

Queensland State Budget 2011–12

Regional Budget Statement



Darling Downs and West Moreton

Over the 2011 summer, Queensland experienced State-wide devastation from natural disasters.

The floods and Cyclone Yasi saw 100 per cent of Queensland local government areas declared disaster affected and triggered the largest rebuilding and recovery operation ever undertaken in this state.

The 2011-12 Budget fosters that recovery, while also providing relief for families. My Government's decision to abolish the ambulance levy will provide immediate relief for families doing it tough.

There is also a new \$140 million Queensland Building Boost, to stimulate the housing sector and make it more attractive for people to purchase their first home.

We will also implement reforms to our education system by moving Year 7 into high



school, enabling our children to get full benefit from the new Australian Curriculum. This Budget invests a record amount in events funding - an \$85.8 million boost over five years - to help Queensland attract major events and drive up tourism numbers. This is a Budget built on strength of spirit that will restore long-term social and economic prosperity to the Darling Downs-West Moreton region and right across the State.

Anna Bligh MP
Premier and Minister
for Reconstruction

On track for recovery from the global financial crisis, Queensland's economy was instead faced with the worst floods in 100 years and Cyclone Yasi.

Mines were flooded, crops destroyed and communities were isolated. Some of our key export partners, too, were hit by natural disasters.

The 2011-12 State Budget faces those challenges head-on, reprioritising our needs and maintaining our sights on prosperity and a return to surplus.

It will also chart our course back to the front of the economic pack, with growth in 2011-12 to outpace the other states and the nation.

Our prosperity is in our regions - our mineral-rich centres, our tourism and heritage hotspots, and our business, industry and agriculture hubs.



This Government will maintain its focus on economic reform and jobs generation.

Our infrastructure investment will clock in at \$15 billion - more than Western Australia and more than Victoria. The program will support almost 93,000 jobs.

The 2011-12 State Budget will strengthen Queensland's economy and deliver on our commitment to protect Queensland jobs.

Andrew Fraser MP
Treasurer and Minister for
State Development and Trade

Government services in Darling Downs and West Moreton

Smart Service Queensland State Emergency Service 13 Health

Telephone: 132 500 Telephone: 13 43 25 84

Every Dollar Counts concessions website

www.communityservices.qld.gov.au/community/concessions/

For Government services call 13 13 04 or visit www.qld.gov.au

State-wide Highlights

Helping Queenslanders into new homes

- Massive stimulus package for building new homes
- \$10,000 grant for a new home contracted between 1 August 2011 and 31 January 2012
- Zero stamp duty for first home buyers under \$500,000
- First home owners can now receive up to \$17,000
- Kick-starting the housing market, generating jobs and construction

Rebuilding Queensland

 \$6.8 billion in State and federal disaster funding, including \$2.9 billion on roads, \$2.75 billion for local governments and \$656 million for small business, non-profit organisations and primary producers

Supporting jobs and investing in the future

- \$100 million over three years in new Smart State initiatives
- \$85.8 million over five years to attract new events to support tourism
- Capital program of \$15 billion in 2011-12, supporting 93,000 jobs

A better education system for our children

- \$328 million over four years for State schools for building works to move Year 7 to secondary school in 2015
- \$50 million in 2011-12 for the State School Investment Program

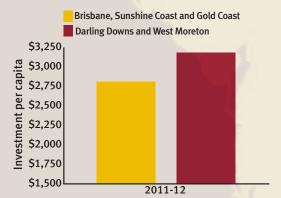
Investing in services

- A record health budget of \$11.05 billion
- More police, to meet our commitment to deliver 600 officers this term, and 50 new ambulance officers

A greener Queensland

- \$75 million to support investment in solar power energy generation
- \$60 million to the end of next year for ClimateSmart Home Services – reducing households bills and carbon emissions

Capital expenditure per capita



2011-12 Regional Budget Statement - Darling Downs and West Moreton

For more information about Government initiatives in your region, visit www.qld.gov.au/buildingqld

Miles • Chinchilla

Goondiwindi

Condamine

Taroom •

Weengallon

Thallon

Funds to start the

replacement auxiliary

\$1.3 million

fire and rescue

station at Clifton.

\$5.5 million for

new job creation

to grow a skilled

programs and

\$80 million

for vocational

education and

training, including

apprenticeships and

workforce.

- \$4.4 million for the Surat Basin resources trade infrastructure project at Miles State High School.
- **\$100,000** to commence early works to replace the ambulance station and relief quarters at Tara.
- \$3.7 million to widen and seal a section of the New England Highway from Munro Road to Pioneer Road
- \$3.2 million for kindergartens at Crows Nest, Gabbinbar and Hatton Vale State Schools.



\$70,000 to relocate the Dandabah workshop and compound to the **Conservation Park** adjacent to the Bunya Mountains National Park.



- \$2 million to commence refurbishment of Dalby State High School.
- \$5.5 million of \$27.5 million to replace turnouts and recondition the Dalby to Rosewood rail line.

Stanthorpe 43

\$981,000 of

emergency care

partnership with

annual funding to

support the new

National Carriage

Cobb+Co Museum

Factory at the

in Toowoomba.

\$8 million to

Gatton-Esk Road

Warrego Highway

Shire boundary.

and the former Esk

upgrade the

between the

the Australian

Government.

\$500,000

at Toowoomba

Hospital, in

\$2 million

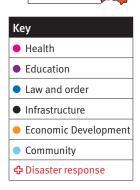
for faster

landowae

Texas

- Crows Nes Dalby • Esk to complete Gatton Toowoomba # Laidley
 - \$33.7 million stage one of the southern Queensland Correctional Centre Boonah

) Precinct at Gatton Warwick due to open in 2012.
- \$4.4 million to complete rehabilitation of the Lockyer Creek Bridge and culverts on the Warrego Highway at Helidon.
- **\$8 million** of \$96 million to duplicate lanes from Nugents Pinch Road to west of Charlton, on the Warrego Highway.



Disaster response funding

- **\$202.6 million** to local governments for recovery and reconstruction projects, in partnership with the Australian Government, including to repair the Jellicoe Street Bridge in Toowoomba and to reconstruct Flagstone Creek Road and Lefthand Branch Road in the Lockyer Valley.
- \$10.9 million to reconstruct the Mt Sylvia Road in the Lockyer Valley.
- \$2.1 million to support community recovery and rebuild community cohesion.

- \$39.1 million of \$84 million to restore transport connections between Brisbane and Southern Queensland, by repairing erosion and major land slips to the Toowoomba Range Road, rail crossings and Cunninghams Gap.
- ♣ \$25 million to reconstruct sections of the Warrego Highway between Macalister and Warra.



Cost of living support for Queenslanders

Supporting our State's regions by improving access to and affordability of a range of services:

- \$140 million to reduce the cost of electricity bills by abolishing the Community Ambulance Cover levy.
- \$411 million to ensure that regardless of where they live, all Queensland electricity customers of a similar type pay a similar price for electricity.
- \$165.9 million for cost of living concessions, to improve affordability of council rates for pensioners and electricity for pensioners and seniors.
- \$337.8 million for regional freight and passenger transport subsidies, including air services in Toowoomba and bus services in Toowoomba and Warwick.
- \$54.6 million for the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme which assists patients accessing specialist medical services not available within their local area.
- \$146.7 million for the School Transport Assistance Scheme to assist students who have to travel long distances to their nearest school.