

# • State Budget Highlights

## Budget summary

### Growing the economy

- Queensland's economy is forecast to strengthen in 2002-03 to  $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ , again exceeding national growth of  $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ .
- Business investment is forecast to reach an historical peak of almost \$13 billion in real terms.

### Creating new jobs

- Queensland is creating jobs much faster than the national average. Over the 12 months to May 2002, Queensland created more than 30% of all jobs created in Australia and almost 80% of national full-time jobs.
- This strong performance is forecast to continue in 2002-03, with year-average growth in employment of  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ , or about 43,000 new jobs.
- The unemployment rate is forecast to fall to a year-average  $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ , the lowest in a decade.

### Sound finances

- A net operating surplus of \$23 million and a cash surplus of \$354 million are budgeted for the General Government sector in 2002-03, with surpluses over the forward estimates period.
- The State's net worth is expected to continue to grow, reaching \$58.5 billion by 30 June 2003.

### Building Queensland's infrastructure

- A capital works program of \$4.8 billion will support some 45,100 full-time jobs.

### Competitive taxes

- Payroll tax will be reduced to 4.75% from 1 July 2002.
- Queenslanders will be taxed on average \$1,321 in 2002-03, significantly lower than the average tax burden in other States and Territories of \$1,757 per capita.

## Delivering on our priorities

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

- The new Education and Training Reforms for the Future package provides \$158.3 million over four years to provide our young people with more opportunities to access high quality education and training.
- The new Queensland BioCapital Fund will invest \$100 million in venture capital in biotechnology projects that have potential for high commercial returns for the Smart State.
- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative has been funded an additional \$10 million over two years.

### Safer and more supportive communities

- New funding of \$148 million is provided over four years for the delivery of a range of initiatives aimed at achieving better outcomes for children, young people and families. This funding is in addition to the final instalment of funding (\$40 million over four years) committed as a result of the Forde Inquiry and brings the Government's additional funding commitment in this area to \$188 million over four years (\$42 million in 2002-03).
- An additional 307 police will be appointed across the State.

### Community engagement and better quality of life

- The health budget will be allocated approximately \$13.3 million for acute inpatient services and up to \$7.3 million for improvements to Home and Community Care services.
- More than \$150 million is provided for public rental housing and \$6.5 million for crisis accommodation.

### Valuing the environment

- A further 60 rangers will be employed, as part of the Protecting Our Natural Assets election commitment of \$10 million per annum to fund up to 140 new park rangers and improve facilities.

### Building Queensland's regions

- 55.8% of the capital works budget is allocated for outside the Brisbane Statistical Division, reflecting the Government's strong commitment to the regions.



# Aspley

## Brisbane

## Ipswich

## Beenleigh

## North Stradbroke Island

## Springwood

**Queensland**  
Government



The importance of the Greater Brisbane region to the economic and social life of our State is evident in the Government's 2002-03 Budget. In South East Queensland, including the Greater Brisbane region, the Government will spend \$2.7 billion on capital works in 2002-03, including:

- \$209.5 million to complete the redevelopment of Suncorp-Metway Stadium;
- \$172.9 million to upgrade the Port of Brisbane and complete the Port of Brisbane Motorway;
- \$77.7 million to continue the redevelopment of the Royal Brisbane, Royal Women's and Princess Alexandra Hospitals;
- \$32.1 million for work at Queensland Rail's Redbank workshop; and
- \$9.4 million to improve reliability of energy supply to Logan West.

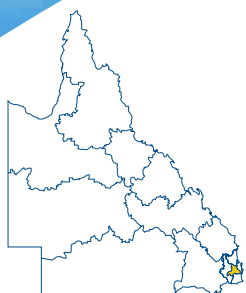
In the Smart State, the focus is about more than infrastructure. We will provide venture capital and support research and development in emerging industries, such as biotechnology, to position Queensland at the forefront of the knowledge economy. This Budget will also boost services in the areas of families, education and law and order. For example, we will continue the pilot of a Drug Court at Ipswich to get people off drugs and reduce crime.

This statement highlights initiatives within your region that have been developed in response to individual community concerns. It shows the Government is passionate about listening to the community. In fact, we spend more time than any other Government listening to thousands of people at community engagement events such as Community Cabinet and Ministerial Regional Community Forums. We also have a network of Regional Communities offices, including at Ipswich and Beenleigh.

The Government is working with you and for you, to build employment and lifestyle opportunities. We are committed to expanding export markets, encouraging value-adding industries and building the regions' competitive advantages.

This means focusing on a workforce that is more highly skilled, educated and in demand. It also means improving social infrastructure, so community life flourishes.

The Queensland Government is committed to building partnerships with the regions because active communities are central to us achieving the Smart State vision. Together, we can forge a better future for our communities.





## • Introduction

The infrastructure and services funded in the 2002-03 State Budget and outlined in this statement demonstrate the Queensland Government's commitment to working with the Greater Brisbane region to promote economic development and job creation, stronger community networks and a prosperous future.

The Greater Brisbane region includes Queensland's capital, Brisbane, and the cities of Ipswich, Logan and Redcliffe, as well as the shires of Pine Rivers and Redland. The region is home to about 40% of all Queenslanders and the population is projected to grow by more than a quarter to almost 1.9 million people by 2021.

More than half of Queensland's businesses are located in the region, with the property and business services industry, retail trade, construction, and health and community services the largest employers. Located at the doorstep of Asia and the South Pacific, Brisbane is attracting national and regional business headquarters, and exports from the Port of Brisbane have almost doubled in value in the last decade.

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

The Queensland Government is positioning Queensland as the Smart State with a strategy that supports a diversified economy through major investment in traditional and new industries.

As part of that drive, the Government's \$100 million Smart State Research Facilities Fund enables Queensland to invest in world-class research facilities and positions the State at the forefront of the knowledge economy. In 2002-03, the Fund will provide \$5 million to the new Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology at the University of Queensland to generate benefits in health, manufacturing, information technology and the environment. The Fund has also provided \$12.6 million in grants in 2002-03 for:

- the Institute for Health and Biomedical Innovation at the Queensland University of Technology's Kelvin Grove campus to study ways to regenerate human tissue damaged by ageing or trauma;
- a computational earth systems simulator at the University of Queensland to develop computer models to improve mining safety; and
- the Cryo-Electron Microscopy Unit at the University of Queensland to help produce new drugs.

Other Smart State funding in the Greater Brisbane region in 2002-03 includes:

- \$11.4 million for the Institute of Molecular Bioscience;
- \$2 million for the Queensland Parallel Supercomputing Foundation;
- \$1.9 million to the Queensland Manufacturing Institute for its programs, which include research and development rapid prototyping, advanced visualisation and 3D modelling, technology audits and advice;
- \$1.5 million for the Cooperative Research Centres for Satellite Systems, Enterprise Distributed Systems Technology and Diagnostics; and
- \$990,000 to develop and grow companies through the I.lab Technology incubator and the Technology Incubator Support Program.

We will also support the establishment of the Australian Institute for Commercialisation.



Investment in new industries creates 21st century jobs. Through the Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative, the Government is creating new job opportunities and improving workforce skills. In 2002-03, it's anticipated that approximately \$35 million will be spent in the Greater Brisbane region for employment programs.

Investing in the Smart State means investing in training and education. We will spend \$15.4 million in 2002-03 for improvements at the Brisbane, Logan, Bremer, Yeronga, Southbank, Moreton, North Point and Open Learning Institutes of TAFE, including new campuses at Browns Plains and Inala.

A world-class aeroskills training centre is to be located at Brisbane Airport and we will provide \$2.5 million in 2002-03 towards its establishment.

This Budget also provides \$158.3 million over four years state-wide to fund an innovative package of education and training reforms for the future.

In 2002-03, the Greater Brisbane region will share in:

- an additional \$22.7 million for information and communication technologies (ICT) in classrooms and ICT training for teachers; and
- 382 additional teachers to provide for growth and other needs, including 158 teachers as part of the Government's election commitment to employ 800 additional teachers over four years.

Highlights in education funding for the region include:

- \$4.9 million to finalise the \$24 million Stage 2 of the new Woodcrest College and additional classrooms;
- \$2.7 million to commence Stages 2 and 3 of the new school at North Lakes State College;
- almost \$460,000 for the Learning and Development Centres for gifted and talented students at Robertson and Eagle Junction State Schools and for technology at Cleveland State School;
- \$450,000 to commence Stage 2 of the new \$12.1 million Calamvale Community College;
- \$320,000 for the New Basics initiative at Algester, Buranda, Belmont and Eatons Hill State Schools, Kelvin Grove State College, Kenmore State High School, Mt Gravatt West Special School and Calamvale Community College; and
- a further \$200,000 each to Ironside State School and Redcliffe State High School, which are Technology, Maths and Science Centres of Excellence.

## • Building Queensland's Regions

The Government is working to drive economic development in the Greater Brisbane region. A key outcome of this partnership is the development of SEQ 2021 – A Sustainable Future, a joint regional planning project. We have provided \$450,000 in 2002-03 for South East Queensland, matched by the South East Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils.

To support growth in key industries and promote economic activity in the region, this Budget provides:

- \$209.5 million for the Suncorp-Metway Stadium redevelopment, which is due for completion in 2003;
- \$3 million towards the \$8.1 million Murarrie Industrial Estate and \$2 million to further develop the \$8.7 million Lytton Industrial Estate; and
- \$500,000 to continue developing infrastructure service corridors in the Australia Trade Coast precinct.

We will provide almost \$14 million towards the development of the \$60 million Creative Industries Precinct at Kelvin Grove, in partnership with the Queensland University of Technology. The precinct will be the first in Australia dedicated to the development of the creative industries. We will also spend \$17 million on major infrastructure at the Kelvin Grove Urban Village.

We are working with QANTAS to establish its new heavy maintenance facility at the Brisbane Airport, which will provide 680 jobs over three years.

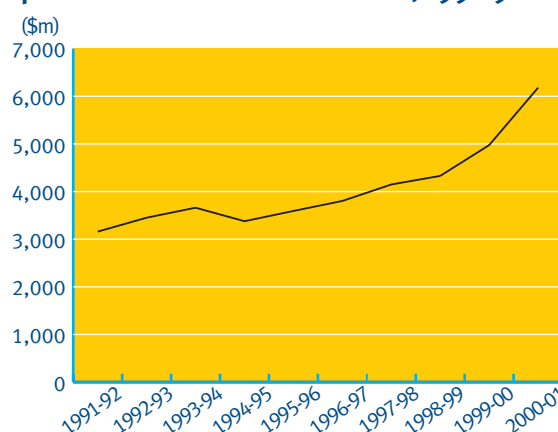
An efficient energy network is critical to economic growth in the region. The \$281 million Swanbank E Power Station is due to commence commercial operations in October 2002, fuelled by natural gas. Other projects include:

- \$68.5 million to upgrade Energex's electricity supply infrastructure in Greater Brisbane;
- \$36.9 million to reinforce Powerlink's transmission supply from Belmont substation;
- \$9.4 million to improve the reliability of Energex's energy supply to Logan West; and
- \$16.1 million for a new substation at Murarrie to reinforce supply to the Port of Brisbane.

To deliver a safe and efficient transport network in the Greater Brisbane region, this Budget provides:

- almost \$100 million to complete the \$195 million Port of Brisbane Motorway and \$72.9 million for the Port;
- \$84 million to continue busway initiatives including bus stations at Springwood and the Cultural Centre and the Inner Northern Busway Project;
- \$32.1 million for work at Queensland Rail's Redbank workshop, including manufacturing coal wagons and a tilt train;

**Exports from the Port of Brisbane, 1991-92 to 2000-01**



Source: ABS, Foreign Trade (unpublished data)

(right) Work continues on the  
Metway Stadium upgrade (far right)  
Bremer Institute of TAFE, Ipswich

- a further \$11.4 million for the Brisbane to Beenleigh Road; and
- \$38 million to complete work on the Bruce Highway between Dohles Rocks and Boundary Roads.

Funding for local councils includes \$5.4 million for water and sewerage infrastructure and \$2.3 million to revitalise the Strathpine, Ipswich and Capalaba CBDs.

## • Safer and more supportive communities

Families are the foundation of our communities and to support them, we are this year funding a package of \$188 million over four years (\$42 million in 2002-03) for delivery of a range of initiatives aimed at achieving better outcomes for children, young people and families. This comprises new funding of \$148 million over four years, in addition to the final instalment of funding (\$40 million over four years) committed as a result of the Forde Inquiry. This funding will be allocated across all regions of the State.

Smarter policing and crime prevention are vital for ensuring our communities are safe. Over the next three years, up to 122 additional police will be appointed at Ipswich and the Metropolitan South Region.

We have allocated \$4.8 million in 2002-03 to continue the pilot of Drug Courts in South East Queensland at Ipswich, Beenleigh and Southport Magistrates Courts. The pilot was established in June 2000 and has been extended to December 2003. The Drug Courts enable drug-addicted offenders who commit non-violent crimes to be diverted out of the jail system and into intensive rehabilitation programs. Other projects include:

- \$16.1 million for the new \$135.5 million Magistrates Court Building in Brisbane;
- \$5.9 million for a new Western Districts Magistrates Court and a new watchhouse at Inala;
- \$2.1 million to complete a new 24-hour police station at Calamvale and commence 24-hour stations at Loganholme and Stafford;
- \$1.9 million for work at Roma Street Fire Station; and
- \$1 million to buy land and build a replacement ambulance station at Balmoral.

In 2002-03, we will fund \$20.7 million for Urban and Community Renewal Programs at Inala, Leichhardt, Goodna, Woodridge, Kingston and Loganlea.

## • Community engagement and a better quality of life

The Queensland Government is working to ensure equality of opportunity and equitable access to high standards of health, housing and family services.

Our hospital redevelopment program will continue with:

- \$61.3 million to continue the \$478 million redevelopment of the Royal Brisbane and Royal Women's Hospitals; and



- \$16.4 million to continue the \$353 million redevelopment of the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

To ensure people have access to appropriate, secure and affordable housing, this Budget provides over \$83 million for public housing projects and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing. We will also provide \$12.5 million per annum over four years in cash and property to establish the Brisbane Housing Company to assist the homeless.

Under the Home Assist Secure Schemes, \$4.3 million is provided to assist elderly people to remain in their own homes longer, with improved safety and quality of life.

Disability services will be boosted through:

- more than \$3 million to improve disabled access to rail services at Pine Rivers and Brisbane;
- \$1.2 million for two new group homes for people with a disability who have high support needs; and
- approximately \$323,000 for new and enhanced family support and respite services.

The vibrancy of our communities is promoted through arts, cultural and sporting activities. One of the most exciting projects is the Gallery of Modern Art, which will enhance Queensland's reputation as a dynamic centre for the visual arts. In 2002-03, we will provide more than \$7 million to progress the \$94.4 million project.

Other projects include:

- \$19.7 million for the Millennium Library and the Millennium Arts Program works at Southbank;
- \$5.2 million to enhance Roma Street Parkland;
- \$3.6 million for the Musgrave Park Cultural Centre;
- \$2.2 million towards redeveloping historic Yungaba at Kangaroo Point as a multicultural centre; and
- a further \$1 million towards the construction of the Logan Cultural and Entertainment Centre.

## • Valuing the environment

To protect the natural assets of the Greater Brisbane region, in 2002-03 we will spend:

- \$42.6 million on the fire ant eradication campaign, including funding from the Commonwealth and other States;
- \$925,000 to buy and protect coastal lands adjacent to tidal waterways and Moreton Bay Marine Park; and
- \$331,000 to improve Venman Bushland, St Helena Island and Fort Lytton National Parks and Peel Island.

