

Regional Budget Statement Darling Downs & West Moreton

State-wide Highlights

The 2009-10 Budget will support and create jobs by continuing the Government's capital works program for roads, schools and hospitals as well delivering new job creation programs and initiatives to expand Queensland's skills base.

- \$3.53 billion for better and safer roads
- \$464.77 million on major hospital developments
- \$301 million to build and renew school facilities through the State Schools of Tomorrow program
- \$101 million for the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative
- 203 new police officers
- 50 new ambulance officers
- 350 new teachers and teacher aides
- 645 new doctors, nurses and allied health professionals
- \$3.06 million for the Support Our Heroes package to support emergency service volunteers and prepare communities for natural disasters
- \$36 million over three years for new tourism campaigns
- \$96 million over five years for new climate change initiatives
- \$50 million over six years for the Great Barrier Reef Protection Package.



As a part of the global economy, Queensland has felt the effects of the global financial and economic crisis. The worst set of global economic circumstances in more than 75 years has resulted in falling revenues and rising unemployment.

That's why the centrepiece of the 2009-10 State Budget is jobs – creating and sustaining jobs, assisting business and industry, and positioning our economy for future growth.

Specific investments in education, employment and training, business and vital industries such as tourism will help create and support jobs for Queenslanders.

The Queensland Government is investing \$18 billion in its job-generating building program, with



Anna Bligh MP
Premier
and Minister for the Arts

injections of funding for roads, ports, schools, transport and other vital infrastructure.

Frontline service delivery is our focus with commitments for police, hospitals and healthcare, ambulance services and teachers – the things we need to keep our communities healthy, safe and growing. The Government is determined to cushion Queenslanders from the

full impact of the global recession. That means acting now to support the economy and making the long term decisions needed for the future.

Queensland's prosperity and growth is built on the strength of our regions. This document puts on record the Government's commitment to the people and economy of the Darling Downs and West Moreton region.



Andrew Fraser MP
Treasurer and Minister for Employment
and Economic Development



Protecting jobs in Darling Downs & West Moreton

As the global economic crisis takes hold and Queensland's economic growth rate slows, the Government is committed to protecting the jobs of today and creating the jobs of tomorrow.

The Government's job programs are more important than ever before and will play a crucial role in supporting Queensland workers through these uncertain economic times.

The Government will implement a host of initiatives that will create new jobs and equip our workforce with the skills needed for future recovery.



Productivity Places Program

A \$414 million industry-based program (including \$259 million in Australian Government funding) to deliver almost 150,000 new training places over four years.



Tourism Blueprint to Protect Jobs

A \$37.8 million program to create 1,000 new jobs for new, regionally-focussed tourism market and product development campaigns, and to support the 'drive travel' market.



Sustainable Resource Communities

A \$25 million program to create 500 new jobs over the next 12 months by boosting employment in regional areas affected by the mining downturn.



Payroll tax apprentice and trainee incentives

A \$15 million scheme to assist Queensland businesses that employ apprentices and trainees. In addition to the payroll tax exemption provided for apprentice and trainee wages, businesses will also receive a 25% rebate on payroll tax for other equivalent employees in 2009-10.



Queensland Green Army

A \$57 million program to create 3,000 new jobs over three years by putting an army of unemployed Queenslanders to work to improve our waterways, beaches, national parks and green spaces.

Green Army participants will work on projects of strategic importance to enhance and protect Queensland's natural assets, strengthen the tourism industry and promote increased environmental awareness around the State.

It will create 2,300 jobs through work placements of up to six months and 700 year-long Green Traineeship positions for young, unemployed Queenslanders.

For more information about the Green Army, visit www.greenarmy.qld.gov.au.



Photograph supplied courtesy of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation



Covering an area of 98,377 square kilometres or 5.7 per cent of the State, Darling Downs and West Moreton is home to almost 7 per cent of Queensland's total population. More than 290,000¹ Queenslanders now call Darling Downs and West Moreton home.

With a strong primary production and agriculture foothold, the Darling Downs and West Moreton is home to an emerging wine industry, a variety of crops and livestock, and oil, coal and gas reserves. Education, tourism and commerce are also important contributors to the region's diverse economic base.

The Queensland Government recognises the valuable contribution Darling Downs and West Moreton makes to the State's economic and social development. This Regional Budget Statement highlights the Government's commitment to get on with the job of supporting the region and its people.

¹ Population data as at 30 June 2008, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth (cat. no. 3218.0).

Delivering jobs for Queensland

Jobs are the Government's number one priority. Faced with challenging global economic conditions, the Government will create and protect jobs to help keep Queensland strong and secure our economic foundations.

In 2009-10, the Government will drive Queensland's \$18 billion building infrastructure program to stimulate growth, create and protect jobs and meet the infrastructure needs of our rapidly growing population.

Key building projects in Darling Downs and West Moreton include:

- \$187 million for the Wivenhoe Dam to Toowoomba pipeline
- \$164 million to commence construction of a \$485.1 million South Queensland Correctional Precinct at Gatton
- \$54 million for enhancements to the Kogan Creek Power Station and other investments in the region
- \$23.8 million to improve the Wivenhoe Power Station
- \$21 million to reinforce electricity supply to Dalby
- \$12 million to upgrade rail track between Jondaryan and Gatton
- \$10 million for Arrow Energy Limited's generator at Kogan
- \$3.77 million towards the \$10 million refurbishment of the Toowoomba Courthouse
- \$1.8 million to complete a new electricity substation at Esk.

As well as protecting jobs now, the Government is preparing for the future. By developing the skills base of Queensland workers, supporting emerging industries, building on traditional strengths, and attracting investment and innovation, Queensland will be well positioned to lead Australia through the period of recovery and beyond.

In 2009-10, other job-generating investments in the Darling Downs and West Moreton region include:

- \$61.1 million for vocational education and training activities
- \$6.6 million to develop the National Carriage Factory – the final stage of the Cobb + Co Museum development, which includes new exhibition galleries, flexible learning spaces, commercial and retail areas, and outdoor activity space. This investment is part of a total project cost of \$7.3 million, with funding to be sourced from the State Government, the Queensland Museum Board, sponsorships and donations.
- \$3.72 million to create 560 jobs for young people and those disadvantaged in the labour market through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, which includes Queensland's Green Army
- \$2.30 million over three years to support young Indigenous people's access to education, training and employment in the Cunnamulla, St George, Roma and Chinchilla areas.



Investing in our health

To make Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people, the Government is investing in healthy lifestyles, hospitals and other frontline health services to ensure Queenslanders receive the best possible healthcare when illness strikes.

During the next three years, the Queensland Government aims to employ more than 3,500 additional doctors, nurses and allied health professionals across the State. In addition, \$7.9 million will be spent to train and recruit fully accredited nurse practitioners to reduce emergency department waiting times.

In 2009-10, the Government will also provide funding for the following State-wide initiatives:

- \$464.77 million towards major hospital capital works
- \$30 million for the expansion of the Surgery Connect program to deliver additional elective surgery procedures
- \$1 million additional funding for new maternity services under the Mums and Bubs program to provide one-on-one midwifery support in Dalby, Laidley, Esk, Boonah and other locations across the State.

In 2009-10, individuals and families in Darling Downs and West Moreton will also benefit from the following treatment and healthcare initiatives aimed at maintaining healthy, strong communities:

- \$16.07 million for the Home and Community Care initiative
- \$15.76 million to support people with a disability
- \$13.8 million in funding across South-East Queensland to fluoridate the Darling Downs and West Moreton water supply
- \$2.63 million to improve community sport and recreation facilities
- \$1.7 million to help Queenslanders remain in their own homes or in the private rental market
- \$1.67 million to support homeless people or people at risk of becoming homeless
- \$1 million to develop a birthing centre at the Toowoomba Hospital
- \$625,000 for chronic disease Indigenous health services in Toowoomba. This is part of the National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- \$533,729 to improve the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children and their families
- \$466,000 for non-government organisations in Toowoomba to employ chronic disease health workers in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, alcohol, child health, and sexual and reproductive health
- \$359,000 to non-government organisations in Toowoomba for the Palliative Care Program
- \$330,621 to support victims of domestic violence
- \$76,000 for the Toowoomba area to support a State-wide hearing screening program for babies born in private hospitals, paediatric audiology diagnostic and treatment services, healthy hearing initiatives and the cochlear implant program.

Renewable energy and the environment

The Queensland Government is committed to the fight against climate change and



Toowoomba Birthing Centre

The Queensland Government is committed to making Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people by investing in healthcare, health services and hospitals. In 2009-10, the Government will invest \$1 million to develop a birthing centre at the Toowoomba Hospital.

reducing Queensland's carbon footprint by one-third by 2020. Across the State, the Government is investing an additional \$95.83 million over five years in new climate change initiatives, including \$15.6 million for disaster management, \$15 million for the ClimateSmart Business Service, \$8 million for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit program, \$4.5 million to extend the Rural Water Use Efficiency initiative, and \$52.7 million on energy conservation and demand management initiatives.

The Government will also create new green jobs by investing in emerging industries and renewable energy projects, such as the Solar Hot Water Program. This program will provide up to 200,000 Queensland homes with solar hot water or heat pump systems at a fraction of the normal price.

Other initiatives aimed at protecting Darling Downs and West Moreton's natural environment include:

- \$1.71 million as part of a \$15.2 million grant for the Toowoomba Regional Council to construct the Kingsthorpe and Gowrie Junction Sewerage Scheme
- \$862,000 as part of a \$3.08 million grant for the Toowoomba Regional Council to construct the Goombungee Sewerage Scheme.

Better and safer roads

The Government's \$3.53 billion road building program plans for growth by creating and sustaining Queensland jobs, improving road safety and quality, reducing congestion, and continuing to connect people and places around the State.

In 2009-10, the Government's commitment to improve road quality and safety in Darling Downs and West Moreton will include:

- \$5.8 million to complete the \$9.5 million widening and sealing of the New England Highway, south of Crows Nest
- \$5.7 million to complete improvements to the New England Highway at the intersection of Ruthven and Jellicoe streets in Toowoomba
- \$3.9 million to complete construction of a new bridge and approaches on the Dalby-Kogan Road at Wilkie Creek, at a total estimated cost of \$4.6 million

Fostering innovation

\$520,000 (\$800,000 in total) to the University of Southern Queensland for the Bridging the Gap project as part of the National Collaboration Research Infrastructure Strategy. Bridging the Gap will produce commercially viable fibre composite bridge beams incorporating a bridge beam health monitoring system. The new beams will replace existing timber bridges, resulting in significantly reduced maintenance and repair costs.



- \$3.6 million to complete construction of a new bridge and approaches on the Inglewood-Texas Road at Oakey Creek, at a total estimated cost of \$5 million
- \$3.5 million to complete the \$7.8 million construction of an underpass at St Mary's Primary School on Palmerin Street in Warwick.

Promoting education and early childhood development

The Queensland Government is focussed on ensuring every Queensland child has access to high-quality education. The emphasis will be on the essentials of literacy, numeracy and science, as well as major infrastructure investment to provide first-rate teaching and learning environments, and generate employment opportunities.

In 2009-10, the Queensland Government will provide \$301 million to continue the State Schools of Tomorrow program to improve and build new facilities in some of Queensland's oldest schools.



Queensland State Budget 2009–10

As part of the Government's commitment to universal access to a quality early childhood education, joint Queensland and Australian Government funding of \$15.4 million under the Early Childhood Reform National Partnership will be provided in 2009-10 for the establishment of kindergarten infrastructure on 15 State school sites with 240 new or extra kindergarten services to be running by 2014. The Government will further invest in Darling Downs and West Moreton with the following initiatives aimed at promoting education and early childhood development:

- \$3.1 million in Australian Government funding to start constructing a \$4.1 million trade training centre at Stanthorpe State High School
- \$3.1 million in Australian Government funding to start constructing a \$4.1 million trade training centre at Dalby State High School
- \$1.4 million in Australian Government funding to construct a trade training centre at Harristown State High School
- \$1.4 million in Australian Government funding to construct a trade training centre at Oakey State High School
- \$1.1 million in Australian Government funding to begin constructing a \$1.5 million trade training centre at Lockyer District State High School
- \$797,000 to complete a \$2.4 million early childhood education centre at Toowoomba North
- \$219,000 to construct an assembly hall at Warwick West State School.

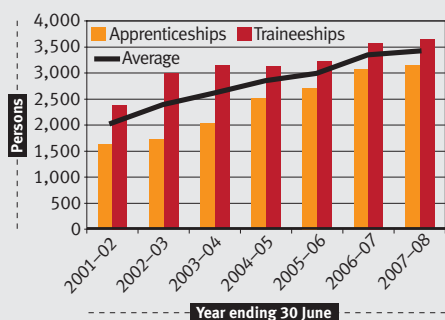
Improving emergency services

During the past year, Queensland has experienced devastating floods, cyclones and torrential storms. The Government's investment in emergency services will help make Queensland communities safer, provide quality emergency relief services, and create and sustain jobs.

In 2009-10 individuals and families across Queensland will benefit from:

- \$57.03 million for new and upgraded police stations and facilities
- \$22.2 million for nine new or improved urban fire and rescue stations, and improvements to emergency service facilities

Participation in post-secondary education Apprenticeships and traineeships, 2001-02 to 2007-08



Source: DET, Apprenticeships and traineeships, (unpublished data)

- \$20.93 million for 150 new ambulance vehicles, including 140 replacement vehicles and 10 additional vehicles
- \$19.25 million for 20 new or redeveloped ambulance facilities
- \$14.8 million for 57 new or replacement urban and rural fire and rescue appliances
- \$1.84 million (\$7.34 million over four years) to increase safety for rural firefighters under the \$12.98 million Support our Heroes package
- \$1.22 million (\$5.64 million over five years) for vehicles, flood boats and trailers for the State Emergency Service under the \$12.98 million Support our Heroes package.

Darling Downs and West Moreton will also benefit from \$1.8 million for a new \$4.5 million fire station at Toowoomba.



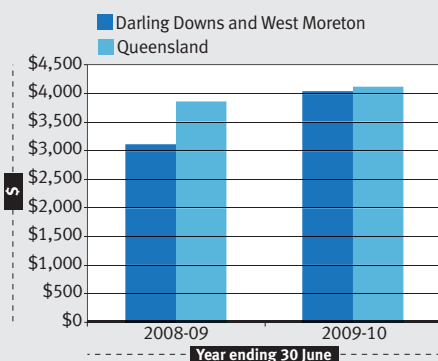
Get on board with Q150 celebrations

Queensland has come a long way since its birth as a separate colony 150 years ago. To celebrate this milestone, the Government is bringing Queenslanders together to honour the importance of our people, places and stories in shaping our great State.

With more than 480 community events and 91 social, historic and community legacy infrastructure projects happening around the State, there's something for everyone to enjoy – including the historic Q150 Steam Train and travelling Q150 Shed.

To find out more about Q150 celebrations in the Darling Downs and West Moreton region and across Queensland, visit the Q150 website at www.q150.qld.gov.au

Capital investment per capita 2008-09 to 2009-10



1. Data is based on ABS Statistical Divisions for 2006 ASGC. Due to boundary changes, data prior to 2008-09 has not been provided.

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, Cat no. 3218.0

Queensland State Budget Highlights 2009–10

Budget summary

Internationally Australia is a standout performer; Queensland to remain ahead of the nation

- Queensland's economy is expected to expand by $\frac{1}{2}\%$ in 2008-09, compared with no growth in the Australian economy.
- The State economy is forecast to experience a slightly milder contraction than the national average in 2009-10.
- Year-average employment growth is forecast to be $1\frac{1}{4}\%$ in 2010-11, compared with $\frac{1}{2}\%$ over the year to June quarter 2011 for Australia as a whole.
- Queensland's year-average unemployment rate is forecast to peak at $7\frac{1}{4}\%$ in 2010-11, compared with a peak in the national rate of $8\frac{1}{2}\%$ in June quarter 2011.

Challenging fiscal environment

- A deteriorating global and domestic economic environment has significantly impacted Queensland's finances.
- Since the 2008-09 Budget, \$15 billion over 4 years has been knocked off the State's key revenue sources (GST, taxes and royalties).
- As a result, Queensland is forecasting a General Government operating deficit in 2009-10 and across the forward estimates.
- The Government is committed to returning the Budget to surplus and lowering the State's debt levels and, consequently, has implemented around \$5.4 billion worth (over four years) of measures aimed at improving Queensland's fiscal position.
- The Government has undertaken steps to repair the State's finances for the longer term, charting a course back to surplus by 2016-17.

Investing in infrastructure to sustain jobs

- The Government's key objective is to continue to invest in infrastructure to sustain jobs while the current economic circumstances prevail.
- The 2009-10 capital program is forecast to be \$18.2 billion which is expected to support 127,000 full-time jobs.
- In 2009-10 there will be capital outlays of \$7.307 billion for transport and main roads, \$1.447 billion for housing and homelessness services, \$1.837 billion for education and training, \$1.296 billion for health, and \$1.121 billion for water.

Delivering for Queensland

In 2009-10, the Government will provide \$20.3 million for intensive teaching of Year 3 and 5 students who are not meeting national literacy and numeracy standards.

The Budget will also provide for an additional 350 teachers and teacher aides to meet enrolment growth.

Queensland Health's budget will grow to \$9.037 billion in 2009-10, an 8.2% increase on the previous year.

An additional \$30 million will be provided for Surgery Connect to provide treatment opportunities for patients currently waiting longer for surgery than is clinically recommended.

The 2009-10 Budget will see funding provided for an additional 50 ambulance officers, 150 new ambulances, 20 new or redeveloped ambulance facilities, nine new or improved urban fire and rescue stations, 23 new or replacement urban fire and rescue appliances and 34 new or replacement rural fire appliances.

Government services in Darling Downs & West Moreton

Boonah

QGAP

70 High Street
Boonah QLD 4310
Telephone: 5463 2165
Facsimile: 5463 2167
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 4:30pm
New registrations – 8:30am to
4pm only

Crows Nest

QGAP

16 Charlotte Street
Crows Nest QLD 4355
Telephone: 4698 2985
Facsimile: 4698 2800
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9:30am to 4:30pm

Goombungee

QGAP

89 Mocatta Street
Goombungee QLD 4354
Telephone: 4696 5985
Facsimile: 4696 7940
Opening hours: Monday,
Wednesday, Friday – 9am to
1pm; Tuesday, Thursday – 12pm
to 4pm

Inglewood

QGAP

25 Albert Street
Inglewood QLD 4387
Telephone: 4652 1310
Facsimile: 4652 2964
Opening hours: Monday to
Thursday – 9:30am to 1:30pm
then 2pm to 3pm; Friday –
9:30am to 1:30pm then 2pm to
4pm

Jandowae

QGAP

Community and Cultural Centre
Cnr George and High Streets
Jandowae QLD 4410
Telephone: 4668 5488
Facsimile: 4668 5842
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9am to 4pm

Kalbar

QGAP

78 George St
Kalbar QLD 4309
Telephone: 5463 7777
Facsimile: 5463 7888
Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday
– 12pm to 4pm

Laidley

QGAP

Spicer Street
Laidley QLD 4341
Telephone: 5466 8814
Facsimile: 5466 8860
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 4:30pm

Lowood

QGAP

Cnr Michel and Main Streets
Lowood QLD 4311
Telephone: 5426 2007
Facsimile: 5426 1816
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9am to 4:30pm

Miles

QGAP

32 Constance Street
Miles QLD 4415
Telephone: 4627 1177
Facsimile: 4627 1341
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9am to 4:30pm

Stanthorpe

QGAP

51 Marsh Street
Stanthorpe QLD 4380
Telephone: 4681 4965
Facsimile: 4681 4971
Opening hours: Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday –
8:30am to 4pm; Wednesday –
9:30am to 4pm

Tara

QGAP

19 Fry Street
Tara QLD 4421
Telephone: 4665 3130
Facsimile: 4665 3460
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9am to 1pm then 2pm to 4pm

Texas

QGAP

32 Cadell Street
Texas QLD 4385
Telephone: 4653 1251
Facsimile: 4653 1265
Opening hours: Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
– 9:30am to 1pm then 2pm to
5pm; Tuesday closed

Toowoomba

Department of Communities – Darling Downs and South West Queensland Regional Office

Level 6, Condamine Centre
10 Russell Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Telephone: 4699 4222
Facsimile: 4699 4244
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 5pm

Toowoomba

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

4 Little Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Telephone: 4698 9800
Facsimile: 4638 2139
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 5pm

Toowoomba

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

Clapham Building
203 Tor Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Telephone: 4688 1000
Facsimile: 4688 1182
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 4:30pm

Toowoomba

Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries

203 Tor Street
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Telephone: 4688 1200
Facsimile: 4688 1199
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 8:30am to 5pm

Wandoan

QGAP

11 Lawton Street
Wandoan QLD 4419
Telephone: 4627 5400
Facsimile: 4627 5400
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
– 9am to 4:30pm

Other services

Smart Service Queensland

For information on all other
Government services call
13 13 04 or visit
www.qld.gov.au

State Emergency Service

Telephone: 132 500

13 Health

Telephone: 13 43 25 84

Green Army

Find out more or register
your interest in joining
the Green Army by calling
1800 249 215 (Monday to
Friday – 8am to 6pm) or
online at www.greenarmy.qld.gov.au

Rapid Response Team

A hotline (1800 035 749)
is available for retrenched
workers who require
information about Federal
and State Government
assistance