



NSW GOVERNMENT WEEKLY UPDATE – 24 JUNE 2016

NSW - STRONGEST BUDGET AND ECONOMY IN THE NATION

- The NSW 2016-17 Budget delivers record amounts for NSW schools, hospitals, public transport and roads Budget, while almost completely eliminating the State's debt.
- After five years of financial discipline and repair by the NSW Liberals & Nationals, the NSW Budget is comfortably in the black, with a surplus of \$3.7 billion forecast in 2016-17 and surpluses averaging \$2 billion over the next four years.
- This year's Budget invests a record \$73.3 billion in infrastructure over four years — building the schools, hospitals, public transport and roads our communities need.
- We are also investing record amounts in our essential services, meaning extra nurses, teachers and police.
- This Budget ensures that every single person in NSW, no matter where they live or what their circumstances, has access to high quality services and infrastructure.

BETTER HEALTH CARE AND HOSPITALS

- Record health funding in the NSW Budget will allow an extra 79,000 people to be treated in emergency departments, employ 900 extra nurses and doctors, and continue building new hospitals.
- The Budget allocates almost \$1.6 billion in **capital works** funding to continue the unprecedented program of building hospitals, health facilities and ambulance superstations across the State.

- Health highlights in the 2016-17 NSW Budget also include:
 - \$1.8 billion for **mental health services**
 - **900 extra nurses, doctors, allied health and hospital support staff and 20 new medical training positions**
 - **65 new specialist nurses and midwives and 30 clinical support staff**
 - **An extra 85 paramedics** and the delivery of the promised **35 extra specialist paramedics** two years ahead of schedule.

\$1 BILLION BOOST TO SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

- The NSW Liberals & Nationals will deliver new classrooms, new schools and continue to attack the maintenance backlog as part of record education expenditure in the 2016-17 Budget and provide a \$1 billion boost in infrastructure funding over four years.
- The NSW Government is responding to the needs of students and parents by:
 - **Building more classrooms and schools to respond to enrolment growth:** Nearly \$1 billion extra has been allocated over the next four years, to deliver more than 1,100 state of the art classrooms across the State.
 - **Attacking the maintenance backlog:** more than doubling funding for backlog maintenance from \$160 million to \$330 million over two years to address priority maintenance needs in schools
- New primary schools will be developed at Smalls Road, Ryde and North Kellyville; a senior campus of Cammeraygal High School will be established at Crows Nest; and planning for additional classrooms will begin at Willoughby Public School, Willoughby Girls High School, Fort Street Public School, Oran Park Public School, Rosehill Public School and Curl Curl North Public School. More schools will be announced in coming months.
- In this year's Budget there is a record investment in education, with \$13.7 billion in recurrent funding in 2016-17 - up by \$950 million on last year.
- Since 2011, the NSW Liberals & Nationals have committed to projects and a strategy to provide over 36,000 new student places.

BUILDING BETTER ROADS

- The NSW Government has announced another record budget for roads, maritime and freight infrastructure to help bust traffic congestion, reduce travel times for motorists and get freight from paddock to port faster.
- Key Budget Highlights include:
 - More than \$2.1 billion to continue fast tracking major upgrades of key regional highways such as the Pacific, Princes, Central Coast, Great Western, Newell, New England, Oxley, Mitchell, Kings, Riverina, Silver City and Cobb Highways.
 - \$2.9 billion to continue widening and upgrading the M4, building a New M5 and getting the M4-M5 Link 'shovel ready' for construction (all part of the WestConnex project), and wider road integration works across the network.
 - \$283 million to continue major construction of NorthConnex.
 - \$338 million to continue building and upgrading roads to support Sydney's second airport at Badgerys Creek including The Northern Road, Bringelly Road and Werrington Arterial Road.
- The NSW Liberals & Nationals are committed to providing the critical transport and freight infrastructure our communities and businesses need and deserve.

BUDGET DELIVERS \$10.5 BILLION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- The year's Budget is focused on delivering our massive infrastructure program that will transform NSW, with a record \$10.5 billion investment, including \$2.7 billion to continue delivering Australia's biggest public transport project – Sydney metro.
- Key Highlights include:
 - This year's Budget fully funds the Sydney Metro City & Southwest, which has a cost range of \$11.5 to \$12.5 billion.
 - \$1.3 billion for Sydney Metro Northwest, which is due to open in the first half of 2019.

- Planning and delivery of the state's three new light rail networks will also continue, with \$71 million to continue delivery of the CBD and South East Light Rail, \$64 million to continue planning and preparatory work for Parramatta Light Rail and \$142 million for Newcastle Light Rail.
- Train customers will benefit from \$407 million to plan, develop and deliver enhancements to infrastructure and fleet to provide increased and improved rail services, including more express services to Western Sydney.
- A record \$1.3 billion has been allocated in 2016-17 to renew and maintain the Sydney Trains and NSW TrainLink networks to continue to improve safety and reliability for train customers.
- Growing and improving the bus network is also a focus with \$234 million for bus priority work. This includes \$210 million to continue planning and infrastructure development for the B-Line between the Northern Beaches and Sydney CBD. There is also \$108 million for around 218 new buses to replace older buses and expand private and public fleets across NSW.

BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES

- The NSW Government will invest \$8.1 billion in 2016-17 to ensure community safety and implement key reforms to help reduce reoffending, ease pressure on courts and deliver high-tech policing.
- We are supporting our police force, with infrastructure investment in police increasing by 59 per cent in 2016-17, including \$57 million for new or upgraded police stations including Mount Druitt, Queanbeyan, Gunnedah, Bay and Basin, Moss Vale, Deniliquin, Lake Macquarie Local Area Command, Liverpool, Riverstone, Tweed Heads, Walgett, and Coffs Harbour..
- To further help keep our communities safe, the Government is providing more than \$21 million over two years for up-to-date facilities for our emergency services personnel.
- The Budget also allocates \$570 million over four years to support comprehensive reform of the justice system, including measures to ease pressure on courts and to reduce reoffending, in line with the NSW Premier's priority to reduce adult reoffending by five percentage points by 2019.

SUPPORTING OUR MOST VULNERABLE

- NSW's strong Budget position means we can improve the quality of life for the most vulnerable.
- This Budget invests an additional \$560 million over four years in new funding to deliver services and reform child protection and OOHC through targeted earlier intervention, intensive family preservation and restoration programs and adoption initiatives.
- The NSW Government is also doubling its investment in specialist domestic violence services and initiatives to more than \$300 million over four years, up from \$148.5 million in the 2015-16 Budget.
- This is in addition to the hundreds of millions of dollars the government spends each year to combat domestic and family violence through mainstream services in justice, police, health, child protection, social housing and homelessness services.
- We are also investing \$2.9 million over four years to introduce GPS monitoring to improve victim safety. The devices will be fitted to high-risk domestic violence offenders and police will be alerted if an offender is at a location they are prohibited from entering.
- The Budget allocates \$1.3 billion for the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in NSW.