

Regional Budget Statement Wide Bay-Burnett

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 Wide Bay-Burnett region.



Andrew Fraser MP
**Treasurer and Minister for Employment
and Economic Development**



Protecting jobs in Wide Bay-Burnett

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 52,377 square kilometres or 3 per cent of the State, Wide Bay-Burnett is home to 6.6 per cent of Queensland's total population. More than 280,000¹ Queenslanders now call Wide Bay-Burnett home.

Horticulture, manufacturing and agriculture industries are important contributors to Wide Bay-Burnett's diverse economic base, together with mineral production, tourism and retail trade.

The Queensland Government recognises the valuable contribution Wide Bay-Burnett 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 Wide Bay-Burnett include:

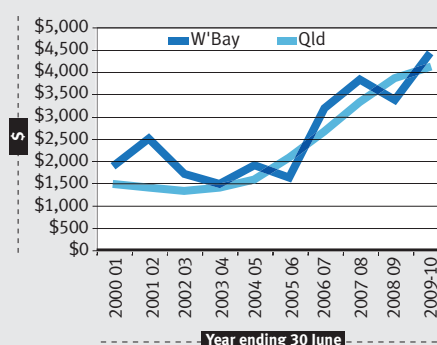
- \$91.5 million for maintenance and improvements to the Tarong and Tarong North power stations
- \$44.1 million to develop electricity substations in the region, including the construction of new substations in Gympie and Bundaberg, replacement of the Woolooga substation, and redevelopment of the Mundubbera and Gayndah zone substations
- \$4.7 million to construct a bridge across the Burnett River to ensure all-weather access to the Port of Bundaberg
- \$2.3 million to upgrade and maintain rental units in Indigenous communities. This is part of the Government's \$1.447 billion program

to expand and improve social housing across the State

- \$426,000 to construct the new four-lane boat ramp at Sandy Hook (Burnett River).

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

Capital investment per capita
2000-01 to 2009-10



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

Wide Bay-Burnett Regional Budget Statement

to lead Australia through the period of recovery and beyond.

In 2009-10, other job-generating investments in the Wide Bay-Burnett region include:

- \$155.1 million towards the \$1.51 billion construction of 102 three-car passenger carriages in Maryborough for the Citytrain network
- \$69.3 million for 25 new diesel electric locomotives
- \$53.6 million for vocational education and training activities in the region
- \$5.94 million to create 750 jobs for young people and those disadvantaged in the labour market through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, which includes Queensland's Green Army.

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.

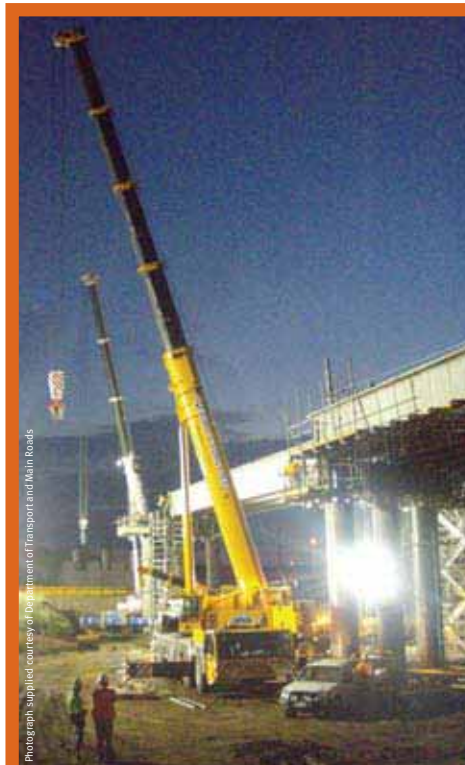
During the next three years, the Queensland Government aims to employ more than 3,500 additional doctors, nurses and allied health professionals across the State. In addition, \$7.9 million will be spent to train and recruit fully accredited nurse practitioners to reduce emergency department waiting 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
- \$900,000 for newborn and family drop-in clinics to provide specialist advice to new parents in Hervey Bay, Bundaberg, Kingaroy and other locations across the State. This is part of the Universal Postnatal Contact Service program.

In 2009-10, individuals and families in Wide Bay-Burnett will also benefit from the following treatment and healthcare initiatives aimed at maintaining healthy, strong communities:

- \$26.6 million to continue the \$41.4 million expansion of the Bundaberg Hospital, due for completion in 2010
- \$20.14 million for the Home and Community Care initiative
- \$12.57 million to support people with a disability and provide short term respite support for their carers and families
- \$4 million to provide faster emergency care at the Bundaberg Hospital
- \$3.2 million to help Queenslanders remain in their own homes or in the private rental market
- \$3 million to construct a new \$4.3 million pathology laboratory at Hervey Bay
- \$2.2 million over four years to provide extra out-of-home care places for children in care with complex and extreme needs
- \$2 million for the interim upgrade to the Bundaberg Mental Health Inpatient Unit



Photograph supplied courtesy of Department of Transport and Main Roads

Bundaberg Ring Road

The Queensland Government remains committed to investing in infrastructure in Wide Bay-Burnett to support and create jobs, and meet the region's growing infrastructure needs. In 2009-10, the Government will invest \$12.1 million to complete the \$100 million Bundaberg Ring Road (pictured).

- \$1.81 million to provide support for the homeless or people at risk of becoming homeless
- \$1.4 million to provide accommodation and support for women and children escaping domestic violence
- \$1.04 million to improve community sport and recreation facilities
- \$578,000 for chronic disease Indigenous health funding in Bundaberg and Cherbourg. This will support the implementation of the National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- \$360,000 for non-government organisations in Bundaberg to employ chronic disease health workers in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, alcohol, child health, and sexual and reproductive health
- \$84,000 for community self care funding in Bundaberg. This will assist self-help groups provide information and support on a variety of health issues.

Renewable energy and the environment

The Queensland Government is committed to the fight against climate change and 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 Wide Bay-Burnett's natural environment include:

- \$1.91 million to complete the Cooloola Great Walk and make other improvements to the Great Sandy National Park
- \$1.67 million as part of a \$3.34 million grant for the Fraser Coast Regional Council to fund the Vanderwolf Road Farm Recycled Water Scheme
- \$1.46 million as part of an \$8.72 million grant for the Gympie Regional Council to construct a sewage treatment plant at Cooloola Coast.

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 Wide Bay-Burnett will include:

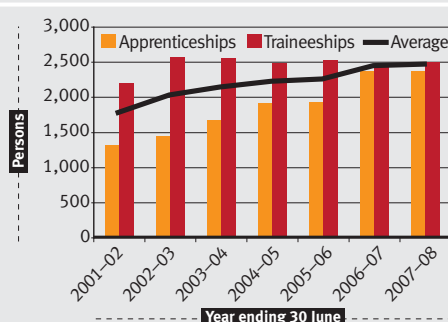
- \$236 million in joint Queensland-Australian Government funding to commence the \$613 million upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Cooroy and Curra (Section B – Sankeys Road to Traveston Road)
- \$16 million to complete the \$17.1 million widening of the Maryborough-Hervey Bay Road between the Torbanlea turn off and Dundowran Road, south of Pialba
- \$12.1 million to complete the \$100 million construction of the Bundaberg Ring Road between Bargara Road and the Isis Highway
- \$3.3 million to construct a new bridge and approaches on the Maryborough-Biggenden Road at Degilbo Creek, at a total estimated cost of \$6.6 million
- \$3 million to construct a new bridge and approaches on the Burnett Highway at Three Moon Creek, north-west of Monto, at a total estimated cost of \$7.2 million.

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

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



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

build new facilities in some of Queensland's oldest schools.

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 Wide Bay-Burnett with the following initiatives aimed at promoting education and early childhood development:

- \$3.2 million in Australian Government funding to begin constructing a \$4.2 million trade training centre at Kingaroy State High School
- \$3 million in Australian Government funding to begin constructing a \$4.5 million trade training centre at Maryborough State High School
- \$2 million to complete the \$2.3 million early childhood education and care facility in Nanango.

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

Fostering innovation

\$90,000 (\$250,000 over three years) from the Business and Industry Transformation Incentives Fund for DTR Holdings Pty Ltd to introduce an innovative method of food processing known as high pressure processing. New to Australia, this technology involves subjecting food to elevated pressures to retain freshness, colour and flavour, and extend the shelf life and nutritional value of food. The technology will be used to produce and sell a range of high-quality pre-packaged foods in Australia.



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 Wide Bay-Burnett region and across Queensland, visit the Q150 website at www.q150.qld.gov.au

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
- \$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.

Wide Bay-Burnett will also benefit from the following initiatives aimed at improving emergency services:

- \$7.93 million to commence construction on the \$8.76 million replacement police station and watchhouse at Murgon
- \$500,000 to construct a new \$1.1 million fire station at Agnes Water.

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 Wide Bay-Burnett

Agnes Water

QGAP

3 Captain Cook Drive
Agnes Water QLD 4677
Telephone: 4902 1555
Facsimile: 4902 1599
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 4:30pm

Blackbutt

QGAP

69 Hart Street
Blackbutt QLD 4306
Telephone: 4163 0030
Facsimile: 4163 0436
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 12pm then 1pm to 3:30pm

Bundaberg

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

200 Bourbong Street
Bundaberg Qld 4670
Telephone: 4151 9700
Facsimile: 4151 9711
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Bundaberg

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

16-32 Enterprise Street
Bundaberg QLD 4670
Telephone: 4131 5888
Facsimile: 4153 1307
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Eidsvold

QGAP

32 Moreton Street
Eidsvold QLD 4627
Telephone: 4165 1063
Facsimile: 4165 1486
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4pm

Gympie

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

Government Office Building
27 O'Connell Street
Gympie QLD 4570
Telephone: 5480 5308
Facsimile: 5480 5302
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Hervey Bay

Department of Communities – Wide Bay-Burnett Regional Office

Level 1, Brendan Hansen Building
50-54 Main Street
Hervey Bay QLD 4655
Telephone: 4125 9399
Facsimile: 4125 9397
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Kilkivan

QGAP

26 Bligh Street
Kilkivan QLD 4600
Telephone: 5484 1068
Facsimile: 5484 1390
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Kingaroy

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

Shop 2, 16 Alford Street
Kingaroy QLD 4610
Telephone: 4160 4200
Facsimile: 07 4162 4450
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Maryborough

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

Station Chambers
120 Lennox Street
Maryborough QLD 4650
Telephone: 4121 1730
Facsimile: 4122 4007
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Maryborough

Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries

Maryborough Office
355 Kent Street
Maryborough QLD 4650
Telephone: 4121 1866
Facsimile: 4121 1869
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Mary Valley

QGAP

45 Main Street
Kandanga QLD 4570
Telephone: 5484 3203
Facsimile: 5484 3203
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 5pm

Monto

QGAP

53 Newton Street
Monto QLD 4630
Telephone: 4166 1350
Facsimile: 4166 1047
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 4:30pm

Mundubbera

QGAP

51 Lyons Street
Mundubbera QLD 4626
Telephone: 4165 5444
Facsimile: 4165 4810
Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 8:30am to 5pm; Wednesday – 9:30am to 5pm

Murgon

QGAP

48 Stephens Street West
Murgon QLD 4605
Telephone: 4168 1801
Facsimile: 4168 1669
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9am to 4:30pm

Pialba (Hervey Bay)

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

50-54 Main Street
Pialba QLD 4655
Telephone: 4125 9270
Facsimile: 4125 9179
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am 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