

Fitzroy

Heritage Buildings, Rockhampton



Premier's Message

The Queensland Government is firmly committed to strengthening and building the regions which are the foundation of this State. As a Government we are forging a strong, prosperous future and a better quality of life for all Queenslanders.

This second Regional Budget Statement for Fitzroy highlights capital works and services in the State Budget 2003-04 that specifically meet the needs of people within the region. This Statement demonstrates a significant investment in the Fitzroy region.

This Budget delivers improved and integrated services in the areas of health, families, education, housing and law and order to achieve better outcomes for people in the Fitzroy region. For example, an additional 13 police officers will be provided in 2003-04, making a total of 30 new police over three years for the Rockhampton police district. Also, \$25.2 million will help deliver housing services and infrastructure.

A highly skilled and educated workforce is integral to our Smart State initiatives in employment creation and economic growth. In 2003-04 the Government will spend more than \$8 million on initiatives that will provide further training and employment opportunities.

Fitzroy will benefit from the following infrastructure funding in the State Budget 2003-04:

- \$60.8 million of a total commitment of \$150 million (net of interests costs) to continue the construction of common user infrastructure to service the Comalco Alumina Refinery and other projects
- \$19.79 million allocated by Ergon Energy to supply electricity to the MIM Coal Mine at Rolleston
- \$4.4 million to finalise construction and commissioning of the Capricornia Correctional Centre in Rockhampton
- \$3.5 million to continue replacement of current facilities at the Springsure Multi-purpose Health Service facility.

The initiatives contained in this Statement reinforce my Government's commitment to working in partnership with the people of Fitzroy to maximise the social, economic and environmental capacity of the Smart State.

Peter Beattie
Premier and Minister for Trade

This Regional Budget Statement outlines key Government spending in the State Budget 2003-04 designed exclusively for the needs of the Fitzroy region and its people. As a Government, we recognise the uniqueness and diversity of the regions as the building blocks of this State. In fact, in this Budget we have allocated 62.5% of capital works funding for regions outside the Brisbane Statistical Division.

The Fitzroy region covers 7% of the State and is home to 183,515 Queenslanders, including 6.9% of the State's Indigenous population. It comprises the cities of Rockhampton and Gladstone, and the shires of Banana, Bauhinia, Calliope, Daringa, Emerald, Fitzroy, Jericho, Livingstone, Mount Morgan and Peak Downs. In addition, the region includes the Woorabinda Aboriginal Council.

The regional economy is driven by the agricultural industry, mineral production and manufacturing and transport and storage industries.

Building Queensland's regions

The Queensland Government will continue its partnership with the Fitzroy region in 2003-04 to promote regional growth and economic development.

In support of this priority, the Government has allocated a further \$50 million over four years to extend the Regional Centres Program across the State. Benefits for the Fitzroy region include:

- \$2.25 million to Rockhampton City Council for the proposed Rockhampton Community Resource Centre

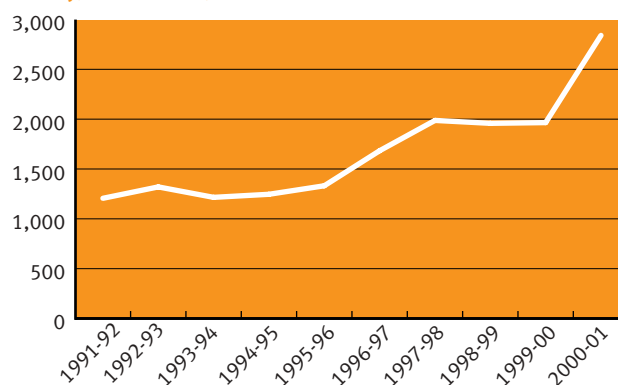
- \$1 million to Calliope Shire Council for the Canoe Point Botanic Reserve Redevelopment
- \$1.4 million to Gladstone City Council to revitalise the Gladstone CBD Waterfront
- \$1.55 million to Livingstone Shire Council for revitalisation of the Capricorn Coast's Major Centres at Emu Park and Yeppoon.

A safe and efficient transport network underpins regional development in the Smart State. In Fitzroy in 2003-04, major transport funding includes:

- \$160 million to provide infrastructure for new coal projects
- \$9.9 million to continue construction of the Gladstone Port Access Road to a new, sealed, two-lane standard, funded jointly by the State and Commonwealth Governments and Calliope Shire Council
- \$1.59 million on the Dawson Highway (Rolleston - Springsure) to widen and seal shoulders between Staircase Range and Rodda's Lookout.

To position the region to take advantage of future economic development opportunities, almost \$25 million is allocated to extend the Gladstone State Development area to ensure adequate supply of industrial land.

Value of Mineral Production (\$ million), Fitzroy, Queensland, 1991-92 to 2000-01



Source: Department of Natural Resources and Mines (unpublished data)

Australian Beef Expo in Rockhampton



We will work with local governments to help deliver reliable water and sewerage services including:

- \$172,000 to provide capital infrastructure for works related to water and sewerage services at Springsure for Bauhinia Shire Council
- \$435,000 to provide reliable water supply and sewerage services at Alpha for Jericho Shire Council.

An efficient power supply is vital to economic development within the Fitzroy region. In 2003-04 major power projects include:

- Powerlink has allocated \$20 million to reinforce the Calvale - Gladstone transmission line and \$3 million for the Calvale transformer
- Ergon Energy will work with local government to remove overhead power lines and place them underground
- Powerlink has allocated \$17 million toward construction of a second transmission line from Broadsound to Lilyvale.

A reliable water supply is critical to regional development and growth. In 2003-04, SunWater has allocated \$16.9 million for the Callide Pipeline Extension and the Gladstone Area Water Board has allocated \$16.46 million for the Mount Miller Pipeline. In addition, \$1 million is allocated by the Gladstone Area Water Board to develop the Aldoga Reservoir and Pipeline.

The Fitzroy region will benefit from a share of \$25 million provided statewide for drought assistance and drought recovery activities.

More jobs for Queensland – skills and innovation – the Smart State

High standards of training and education are the foundation of our efforts to position Queensland as the Smart State.

Through the *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* initiative, the Government will continue to support the region's young job seekers, the long-term unemployed and disadvantaged job seekers, with \$6.1 million allocated to help create 780 jobs across the region.

In addition, Fitzroy will benefit from \$1.8 million allocated to the region for the statewide Central Queensland Training and Employment Strategy, which aims to provide training requirements to encourage significant light metal projects in Central Queensland.

School facilities ensure we have the infrastructure in place to deliver a high standard of education to our young people. Education in the Fitzroy region will benefit from \$1.31 million for a range of works at schools, including \$104,000 to upgrade the science facilities at Rockhampton State High School and \$285,000 to upgrade special education units at Biloela State High School, Biloela State School, Blackwater North State School, North Rockhampton State High School and Yeppoon State High School.

In 2003-04, we will provide \$1.01 million in Fitzroy region for the Triple R program, which provides repainting, reticulation and re-roofing enhancements to schools, including:

- repainting at Blackwater State High School
- repainting at Emerald State High School
- roofing at Crescent Lagoon State School.

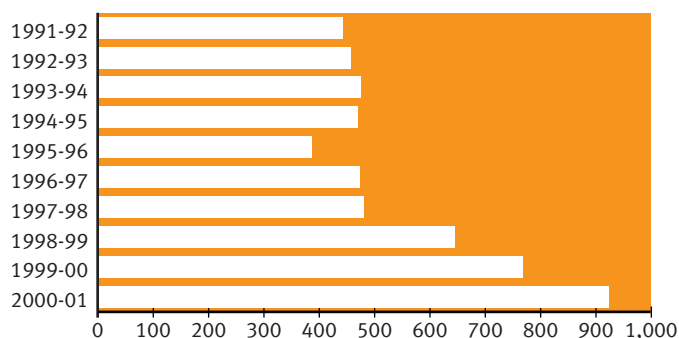
In addition, \$814,000 is provided to purchase books for public libraries within the region.

Capricornia Correctional Centre



In 2003-04 \$4.5 million is allocated to complete the Capricornia Correctional Centre at Rockhampton.

Gross Value of Agricultural Production (\$ million)
Fitzroy, Queensland, 1991-92 to 2000-01



Source: ABS, Agriculture, Queensland (unpublished data)

We will spend \$70,000 to continue the comprehensive Gladstone Airshed Modelling Project to help plan future industry in the area.

State Budget Highlights

Budget summary

Creating new jobs

- In 2002-03, an estimated 55,000 new jobs were created in Queensland, accounting for almost a quarter of all new jobs in Australia.
- Queensland's year-average unemployment rate is expected to fall to 7% in 2002-03, its lowest level for 13 years.

Growing the economy

- Queensland's economic outlook is strong. Solid growth of 4% is forecast for 2003-04, exceeding the 3¹/₄% forecast nationally.
- Growth in household consumption and business investment is forecast to exceed national performance in 2003-04.

Strong finances

- A General Government net operating surplus of \$153 million and a cash surplus of \$152 million are forecast in 2003-04.
- The State's net worth is budgeted to grow from \$58.7 billion at 30 June 2003, to \$60.3 billion by 30 June 2004 and to \$67 billion by 30 June 2007.

Competitive taxes

- Taxpayers in other States and Territories will pay on average 28% more tax than Queenslanders.
- As a result of the land tax relief in this Budget, more than 13,500 land holders will not be liable for land tax in 2003-04.

Delivering on our priorities

Building Queensland's regions

- Capital spending will be boosted to \$5.3 billion in 2003-04, supporting some 44,500 full-time jobs with a total of 62.5% of capital works funding spent outside the Brisbane Statistical Division.
- The Regional Centres Program will receive \$50 million over four years to help local governments deliver infrastructure and community facilities.

More jobs for Queensland – skills and innovation – the Smart State

- The Budget includes \$100 million over 4 years for a package of measures to increase the effectiveness of public and private research and development.
- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative will be extended with an extra \$255 million over 3 years from 2004-05, plus an additional \$3.8 million to employ 300 public sector apprentices.
- Funding is provided for an extra 636 teachers in schools from 2004.

Safer and more supportive communities

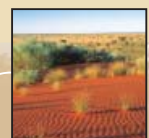
- As the second year of a \$188 million four-year initiatives package, \$32 million will help generate better outcomes for families and children.
- The Queensland Ambulance Service will employ an extra 110 officers statewide, and will commence or complete 17 replacement and four new stations.
- The number of police officers will increase by approximately 300 in 2003-04 as the Police Service progresses towards the achievement of 9,100 officers by 2005.

Community engagement and a better quality of life

- There is an additional \$2.6 billion over 4 years for Health (including Commonwealth and State funding), compared to the 2002-03 Health Budget, including additional investment and service enhancements in acute hospital care, elective surgery, home and community care and mental health.
- An additional \$290.5 million in State funding is provided over four years to Disability Services Queensland including \$200 million to implement Funding Reform Project initiatives.

Valuing the environment

- As part of a \$150 million Commonwealth-State tree clearing reduction package, the State will provide an additional \$75 million over five years.



Government services in your region

For information on Government services in your region, contact the following offices of the Queensland Government Agent Program (QGAP), Department of State Development or Regional Communities.

Biloela

QGAP

60 Kariboe Street
Biloela QLD 4715
Phone: 4992 3245
Monday–Friday 9.00am–4.30pm

Gladstone

State Development Centre

33 Goondoon Street
The Old Gladstone Post Office Building
Gladstone QLD 4680
Phone: 4971 2300
Monday–Friday 8.30am–5.00pm

Mt Morgan

QGAP

Mt Morgan Learning Centre (LNQ)
38 Morgan Street
Mt Morgan QLD 4714
Phone: 4938 1359
Monday–Thursday 9.00am–3.00pm
Friday 9.00am–1.00pm

Moura

QGAP

Cnr Marshall & Shirley Streets
Moura QLD 4718
Phone: 4997 2244
Monday–Friday 9.00am–12.00pm and
1.00pm–4.30pm

Rockhampton

Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Central Queensland Regional Office

Ground Floor
34 East Street
Rockhampton QLD 4700
Phone: 4938 4472
Monday–Friday 8.30am–5.00pm

Office of Economic and Statistical Research

Level 3
State Government Building
209 Bolsover Street
Rockhampton QLD 4700
Phone: 4938 4486
Monday–Friday 9.00am–5.00pm

State Development Centre

149 Bolsover Street
Rockhampton QLD 4700
Phone: 4938 4572
Monday–Friday 9.00am–5.00pm

Springsure

QGAP

Eclipse Street
Springsure QLD 4722
Phone: 4984 1433
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9.00am–4.30pm

Yeppoon

QGAP

Yeppoon Courthouse
Normanby Street
Yeppoon QLD 4703
Phone: 4939 5385
Monday–Friday 9.00am–4.30pm

Regional Budget Statement – State Budget 2003-04
www.budget.qld.gov.au

