale and a fire station at Arana Hills
- \$5 million for 38 new staff and new equipment at the John Tonge Centre to improve forensic testing
- \$2.6 million as part of \$7.38 million over three years to establish a renal dialysis unit and employ five nurses at Redland Hospital
- \$4 million for a new purpose-built community health centre at Nundah
- \$3 million as part of the \$9 million State-wide for stroke rehabilitation teams in Queensland, including Logan and Redcliffe/Caboolture
- \$1.3 million to upgrade the Redland Hospital Emergency Department.

Aged care services will be enhanced with funding including:

- \$4.63 million for a 60 bed residential aged care facility at Redcliffe Hospital
- \$15.83 million to construct a 128 bed residential aged care facility at Redland Hospital
- \$7.47 million for upgrades and two new
 40 bed residential aged care facilities on the existing Sandgate-Eventide site.

We have committed \$35.9 million over the next three years to recruit an extra 240 paramedics across Queensland. In 2004-05, \$2.09 million will provide 51 new lifesaving ambulance paramedics in Greater Brisbane.

The Government is providing \$140.75 million to support people with disabilities and their carers in Greater Brisbane. This includes \$23.5 million to assist adults with a disability, \$1.82 million for respite care and \$450,000 for upgrades to respite services in Ipswich.

We are working to support low-income families and individuals through providing housing and housing related services. Spending in this region in 2004-05 includes:

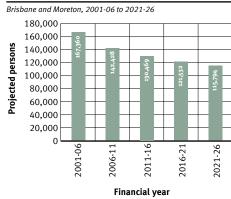
- \$111.3 million for public housing construction, upgrades and maintenance programs
- funding of \$16.7 million for community housing projects and services in Greater Brisbane, including \$2.68 million for crisis accommodation and \$1.1 million for the new construction of singles accommodation



The new Suncorp Stadium opened in June 2003 and is a 52,500 seat, world-class, state-of-the-art sports venue.

- \$11.9 million for the Brisbane Housing Company towards the construction of approximately 150 new units of accommodation
- funding as part of the \$75 million commitment over five years to expand the Community Renewal Program into nine new areas across the state including Acacia Ridge, Carole Park and Marsden, and to continue Community Renewal activities in the Greater Brisbane areas of Inala, Kingston, Loganlea, and Woodridge.

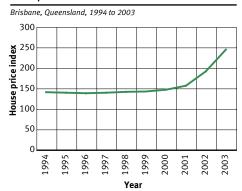
Migration into regions



Source: Queensland Government Population Projections 2003 (unpublished data), ABS census of Population and Housing 1996 and 2001

Greater Brisbane includes Queensland's capital city of Bris Logan, Ipswich and Redcliffe and the shires of Pine Rivers

House price index



Source: House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, ABS (6414.0)

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

Participation in the Smart State means we encourage and reward ideas, innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work across all sectors of the Queensland community, industry and Government.

We are investing in school infrastructure across Greater Brisbane for the benefit of the region's young people and their education. In 2004-05, overall funding includes:

- \$20.51 million, including \$1.64 million for fit out, for stage four and part of the \$14.3 million stage five of North Lakes State College
- \$360,000, including \$32,000 for fit out, for Ipswich North State School.

In addition, \$4.16 million is provided for

the Triple R program, which will provide repainting, reticulation and re-roofing for 97 local schools.

We are promoting lifelong learning and skilling the workforce to meet the needs of industries central to the Smart State vision and Queensland's economic growth. In 2004-05 approximately \$305 million will be invested in creating in excess of 126,000 training places in the region.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

The Government is intent on reforming the child protection system. We are increasing the recurrent funding for child protection to at least \$109 million in 2004-05 and at least \$214 million by 2006-07 to build a new, radically improved system for safeguarding the welfare of Queensland children. The Greater Brisbane region will benefit from new funding for State-wide initiatives that include:

- an additional 518 service delivery and support staff who will be employed over the next three years with 318 of these to start in 2004-05 and \$11.74 million for additional frontline staff in 2004-05
- 23 new or expanded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child care agencies by 2006-07 and the establishment of a new Indigenous Support Branch
- therapeutic services such as counselling and support for children with a disability
- 134 new alternative care places in 2004-05 for young people who are not suited to conventional foster care
- \$4.17 million in 2004-05 to further support our foster carers
- \$4.19 million for new places and improvements to residential care.

Implementing strategies that contribute to safe communities is a priority.

In Greater Brisbane, key initiatives include approximately \$892,000 to establish Neighbourhood Police Beats at Kingston, North Stradbroke Island and Redbank Plains.

The Government is also funding the development of safer communities through:

- \$1.35 million for the redevelopment of facilities at the Roma Street Fire Station including refurbishment of accommodation and amenities with a total project cost of \$15.75 million
- \$1.82 million for redeveloping and refurbishing the fire stations at Mt Gravatt, Taringa, Taigum and Petrie
- spending \$6.11 million on police facilities, including approximately \$2.74 million for new or replacement stations at Stafford, Loganholme and Redlands.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

The Office of Urban Management will be established at a cost of \$6.66 million. It will provide leadership to manage urban growth and infrastructure provision effectively in South East Queensland, helping to maintain our high quality of life.

Efficient and integrated transport networks are important for development in the region and the State. In 2004-05 Queensland Rail will spend \$35.67 million as part of total Government funding of over \$900 million between 2004-05 and 2007-08 to upgrade the Citytrain network including:

- \$18 million for rolling stock, stations and intermodal works
- \$17.67 million to construct additional tracks in South East Queensland including a third track between Salisbury and Kuraby.

The Government will also fund \$37 million in 2004-05 out of total funding of \$212.35 million for bus priority and infrastructure improvements including \$12 million towards the Queen Street Bus Station to Roma Street extension of the Inner Northern Busway, \$10 million for the Royal Children's Hospital and Normanby bus stations, and \$15 million for bus priority and infrastructure improvements.

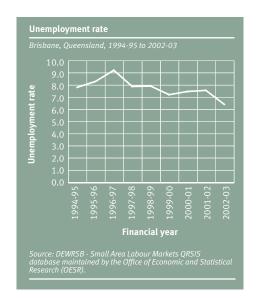
Millenium Arts - Queensland Gallery of Modern Art



The Millennium Arts Project represents a significant commitment by the Queensland Government to upgrade and expand arts and cultural facilities throughout the State. Due for completion in 2006, the Millennium Arts Project's signature component at the Queensland Cultural Centre includes the creation of a new Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (model pictured above, designed by Architectus), the redevelopment of the State Library of Queensland and new public, recreational and outdoor spaces.

sbane, the cities of and Redland.





Building on the Government's introduction of Integrated Ticketing in July this year, the Government will spend \$35.89 million in 2004-05 toward the development of Public Transport Smartcards, to be used from 2005.

Roadworks in the Greater Brisbane region in 2004-05 will include:

- \$1.5 million towards extension of the four-laning of the Mt Lindesay Highway to Rosia Road at a total cost of \$55.99 million
- \$1.5 million for planning for the duplication of the Houghton Highway Bridge.

During 2004-05, an estimated \$210.76 million expenditure on substation, feeder and transformer related

Mater Mothers Hospital



The Mater Mothers Hospital, South Brisbane, is one of the largest and busiest maternity facilities in Australia. The 126-bed hospital provides care for mothers and babies during antenatal, birth and postnatal periods.

works will be undertaken by ENERGEX in the Brisbane/Moreton area, including \$26.4 million works for the Brisbane CBD substation and \$17.1 million for works at the Newstead substation.

Powerlink will spend \$10 million on reinforcement of the transmission system to the Brisbane CBD. In addition, CS Energy will be improving the Swanbank Power Station, investing \$13.12 million in 2004-05.

Funding of \$3.5 million is allocated for sport facilities in the Greater Brisbane region, including up to \$75,000 each to:

- Pine Rivers Rapids Baseball Club to install lighting
- Hendra Nundah Bowls Club to improve facilities
- Mooroondu Sports and Recreation Club for ground improvements at Thorneside.

Other significant project investments providing benefit for the people of Greater Brisbane include \$100.47 million for the Millennium Arts Project. In addition there is an estimated \$1.38 million for the Roma Street parklands and \$800,000 for the restoration of ANZAC Square.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

Ongoing use and enjoyment of our natural heritage will be assisted by spending on initiatives to protect our environment. In 2004-05 this includes:

- \$73,000 for conservation works on significant landmarks on St Helena Island
- \$128,000 for Brisbane Forest Park areas
- \$102,000 in Blue Lake National Park
- \$448,000 at North Point in Moreton Island National Park.

The Fire Ant Eradication campaign is ongoing, with \$2.68 million in 2004-05 for activities to protect South East Queenslanders.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

The Government continues to work in partnership with the Greater Brisbane



The new Brisbane Magistrates Court is set to be a landmark, injecting new life into the western end of the Brisbane CBD.

region to build its social and economic strengths. The Greater Brisbane region will receive around \$25.4 million to create an estimated 4,073 jobs in 2004-05 through the Government's Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative. This includes \$11.54 million for community employment programs and \$13.86 million for apprenticeship and traineeship incentives to provide jobs in crucial, skills-shortage industries and the public sector.

In addition, \$950,000 is allocated to enable Aviation Australia Pty. Ltd. to provide an additional 38 training places in specific aviation industry skill shortage areas, in keeping with Queensland Takes Off, the Government's Smart State strategy to establish Queensland as the aviation hub of the Asia Pacific region.

Delivering responsive government

The Government continues to engage with local communities, businesses and government agencies to better coordinate service delivery and identify solutions to local issues, including through the regular Ministerial Regional Community Forums and Community Cabinets.

Budget Highlights

Budget summary

Sustained economic growth and strong employment conditions

- Queensland is expected to continue to outperform the rest of Australia in both 2003-04 and 2004-05 with economic growth of 4% and 41/4%.
- Employment growth remains substantially higher than the rest of Australia, with growth of 21/4% forecast for 2004-05.
- The State's year-average unemployment rate is 6½, the lowest level in more than two decades.

Strong finances

- A General Government net operating surplus of \$646 million and a cash surplus of \$1.059 billion are forecast in 2004-05, following a record estimated actual net operating surplus of \$2.374 billion for 2003-04.
- The State's net worth is budgeted to grow from \$69.4 billion at 30 June 2004, to in excess of \$80 billion by 30 June 2008.

Competitive taxes

- Queensland's competitive tax status has been maintained, with taxpayers in other States and Territories paying on average 27% more state tax than Queenslanders in 2004-05.
- From 1 August 2004, credit card duty will be abolished and the general insurance duty rate will be reduced from 8.5% to 7.5%. In addition, debits tax will be abolished from 1 July 2005.
- From 1 August 2004, the threshold for the principal place of residence transfer duty concession will be increased from \$250,000 to \$300,000, providing home buyers with a saving of up to \$1,250.

Delivering on our priorities

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

- The Budget includes \$90 million over three years to cut elective surgery waiting lists.
- An additional \$220 million over four years is provided to support people with a disability, their families and carers.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

- The three year, \$1 billion, SmartVET strategy will introduce a number of new training initiatives and the expansion of high priority programs.
- Funding is provided for the Education and Training Reforms for the Future package including more than \$135 million in 2004-05 and rising to more than \$307 million in 2006-07.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

- Full implementation of child safety reforms will involve additional funding of at least \$214 million per annum by 2006-07.
- Funding of \$35.9 million over three years will employ 240 additional paramedics to address growth in demand, maintain emergency response times and improve services.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

- Capital spending will be boosted to over \$6 billion, the first time the capital works program has exceeded that benchmark.
- An additional \$200 million is allocated over four years for the Busway network and \$571 million over four years for a new Arterial Roads Infrastructure Package.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

- An additional \$75 million is allocated over four years, beyond the existing \$75 million commitment, to end the broadscale clearing of remnant native vegetation in Queensland by 2006.
- Funding of \$12.5 million is provided over three years for the acquisition of the strategic parcels of land of high conservation value to add to the protected estate in Cape York and the Daintree.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative will be extended for another three years at a cost of up to \$278 million.
- A \$20 million State contribution is provided towards construction of the \$60 million Queensland Brain Research facility, located at the University.

Government services in your region

For information on government services and activities in your region contact the primary contact offices listed below or visit the Government gateway at www.qld.gov.au

Brisbane

Department of Communities – Regional Communities Engagement

Level 3, 61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Telephone 3235 9018

Facsimile 3235 9029

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy - LandCentre

Level 2,

Cnr Main and Vulture Streets Woolloongabba QLD 4102

Telephone 3896 3216

Facsimile 3896 3333

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Office of Economic and Statistical Research

Level 8

33 Charlotte Street

Brisbane QLD 4001

Telephone 3224 5326

Facsimile 3227 7437

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 5pm

Office of Urban Management

Level 4

61 Mary Street

Brisbane QLD 4001

Telephone 3235 4557

Facsimile 3235 4563

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

Brisbane Northside

State Development and Innovation Centre

Level 2, The Homemaker Centre Cnr Gympie and Zillmere Roads Aspley QLD 4034

Telephone 3406 6999

Facsimile 3406 6996

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Brisbane Southside

State Development and Innovation Centre

6 Paxton Street

Springwood QLD 4127

Telephone 3884 7860

Facsimile 3808 9759

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Ipswich

Department of Communities – Regional Communities Engagement

Ground Floor

The Ipswich Court House Building

Limestone Street,

Ipswich Qld 4305

Telephone 3280 1031

Facsimile 3280 1035

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

North Stradbroke Island

QGAP

Shop 2, Stradbroke Place

Junner Street

Dunwich QLD 4183

Telephone 3409 9906

Facsimile 3409 9431

Opening hours: Monday and Friday –

12pm to 4:30pm, Thursday - 8:30am to 4:30pm

