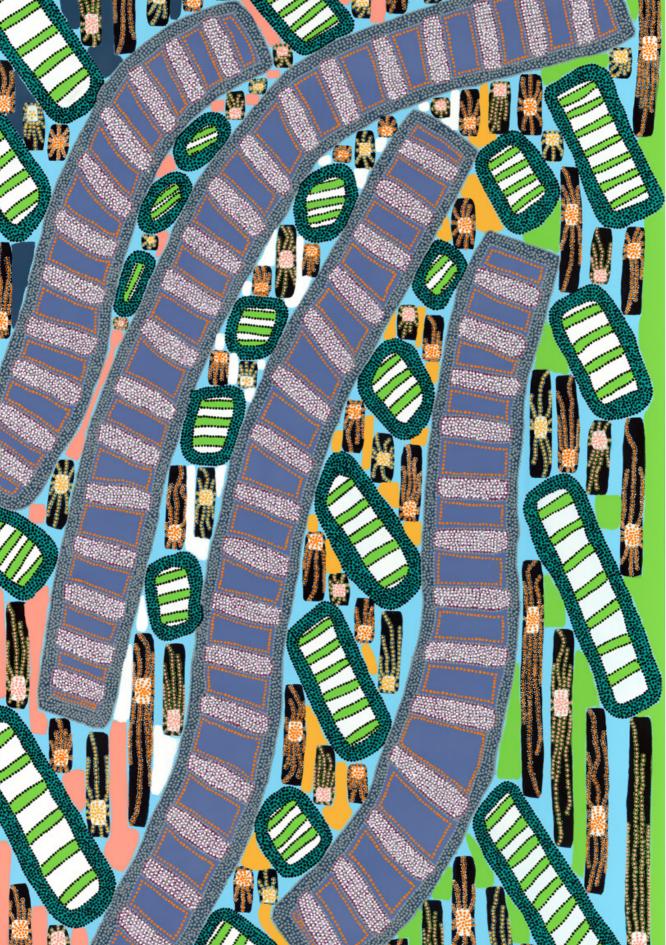




Our plan for Regional New South Wales





Regeneration

A long time ago in this place we know now as New South Wales, this place was known by many names. The names known by the people who tended the land and nurtured it as it nurtured them.

A great storm came. The wind whipped across the land. It stripped the trees of their seeds, throwing them into the air. Then came the rain, drumming across the land. It hurled the seeds to the ground. And still down came the rain. It flooded the land, until there was nothing but water. And the seeds tossing in the turbulent water.

Slowly, the storm subsided. The wind quieted. The rain gentled to a fine mist, burned away by the sun. In time, the seeds began to germinate in the water. In time, the seeds regrew the land. They regrew the bush flowers and the trees.

They regrew the people of New South Wales. The seeds regenerated the land and the people. The people who will walk together, hand-in-hand, to nurture the land as it nurtures them, to heal the land and the people affected by the storm, and to build a future where all the people who call this place New South Wales can prosper.

- Josie Rose



Regeneration (2020)

Josie Rose is a Gumbaynggirr woman who expresses her contemporary Gumbaynggirr cultural heritage through art. For *Regeneration*, a work commissioned by NSW Treasury, her chosen medium is acrylic paint on canvas and the design embodies both creative and cultural expression. The inspiration for her artworks comes from a deep place of spiritual connection to her family, community, culture and respect for Mother Earth. Gumbaynggirr Country, on the Mid North Coast, is beautiful land with both freshwater and saltwater waterways which inspire her holistic connection to the Ancestors.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing culture in human history.

We pay respect to Elders past and present and commit to respecting the lands we walk on, and the communities we walk with.

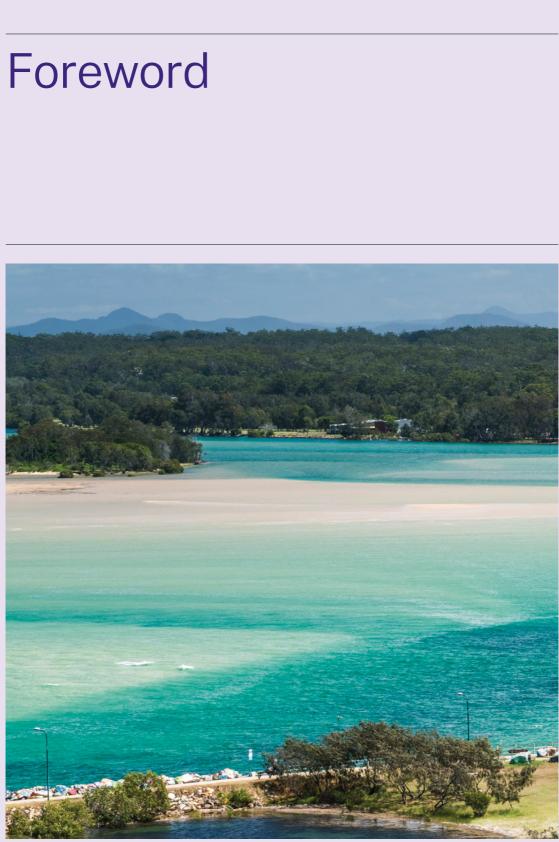
We celebrate the deep and enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country and acknowledge their continuing custodianship of the land, seas and sky.

We acknowledge the ongoing stewardship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the important contribution they make to our communities and economies.

We reflect on the continuing impact of government policies and practices, and recognise our responsibility to work together with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, families and communities, towards improved economic, social and cultural outcomes.

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Nambucca

Over the past few years, regional NSW has been hit by bushfires, drought, floods, a global pandemic and rising interest rates, exacerbating a cost-of-living crisis.

The 2024-25 Budget doesn't just seek to address these crises, it sets the foundation to build a better NSW.

This Budget focuses on supporting the economic development and wellbeing of regional communities through new hospitals and preschools, bringing more frontline workers to the regions and increasing housing supply.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring regional communities have access to world class healthcare and infrastructure to support better health outcomes. This Budget includes **\$265.0 million** to upgrade the Port Macquarie Hospital and **\$200.1 million** to increase accommodation for health workers across rural and regional NSW.

Our regions are facing a housing and homelessness crisis, with more people being priced out of their community. The NSW Government remains committed to improving housing accessibility and affordability. This Budget includes **\$5.1 billion** to build 8,400 social homes, including priority homes for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence.

Protecting NSW businesses and farmers by investing in biosecurity will safeguard jobs and support access to premium export markets. Tackling ever-present biosecurity threats and supporting good land management practices are key parts of this effort, with **\$945.7 million** allocated over the next four years.



The NSW Government remains committed to helping regional communities to rebuild after the devastating impacts of natural disasters in recent years. This Budget invests **\$5.7 billion**, including Australian Government co-contributions, to continue natural disaster support and response programs across NSW.

Regional workers and their contributions are essential to the NSW economy, contributing to around a quarter of NSW Gross State Product. Together we can build a better NSW.

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC NSW Treasurer

The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC Minister for Agriculture Minister for Regional New South Wales Minister for Western New South Wales

Regional NSW highlights





3.2 million

people call regional NSW home



Over 250,000 regional businesses



61.2%

regional NSW workforce participation rate



66.1%

share of owner-occupied dwellings in regions



\$196.5 million

additional funding to

deliver ongoing regional hospital redevelopments

at Eurobodalla. Temora.

Moree, Cessnock and Shellharbour



\$200.1 million

to increase key health worker accommodation across rural and regional NSW



\$945.7 million

to address biosecurity threats, including \$13.1 million for the continuation of the Feral Pig and Other Pest Management Control program



\$307.2 million

to improve water security for regional communities, industries and the environment



\$5.7 billion

for disaster recovery jointly funded with the Australian Government, including \$3.3 billion to rebuild road and transport infrastructure damaged during natural disasters



\$290.0 million

additional funding for the Towards Zero Safer Roads Program, bringing the total investment to \$2.8 billion



\$400.0 million

for the Regional Development Trust, including an additional \$50.0 million in this Budget Ŏ<u>></u> #

\$128.5 million

for regional road upgrades and infrastructure at the Newcastle Port to enable the transport of equipment components to Renewable Energy Zone projects

2024-25 Budget



Wilgabah



The NSW Government is pushing ahead with its 100 public preschools commitment, with half set to be rolled out in regional NSW by 2027



Building a better New South Wales



Coffs Harbour



Improving housing accessibility and affordability

The NSW Government is committed to improving housing supply to drive down the cost of renting and make home ownership more affordable.

Building on planning reforms that make it easier and faster to deliver housing across the State, the NSW Government is taking action to build better homes and infrastructure for our regional communities. This Budget also delivers social housing for women and children leaving domestic and family violence, as well as support for renters.

The 2024-25 Budget includes:

- **\$5.1 billion** to build 8,400 social homes, including priority homes for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence
- **\$253.7 million** to bolster the State's planning system, including to assess more development applications and deliver additional State-led rezonings, which will support housing supply across NSW, including in regional areas
- **\$11.8 million** to resource the activities of the Property and Strata Commissioner
- **\$8.4 million** to resource the activities of the Rental Commissioner
- **\$6.6 million** to upgrade the Yass Valley Water Treatment Plant to improve the quality of drinking water and support up to 1,580 new dwellings in Murrumbateman and Yass
- **\$5.0 million** for Landcom to deliver an additional ten build-to-rent dwellings in Bomaderry, with 60 dwellings now to be delivered through a total Government investment of **\$35.0 million**.



\$5.1 billion

to build 8,400 social homes, including priority homes for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence



\$253.7 million

to bolster the State's planning system



\$11.8 million

to resource the activities of the Property and Strata Commissioner



\$6.6 million

to upgrade the Yass Valley Water Treatment Plant



\$5.0 million

Landcom to deliver an additional ten build-to-rent dwellings in Bomaderry A further **\$85.0 million** has also been allocated from the Housing Infrastructure Fund in Restart NSW, as part of a total State and local council investment of **\$201.9 million**. This will help fast-track infrastructure in growing regional communities, supporting the delivery of tens of thousands of new homes from Tweed Heads to Wagga Wagga.

Strengthening our education system

All children in NSW deserve the best possible start to life, through access to quality teaching and essential school infrastructure. The NSW Government is delivering on its election commitment to build 100 new public preschools across NSW, with half to be built in the regions.

The NSW Government is also continuing to address teacher shortages in regional, rural and remote parts of NSW through the Priority Recruitment Support program. This program allows schools with longstanding vacancies to advertise a recruitment bonus of up to **\$20,000**, and a relocation support package of up to **\$8,000** for eligible teachers. An additional 26 regional schools have been added to this program to help attract quality teachers wanting to teach outside of metropolitan areas.

The 2024-25 Budget provides **\$1.4 billion** for regional education infrastructure, to deliver projects such as:

- a new primary school in Huntlee
- a new high school in Huntlee
- a new primary school at Calderwood
- an expansion of Googong Public School Upgrade Stage 2.

Connecting regional communities through roads and transport

Transport networks and roads are critical to life in regional NSW, connecting communities to one another and supporting the movement of goods produced in our regions to national and international markets.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring that the roads and transport networks used by regional, rural and remote communities daily are reliable and safe, so people can travel to work, education and health facilities, visit family and friends and keep our supply chains moving.

The 2024-25 Budget includes:

- **\$3.3 billion** to repair State and local roads in areas impacted by natural disasters across NSW, as part of a **\$5.7 billion** total investment in disaster relief and recovery over four years to 2027-28 jointly funded by the Australian Government
- \$1.4 billion to continue construction of the M1 to Raymond Terrace extension and Hexham Straight Widening projects
- **\$1.2 billion** to continue delivering a new rail fleet to replace the ageing regional fleets to improve safety, accessibility, amenities and reliability
- **\$1.1 billion** to continue Princes Highway projects including construction of the Milton Ulladulla bypass, Jervis Bay Road intersection upgrade and Jervis Bay Road to Hawken Road upgrade
- **\$926.0 million** to continue construction of the Coffs Harbour bypass
- **\$462.9 million** to continue construction of the Singleton Bypass – New England Highway Corridor



Coffs Harbour

- **\$442.7 million** to continue planning and early work activities for the Muswellbrook bypass, to improve travel times for long-haul freight movements and safety for all road users on the New England Highway (NSW and Australian Government funded)
- \$432.2 million to continue the delivery of Parkes bypass, new Dubbo Bridge, heavy duty pavement upgrades, and investigations to develop and deliver flood mitigation solutions on the Newell Highway between West Wyalong and Forbes (NSW and Australian Government funded)
- **\$290.0 million** additional funding for the Towards Zero Safer Roads Program, bringing the total investment to **\$2.8 billion**. This investment will deliver state-wide targeted and proven initiatives to improve road safety across NSW, including in regional areas

- **\$216.3 million** to continue planning and early works on the Wyong Town Centre upgrade (NSW and Australian Government funded)
- **\$200.3 million** to continue construction of the duplication of 1.1 kilometres of the Great Western Highway through Medlow Bath, and duplication on the Little Hartley to Lithgow section of the Great Western Highway at Coxs River Road (NSW and Australian Government funded)
- \$138.7 million to continue improvements on the Barton Highway
- \$132.0 million to enable grade separations on the Inland Rail alignment south of Parkes (NSW and Australian Government funded)
- **\$97.5 million** to continue the upgrade of Avoca Drive to improve traffic flow and deliver infrastructure for active and public transport access through Kincumber (NSW and Australian Government funded)

- **\$66.2 million** to continue the Fixing Country Rail Program to deliver improved movement of freight and increase reliability of the regional rail network
- **\$59.4 million** to continue planning for the Mandalong Road upgrade
- **\$39.8 million** over four years to continue planning and design for Gosford Bypass, under the Regional Roads Fund
- **\$38.9 million** to continue the Tumbi Road and Central Coast Highway intersection upgrade
- **\$36.4 million** to continue the development and delivery of safety upgrades on the Bells Line of Road
- **\$28.6 million** allocated to contribute to building new heavy vehicle rest stops that will help combat driver fatigue
- **\$22.5 million** to continue pavement surface upgrades on the Hume Highway at Marulan
- **\$21.3 million** to continue improving safety, reliability and travel times on Waterfall Way
- **\$20.9 million** to continue widening of the Marshalls Creek bridge and reduce congestion in Wagga Wagga
- **\$10.0 million** for the Illawarra Rail Resilience Plan to determine options to upgrade and rebuild infrastructure along the South Coast Line.

Supporting regional economic development

Regional and rural NSW is home to a diverse range of export industries that are vital for our State's economic growth. The NSW Government is taking a fresh approach to how it invests in the regions to make sure we can help meet the needs of all communities. The Regional Development Trust (the Trust) will deliver improved social and economic outcomes for regional NSW, with a focus on:

- sustainable regional industries
- First Nations economic development and enterprise
- community connection and capacity building
- improving regional service delivery.

As part of the 2024-25 Budget, the NSW Government is investing an additional **\$50.0 million** into the Trust, bringing the total commitment to **\$400.0 million**.

The Government has also announced the first tranche of investments from the Trust, which includes:

- **\$15.0 million** to improve rural and remote airstrips across NSW, ensuring they are accessible year-round
- **\$10.0 million** for a Western NSW Workforce Activation Package to establish, expand or upgrade early childhood and education care across Bourke, Broken Hill and Cobar
- **\$5.0 million** for an Aboriginal Economic Development Package to support First Nations businesses and organisations to identify and execute commercial opportunities, leading to improved economic and employment outcomes.

The NSW Government is delivering transformational infrastructure, principally funded from the Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund, in strategic regional centres to support the economic development of the State. This includes the continuation of:

- **\$332.2 million** to transform Parkes into a national freight and logistics hub
- **\$283.4 million** over the next four years to enhance digital connectivity for rural, regional and remote NSW communities, providing faster and more reliable telecommunications

- **\$224.8 million** to support Moree becoming a thriving business hub, with sustainable water endowments and new technologies to support diversifying its strong agricultural economy
- **\$212.2 million** for Wagga Wagga to be a sustainable hub of high-value agricultural and food manufacturing, supporting industries and businesses to connect to the world
- **\$196.3 million** in the Snowy Mountains region for essential infrastructure to support housing and year-round tourism
- **\$45.0 million** to support farmers and agribusinesses in the adoption of digital technology and on-farm connectivity solutions, to improve resource management, boost productivity and enhance water security.

Additional investments to support regional economies include:

- **\$21.0 million** to establish a modern, fit for purpose animal welfare framework, including additional support for Approved Charitable Organisations
- **\$17.7 million** to assist in the delivery of social and environmental outcomes in state forests that are not used for wood production
- **\$5.0 million** to provide low-interest loans to eligible small and medium businesses to encourage economic growth and employment in regional NSW
- **\$4.0 million** to continue the award-winning Holiday Break program, delivering recreational programs to young people during school holidays
- **\$3.0 million** for Regional and Community Newspaper Support, to better support regional media in diversifying and expanding digital content.



Tamworth



Dungog

Supporting the transition to a clean energy future

NSW has a long history of coal mining and coal-powered generation, with mining communities in regional areas contributing billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to the NSW economy. These communities are at the forefront of the transition to a cleaner energy future.

The NSW Government is working closely with mining communities and industry, within a strong regulatory framework, to ensure this transition is managed carefully. The clean energy transition is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create jobs of the future for our regions.

This Budget supports regional communities in making the necessary transition to clean energy generation, with key investments including:

- **\$128.5 million** for regional road upgrades and infrastructure at the Newcastle Port to enable the transport of equipment components to Renewable Energy Zone projects
- **\$15.2 million** for mine rehabilitation and closure, and to support health and safety for mine workers in NSW.

The NSW Government is continuing to deliver critical energy infrastructure to supply lower cost and more reliable energy, with the continuation of the Transmission Acceleration Facility.

Additionally, the Government will establish Future Jobs and Investment Authorities to guide community transition from coal-based economies toward other activity and employment opportunities.



\$128.5 million

for regional road upgrades and infrastructure at the Newcastle Port to enable the transport of equipment components to Renewable Energy Zone projects



\$15.2 million

for mine rehabilitation and closure, and to support health and safety for mine workers in NSW

Caring for our communities



Warialda



Improving health services

Ensuring everyone across the State can access the best healthcare in a timely manner, no matter where they live, remains a priority for the NSW Government.

Recruitment and retention of healthcare workers is a key challenge and this Budget builds on existing investments to strengthen our health workforce in rural and regional communities.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring primary healthcare remains affordable and accessible to families and households in regional NSW.

The **\$188.8 million** Bulk-Billing Support Initiative will protect the cost of seeing a GP and reduce the strain on our emergency departments. The initiative will ease financial pressure on GP practices by waiving historical payroll tax liabilities for contractor GPs and provide an ongoing tax rebate to clinics that meet bulk-billing thresholds.

This initiative has been designed to ease cost-of-living pressures on families and households by ensuring clinics don't pass on additional costs to patients.

The 2024-25 Budget includes:

- **\$480.7 million** for an Emergency Department Relief Package to further ease pressure on NSW emergency departments
- **\$265.0 million** for the upgrade of Port Macquarie Hospital
- **\$200.1 million** to increase key health worker accommodation across rural and regional areas. Early assessment has identified locations such as Lake Cargelligo, Tweed Heads, Lismore and Eurobodalla as examples of areas of need



for an Emergency Department Relief Package to further ease pressure on NSW emergency departments



\$274.7 million

to ensure health services can deliver additional care to our communities



\$200.1 million

to increase key health worker accommodation across rural and regional NSW



\$188.8 million

Bulk-Billing Support Initiative

- **\$274.7 million** to ensure health services can deliver additional care to our communities. This includes an additional 250 healthcare workers across the State, a significant portion of whom will work at regional hospitals including Cooma Hospital, Cowra Health Service, Glen Innes Hospital, Griffith Base Hospital, Tweed Hospital and Wentworth Health Service
- **\$130.9 million** for a Family Start Package to provide early intervention programs to boost lifelong maternal and child health outcomes. This package includes:
 - **\$40.0 million** for Essential Services to Support Vulnerable Children. This will provide enhanced allied health and juvenile arthritis services, as well as additional regional assessment services and interventions in isolated communities, for families with children in their first 2,000 days of life
 - **\$21.3 million** for the Waminda Birth Centre and Community Hub for First Nations women and families on the South Coast to give birth in line with traditional cultural practice.
- **\$111.8 million** package to support community mental health and wellbeing by increasing the essential services available to people across NSW. This package includes:
 - **\$40.0 million** for a further investment in the Pathways to Community Living Initiative supporting alternatives to long-term hospital care for people with complex needs, who have persistent mental illness
 - \$39.0 million to strengthen mental health services by establishing a new Mental Health Single Front Door¹

- \$30.4 million to expand Community Mental Health Teams across targeted areas, including in regional NSW, caring for those who experience persistent and complex mental illness.
- Commencing works to expand the Bombala Multipurpose Service in southern NSW, a joint initiative between the NSW Government and Australian Government.

Investing in local support for families and communities

This Budget includes **\$224.1 million** in 2024-25 to build a better foster care system, including reforming the Out-of-Home-Care (OOHC) sector.

This investment will better support the 14,000 children and young people who cannot live safely at home. This builds on current Government investment in early intervention and family preservation programs, that keep local communities safer and stronger.

These programs in community organisations and neighbourhood centres across our regions and broader NSW provide family preservation services to help keep children safe at home with their families, and prevent future contact with the child protection, OOHC and criminal justice systems.



to build a better foster care system, including reforming the Out-of-Home-Care sector

1 The \$39.0 million for Mental Health Single Front Door is part of both the Emergency Department and Mental Health total.



Collarenebri

Enhancing essential services

The NSW Government employs over 400,000 people across NSW, delivering essential services to regional communities.

This Budget continues to rebuild public services through supporting essential workers, addressing critical staff vacancies, collaborating with the State's workforce, and delivering long-term wage growth.

The Government has already delivered professional rates of pay for paramedics in recognition of the move towards university qualification and increased registration requirements, plus expansion of the scope of paramedicine.

Building on the Government's 4.5 per cent wage offer in 2023-24, the 2024-25 Budget provides for a 10.5 per cent wage increase over three years to benefit NSW public sector workers (inclusive of superannuation). The NSW Government is also taking action to strengthen the emergency services workforce across NSW. This Budget includes **\$189.5 million** for Fire and Rescue NSW to permanently maintain 286 ongoing firefighter positions, approximately 70 of which are based in regional areas.

The NSW Government will also launch the You Should Be a Cop in Your Hometown program. This program will help ensure people from regional NSW serve in or near their hometown after they graduate from the Goulburn Police Academy. Since the NSW Government announced paid study for recruits, there has been a more than 40 per cent increase in applications, compared to the same period last year.

Additionally, the NSW Government is expanding its **Welcome Experience** concierge service, providing support for essential workers and their families to settle into regional communities, ensuring these communities have equitable access to high quality public services.

Relieving cost-of-living pressures

Households across the State, including regional communities, are facing higher living costs. In 2024-25, the NSW Government will provide around **\$8.7 billion** to households to assist with growing cost-of-living pressures. The 2024-25 Budget includes:

- **\$435.4 million** in 2024-25 for energy rebates and concessions. This is in addition to the Australian Government's \$300 energy bill relief payment
- **\$89.8 million** over four years in water rebates to eligible pensioners and others experiencing financial hardship, to maintain access to water and waste-water services in the Hunter Valley and Far West NSW.

Continuation of:

- the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme, providing financial assistance towards travel and accommodation costs when a patient needs to travel long distances for specialised healthcare that is not available locally
- free parking at all rural and regional public hospitals.

Responding to biosecurity threats

NSW is home to more than 39,000 agricultural businesses, 42,000 farms and 66,000 people employed in the agricultural sector, contributing more than **\$15 billion** to the NSW economy. The NSW Government plays a central role in protecting our economy, environment and community from pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants.

This Budget commits **\$945.7 million** over four years to continue this critical role of scientific research, prevention and protection, and to maintain good land management practices. This includes:

- **\$55.3 million** for the eradication of red imported fire ants, protecting communities, agricultural production, and native plants and animals
- **\$36.2 million** to increase the resilience and capacity of beekeepers, horticulture and other industries in managing Varroa mite incursions
- **\$25.0 million** to support specialist scientific skills to boost the State's frontline surveillance and preventative capabilities to defend against biosecurity risks



Tamworth

- **\$13.1 million** for the continuation of the Feral Pig and Other Pest Management Control program
- **\$10.4 million** for the Weeds Action Program to reduce the impact of weeds through the implementation of the NSW Invasive Species Plan and the NSW Biosecurity Strategy
- **\$6.2 million** to target White Spot disease, supporting prawn fishers, farmers and businesses
- **\$5.8 million** to continue implementing the Good Neighbour Program to tackle weed and pest infestations between neighbouring public and private lands
- appointing an Independent Biosecurity Commissioner to protect our environment and biodiversity, economy and community from the harm and impacts of pests and weeds.

Protecting our environment

The NSW Government remains committed to protecting our beautiful natural environment and ensuring future generations can enjoy it.

- **\$307.2 million** to improve water security for regional communities and industries, as well as improving environmental water quality for recreation, river health and wildlife habitat through the delivery of the Safe and Secure Water Program. This investment will also support key infrastructure projects for the upgrade of the pump station along the Nyngan to Cobar Pipeline and to deliver upgrades to water security infrastructure at Wilcannia and Eurobodalla
- **\$75.1 million** to maintain and improve our national parks, including visitor infrastructure
- **\$14.4 million** to repair Crown Lands assets, including dams, quarries and community infrastructure



to improve water security for regional communities, industries and the environment



\$75.1 million

to maintain and improve our national parks, including visitor infrastructure

- **\$11.3 million** for the Reducing Leakage and Improving Water Efficiency program to better prepare NSW to adapt to drought and climate variability by increasing water efficiency
- delivering Murray-Darling Basin Plan commitments in partnership with the Australian Government to support river health, access to water and better water efficiencies. This includes:
 - \$351.4 million to 2026-27, from the Australian Government for the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism acceleration program to achieve similar or improved environmental outcomes for rivers, wetlands and wildlife using less water as part of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan
 - \$67.8 million from the Australian Government for the Northern Basin Toolkit to improve the ecological health of Northern Basin rivers through environmental infrastructure



Dungog

- \$25.6 million over the next four years to support outcomes across the Murray-Darling Basin through the delivery of a water reforms package designed to support targeted water savings measures, reforms to water markets, improved compliance and reporting, and to support water ownership and management by First Nations people
- an additional \$18.2 million from the Australian Government for the Reconnecting River Country Program to increase the frequency and extent that rivers connect to wetlands and floodplains in the Murray and Murrumbidgee river systems
- **\$10.5 million** from the Australian Government over the years to 2026-27 for the Murray Darling Basin Telemetry Uplift Program to improve compliance of water take in the Murray Darling Basin.

Investing in disaster response and recovery

Regional NSW communities and industries are more vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters and have experienced some of the largest natural disasters in the nation's history in recent years.

The NSW Government continues to provide support to the communities recovering and rebuilding following those events, as well as planning and preparing to limit the impact of future natural disasters.

This Budget invests **\$5.7 billion** over four years, including Australian Government co-contributions, to continue natural disaster support and recovery programs. This includes:

• **\$3.3 billion** for restoration works to repair local and State roads damaged in major flood events, including in the Northern Rivers and the Central West

- **\$2 billion** for other disaster relief and recovery programs funded through the Disaster Relief Account (DRA) administered by the NSW Reconstruction Authority. Key programs include:
 - \$525.0 million for the Resilient Homes Program across the Northern Rivers and Central West, to support voluntary buybacks and increase the flood resilience of existing houses through raisings, repairs and retrofits. This includes an additional \$90 million of NSW Government funding for the Resilient Homes Program – Tranche 2 in the Northern Rivers
 - \$282.7 million for the Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package for the planning, development and delivery of priority local and State transport infrastructure resiliency works
 - **\$159.3 million** from the Infrastructure Betterment Fund to rebuild and improve the resilience of State and local infrastructure to future natural disasters
 - \$24.5 million for the Community Assets Program to repair, restore and improve community infrastructure damaged by natural disasters, supporting social recovery in affected communities.
- **\$116.7 million** to repair critical water and sewerage infrastructure damaged in declared natural disasters
- **\$94.7 million** for the NSW State Emergency Service to invest in critical resources to effectively respond to future floods and natural disasters. This includes enhancements to flood rescue training and capability, and improvements in flood rescue coordination, operational capability, public information and community engagement



Wagga Wagga

- **\$87.4 million** for the Resilient Lands Program to unlock new home and land options in safe locations in the Northern Rivers
- **\$20.0 million** for the NSW Land and Housing Corporation to continue to deliver replacement, substitute and new social housing across flood impacted locations in Northern NSW
- **\$3.0 million** to help flood survivors get back into their homes following the 2022 floods in Lismore by supporting the Two Rooms Project.

Empowering First Nations communities

The NSW Government acknowledges that First Nations people are the Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

The Government seeks to put the voice of First Nations people at the centre of decision making, focusing on truth-telling and healing, supporting self-determination, and strengthening First Nations culture.

This Budget makes investments to support better outcomes for First Nations people, including:

- **\$202.6 million** to support critical capital maintenance of social housing for First Nations communities across NSW
- **\$73.4 million** to establish Keeping Places at the sites of former children's homes, including those at Bomaderry, Cootamundra and Kinchela, to support reconciliation with Stolen Generation survivors
- **\$37.8 million** for the Government's obligations under Indigenous Land Use Agreements entered into with native title holders
- **\$21.3 million** for the Waminda Birth Centre and Community Hub for First Nations women and families on the South Coast to give birth in line with traditional cultural practice

- **\$16.3 million** to deliver Aboriginal Cultural Heritage reforms, including standalone legislation, to recognise and conserve sites of cultural significance to First Nations people
- **\$9.2 million** to conduct on-site assessments of infrastructure and housing needs, as well as the need to address contamination in 61 Discrete Aboriginal Communities across NSW
- **\$5.2 million** for the Regional Aboriginal Partnerships Program to build capacity within First Nations businesses, organisations and communities throughout regional NSW
- **\$5.0 million** to undertake consultation to determine a pathway to Treaty with First Nations communities
- **\$4.9 million** to invest in Local Decision Making Alliances with First Nations community bodies, empowering communities with the design and delivery of services impacting them
- **\$4.0 million** to deliver the Digital Songlines project, to capture stories of Stolen Generations survivors for future generations
- **\$3.5 million** additional support for the continued implementation of Closing the Gap initiatives
- **\$1.5 million** to strategically investigate the settlement of Aboriginal Land claims.

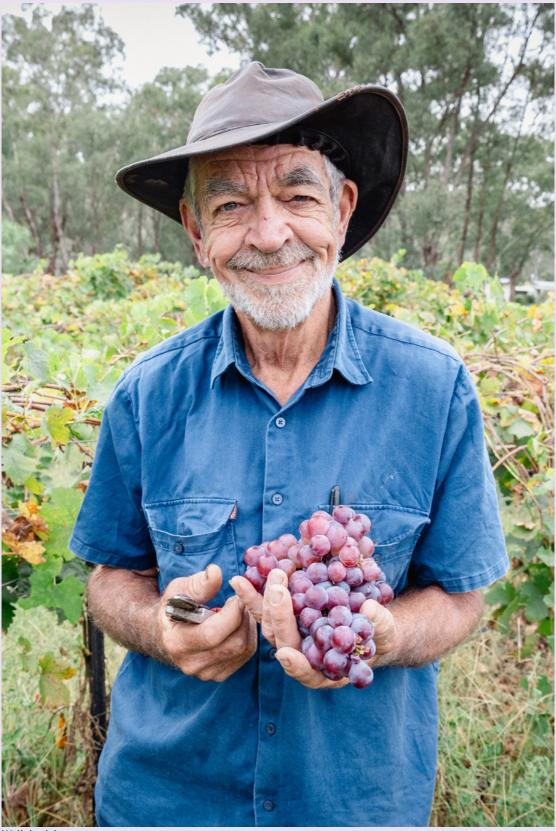


for the Waminda Birth Centre and Community Hub for First Nations women and families on the South Coast to give birth in line with traditional cultural practice

Regional highlights



NSW Treasury



Wallabadah

Central Coast



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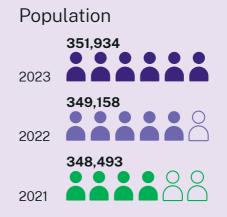


Somersby



Local Government Area

Central Coast



Health

Continuation of the:

- **\$200.0 million** Wyong Hospital Redevelopment Stage 1
- **\$6.4 million** Wyong Hospital's Cancer Day Unit expansion.

Education

- Two new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Tuggerawong Public School
 - Umina Beach Public School.
- **\$1.4 million** for local upgrades at the following schools:
 - Central Mangrove Public School
 - Killarney Vale Public School
 - Umina Beach Public School.
- **778** education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$216.3 million** to continue planning and early works on the Wyong Town Centre upgrade (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$97.5 million** to continue the upgrade of Avoca Drive to improve traffic flow and deliver infrastructure for active and public transport access through Kincumber (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$39.8 million** over four years to continue planning and design for Gosford Bypass, under the Regional Roads Fund (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$38.9 million** to continue the Tumbi Road and Central Coast Highway intersection upgrade.

Regional NSW

Grants to enhance community wellbeing and boost local economies, including:

- \$190,000 to upgrade Picnic Point Playground
- **\$120,000** towards additional lighting for Halekulani Oval
- **\$100,000** to upgrade lighting at Morry Breen Field
- **\$105,000** to upgrade Maidens Brush Road Playground and school crossing
- **\$60,000** towards the revitalisation of the Wamberal Memorial Hall Playspace.

Central West and Orana



3.2



Parkes



Local Government Areas

Bathurst Regional, Blayney, Bogan, Cabonne, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo Regional, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Warren, Warrumbungle Shire and Weddin



Health

Continuation of the:

- **\$200.0 million** Bathurst Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$117.9 million** Orange Base Hospital Cyclical Maintenance
- **\$110.2 million** Cowra Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$8.3 million** Canowindra HealthOne project.

Education

- A new public preschool located at Parkes East Public School as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment.
- A new preschool for Eugowra Community Childcare as part of a \$17 million grants program for early childhood places.
- We are also delivering:
 - Orana Heights Public School Upgrade
 - Upgrade of science facilities at Trundle Central School
 - Bathurst Secondary School Community Group Renewal.
- 969 education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$432.2 million** to continue the delivery of Parkes bypass, new Dubbo Bridge, heavy duty pavement upgrades, and investigations for flood mitigation solutions on the Newell Highway between West Wyalong and Forbes (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$200.3 million** to continue construction of the duplication of 1.1 kilometres of the Great Western Highway through Medlow Bath, and duplication on the Little Hartley to Lithgow section of the Great Western Highway at Coxs River Road (NSW and Australian Government funded).

separations on the Inland Rail alignment south of Parkes (NSW and Australian Government funded).

• The Central West will benefit from **\$28.6 million** allocated to contribute to building new heavy vehicle rest stops that will help combat driver fatigue.

Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

- **\$40 million** for the Central West Housing Program, to enable flood tolerance for existing houses including house raisings, repairs, retrofits and voluntary buybacks.
- Continuation of the **\$58.2 million** new purpose-built office hub in Dubbo.

Communities and Justice

- **\$2.1 million** for flood damage repair works at Molong and Eugowra police stations.
- Continuation of the **\$40.9 million** project for the construction of the NSW Police Dubbo Regional Education and Training Centre.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

• **\$36.3 million** for the Nyngan to Cobar Pipeline and Pumping Station.

Regional NSW

- **\$4.8 million** to upgrade facilities at the Orange Agricultural Institute, including administration buildings, the State Emergency Centre and glasshouses.
- Continuation of **\$332.2 million** to transform Parkes into a national freight and logistics hub.

• \$132.0 million to enable grade

Far West



3.3



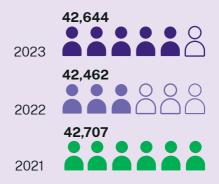
Brewarrina



Local Government Areas

Balranald, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Cobar, Walgett and Wentworth

Population



Continuation of the:

- **\$30.0 million** Wentworth Health Service Redevelopment
- \$15.3 million for Key Health Worker Accommodation in Far Western region
- **\$12.0 million** Broken Hill Hospital Emergency Department
- New Broken Hill Mental Health Unit funded as part of the State's \$669.8 million Statewide Mental Health Infrastructure Program.

Education

- Three new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Bourke Public School
 - Menindee Central School
 - Morgan Street Public School.
- **\$10.0 million** Western NSW Workforce Activation Package to establish, expand or upgrade early childhood and education care across Bourke, Broken Hill and Cobar. This funding has been allocated from the Regional Development Trust.
- Full rebuild of Willyama High School in Broken Hill.
- Cobar High School Upgrade.
- 163 education staff made permanent.

Transport

• The Far West will benefit from **\$28.6 million** allocated to contribute to building new heavy vehicle rest stops that will help combat driver fatigue.

Communities and Justice

• Continuation of the **\$13.3 million** project for major upgrades to Bourke Police Station.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

- **\$36.3 million** for the Nyngan to Cobar Pipeline and Pumping Station.
- **\$25.0 million** to fund critical recommendations from the Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer Independent Review into the 2023 Mass Fish Deaths in the Darling-Baaka River at Menindee.
- **\$22.9 million** for Wilcannia Weir to improve water security for the township of Wilcannia, enhance cultural connection to the river for local communities and deliver improved native fish migration along the river system.
- **\$5.3 million** in water rebates to eligible pensioners and others experiencing financial hardship, to maintain access to water and waste-water services to Essential Water customers.

Heritage

• **\$200,000** to conduct a scoping study into the potential repatriation of the Collarenebri carved trees.

Regional NSW

Grants to enhance community wellbeing and boost local economies, including:

- **\$40,000** to refurbish the Bourke Police Citizens Youth Club's education/training room
- **\$30,000** for the Walgett Police Citizens Youth Club's Afternoon Activity Program.

Hunter



3.4



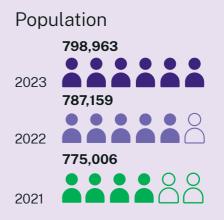
Pokolbin



Local Government Areas

Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, MidCoast, Muswellbrook, Port Stephens, Singleton and Upper Hunter Shire

The metropolitan Newcastle LGA is included in population numbers but is not considered part of regional $\ensuremath{\mathsf{NSW}}$



Continuation of the:

- \$835.0 million John Hunter Health and Innovation Precinct
- **\$180.0 million** Lower Mid North Coast Health Service (Manning and Forster-Tuncurry)
- \$138.0 million Cessnock Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$45.0 million** Muswellbrook Hospital Redevelopment Stage 3
- **\$22.0 million** Maitland Integrated Community and Community Mental Health Service.

Education

- A new primary school and high school in fast-growing Huntlee.
- Fourteen new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Booragul Public School
 - Cessnock Public School
 - Ellalong Public School
 - Gillieston Public School
 - Kearsley Public School
 - Kurri Kurri Public School
 - Maryland Public School
 - Moorland Public School
 - Nulkaba Public School
 - Shortland Public School
 - Taree Public School
 - Tenambit Public School
 - Teralba Public School
 - Weston Public School.
- Continuation of the Gillieston Public School redevelopment.
- Irrawang High School Upgrade.
- Hunter River High School Upgrade.

- Continuation of a new high school in Medowie.
- **1,555** education staff made permanent.

Communities and Justice

- **\$7.7 million** for the new Charlestown fire station.
- Continuing to deliver the \$4.0 million new Dungog fire station on a new site and the \$6.4 million new Cessnock fire station.

Transport

- **\$1.4 billion** to continue construction of the M1 to Raymond Terrace extension and Hexham Straight Widening projects.
- \$462.9 million to continue construction of the Singleton Bypass

 New England Highway Corridor.
- **\$442.7 million** to continue planning and early work activities for the Muswellbrook bypass (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$128.5 million** for regional road upgrades and infrastructure at the Newcastle Port to enable the transport of equipment components to Renewable Energy Zone projects.
- **\$59.4 million** to continue planning for the Mandalong Road upgrade.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

- **\$84.5 million** over the next four years in water rebates to eligible pensioners, exempt properties such as non-profit charities, and others experiencing financial hardship to maintain access to water and waste-water services for Hunter Water customers.
- The sacred Butterfly Cave Aboriginal Place will be protected with the purchase of land in the Hunter. The rock cave and surrounding bushland is an Aboriginal women's site that the Government is proud to protect.

Illawarra-Shoalhaven



3.5



Illawarra



Local Government Areas

Kiama, Shellharbour and Shoalhaven

The metropolitan Wollongong LGA is included in population numbers but is not considered part of regional NSW $\,$



• **\$21.3 million** for the Waminda Birth Centre and Community Hub, a First Nations owned and midwifery-led free standing birth centre in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Local Health District.

Continuation of the:

- **\$781.9 million** New Shellharbour Hospital and Integrated Services and car park
- **\$438.0 million** Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$21.9 million** Wollongong Hospital Package
- **\$7.5 million** Milton Ulladulla Hospital Upgrades.

Education

- A new primary school at Calderwood.
- Ten new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Barrack Heights Public School
 - Berkeley West Public School
 - Bomaderry Public School
 - Cringila Public School
 - Greenwell Point Public School
 - Hayes Park Public School
 - Lake Heights Public School
 - Lake Illawarra South Public School
 - Sanctuary Point Public School
 - a new primary school in Nowra.

- Continuation of the:
 - Ulladulla High School Upgrade
 - Ulladulla Public School Upgrade
 - Milton Public School Upgrade
 - Bomaderry High School Upgrade
 - Vincentia High School Upgrade.
- 627 education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$1.1 billion** to continue Princes Highway projects including construction of the Milton Ulladulla bypass, Jervis Bay Road intersection upgrade and Jervis Bay Road to Hawken Road upgrade.
- **\$97.0 million** to deliver a business case and transport improvements planning for the Nowra Bypass (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$10.0 million** for the Illawarra Rail Resilience Plan to determine options to upgrade and rebuild infrastructure along the South Coast Line.

Communities and Justice

• Continuation of the **\$3.0 million** project to upgrade police facilities at Helensburgh.

Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

• **\$5.0 million** for Landcom to deliver an additional ten build-to-rent dwellings in Bomaderry, with 60 dwellings now to be delivered through a total Government investment of **\$35.0 million**.

New England and North West



3.6

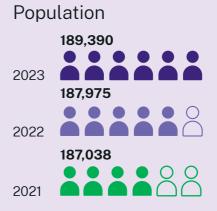


Willow Tree



Local Government Areas

Armidale Regional, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha



Continuation of the:

- \$105.0 million Moree Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$53.0 million** Gunnedah Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$50.0 million** Glen Innes Hospital Upgrade.

Education

- Three new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Toomelah Public School
 - Hillvue Public School
 - Warialda Public School.
- Delivering the Wee Waa High School redevelopment.
- **\$4.2 million** for local upgrades at the following schools:
 - Armidale City Public School
 - Ashford Central School
 - Woolomin Public School
 - Tamworth High School
 - Niangala Public School
 - Tenterfield High School
 - Rocky River Public School.
- 653 education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$92.5 million** to continue construction of the Newell Highway Heavy Duty Pavement Program to deliver 27.3 kilometres of new pavement, intersection improvements, widening of road shoulders and the provision of five additional overtaking lanes between Narrabri and Moree (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$55.5 million** to continue planning for the New England Highway Duplication (Goonoo Goonoo Road) (NSW and Australian Government funded).

Communities and Justice

• **\$13.4 million** to implement placebased initiatives that address crime, support young people and improve community safety in Moree.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

• **\$67.8 million** from the Australian Government for the Northern Basin Toolkit to improve the ecological health of Northern Basin rivers through environmental infrastructure.

Regional NSW

Continuation of:

• **\$224.8 million** to support Moree becoming a thriving business hub, with sustainable water endowments and new technologies to support diversifying its strong agricultural economy.

Grants to enhance community wellbeing and boost local economies, including:

- **\$80,000** towards an adaptive bike trail in the North West
- **\$80,000** to expand community transport services in Liverpool Plains.

North Coast



3.7



Lismore



Local Government Areas

Ballina, Bellingen, Byron, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Kyogle, Lismore, Nambucca Valley, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley and Tweed



• **\$265.0 million** Port Macquarie Hospital Upgrade.

Continuation of the:

- **\$723.3 million** Tweed Hospital and Integrated Ambulatory Services Redevelopment
- **\$263.8 million** Grafton Base Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$34.0 million** Port Macquarie Hospital Helipad Relocation and Car Park
- **\$2.5 million** Kempsey Heritage Building Refurbishment
- **\$2.0 million** Ballina District Hospital Redevelopment Planning.

Education

- Four new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Bowraville Central School
 - Lennox Head Public School
 - Tacking Point Public School
 - Wollongbar Public School.
- Continuation of the Lennox Head Public School relocation and redevelopment.
- 1,594 education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$926.0 million** to continue construction of the Coffs Harbour bypass.
- **\$21.3 million** to continue to improve safety, reliability and travel times on Waterfall Way.

Communities and Justice

- **\$8.2 million** for replacement of the existing fire station in Byron Bay, which will be built on an alternative site.
- Continuation of the **\$52.7 million** Regional Police Station program.

Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Continuation of:

- **\$485.0 million** for the Resilient Homes Program – Northern Rivers to enable flood tolerance for existing houses including house raisings, repairs, retrofits and voluntary buybacks
- **\$87.4 million** for the Resilient Lands Program to identify flood-safe land suitable for redevelopment to help relocate Northern Rivers residents impacted by the 2022 floods
- **\$61.7 million** new purpose-built office hub in Coffs Harbour
- **\$20.0 million** redevelopment of the Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore Precinct
- **\$5.0 million** for a local government economic and business package for the Northern Rivers to improve the recovery of flood affected towns
- **\$3.0 million** to help flood survivors get back into their homes following the 2022 floods in Lismore by supporting the Two Rooms Project.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

• **\$52.2 million** for the Dorrigo Great Walk, creating an iconic multi-day walk with overnight accommodation.

Riverina Murray



3.8



Albury



Local Government Areas

Albury, Berrigan, Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Edward River, Federation, Greater Hume Shire, Griffith, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murray River, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Snowy Valleys, Temora and Wagga Wagga



Continuation of the:

- **\$538 million** Albury-Wodonga Regional Hospital, excluding a \$20 million contribution pending from the Australian Government
- **\$250.0 million** Griffith Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$95.0 million** Temora Hospital Redevelopment
- \$25.0 million Finley Hospital Upgrade
- **\$15.0 million** Key Health Worker Accommodation for Murrumbidgee region
- **\$1.0 million** planning for Wagga Wagga Health and Knowledge Precinct.

Education

- Six new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - a new primary school in Albury Thurgoona
 - Beelbangera Public School
 - Deniliquin South Public School
 - Hanwood Public School
 - Leeton Public School
 - Parkview Public School.
- Continuation of the new Albury Thurgoona primary school.
- Yanco Agricultural High School Upgrade.
- New halls for high schools in Griffith.
- **956** education staff made permanent.

Transport

- **\$132.0 million** to enable grade separations on the Inland Rail alignment south of Parkes (NSW and Australian Government funded).
- **\$20.9 million** to continue widening of the Marshalls Creek bridge and reduce congestion in Wagga Wagga.

Communities and Justice

• Continuation of the **\$8.0 million** project for construction of a new police station at Moama.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

- \$351.4 million from the Australian Government for the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism acceleration program over the years to 2026-27, to achieve similar or improved environmental outcomes for rivers, wetlands and wildlife using less water as part of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.
- An additional **\$18.2 million** from the Australian Government for the Reconnecting River Country Program, to increase the frequency and extent that rivers are connected to wetlands and floodplains in the Murray and Murrumbidgee river systems.

Jobs and Tourism

• \$812,000 for the Riverina Conservatorium of Music – including the funds required to transfer the facility to Create NSW, and maintain, operate and activate while held by Create NSW.

Regional NSW

 Continuation of \$212.2 million for Wagga Wagga to be a sustainable hub of high-value agricultural and food manufacturing, supporting industries and businesses to connect to the world.

South East and Tablelands



3.9

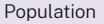


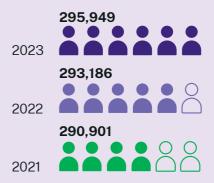
Narooma



Local Government Areas

Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, Goulburn Mulwaree, Hilltops, Queanbeyan Palerang, Snowy Monaro Regional, Upper Lachlan Shire, Wingecarribee and Yass Valley





• Commencing works to expand the Bombala Multipurpose Service in Southern NSW, a joint initiative between the NSW and Australian Governments.

Continuation of the:

- **\$330.0 million** Eurobodalla Regional Hospital Redevelopment
- \$165.0 million Goulburn Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$26.6 million** Cooma Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$20.0 million** Batemans Bay Community Health Centre
- **\$15.0 million** for Key Health Worker Accommodation in Southern NSW.

Education

- An expansion of Googong Public School Stage 2 Upgrade.
- Five new public preschools as part of the NSW Government's 100 new public preschools election commitment. These will be located at:
 - Boorowa Central School
 - Jindabyne Public School
 - Moss Vale Public School
 - Queanbeyan East Public School
 - Queanbeyan South Public School.
- Continuation of Jerrabomberra High School Stage 2 Upgrade.
- 615 education staff made permanent.

Transport

- \$138.7 million to continue improvements on the Barton Highway.
- **\$47.3 million** for the Jindabyne Education Campus project to provide improved access to the new school facilities for the local community.

- **\$22.5 million** to continue pavement surface upgrades on the Hume Highway at Marulan.
- **\$3.8 million** for planning upgrades to the Narooma Bridge.

Communities and Justice

Continuation of the:

- **\$25.0 million** project for major upgrades to the Goulburn Police Station
- **\$19.1 million** project for major upgrades to the Bega Police Station, including a new forensic facility
- **\$5.5 million** for the Goulburn Academy Gym and Recreation Centre
- **\$4.0 million** for the Police Driver Training Upgrade
- **\$3.0 million** project for Goulburn Academy Critical Incident Response Training Upgrade
- **\$2 million** Moss Vale Fire Station upgrade.

Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

• **\$6.6 million** to upgrade the Yass Valley Water Treatment Plant to improve the quality of drinking water and support up to 1,580 new dwellings in Murrumbateman and Yass.

Regional NSW

• **\$5.3 million** to expand the Gaden Trout Hatchery to build resilience into fish populations within the upper Murrumbidgee Catchment.

Continuation of:

• **\$196.3 million** in the Snowy Mountains region for essential infrastructure to support housing and all year-round tourism, benefiting the community.

Image credits:

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NSW Treasury

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Budget Paper No.01 Budget Statement Budget Paper No.02 Agency Financial Statements Budget Paper No.03 Infrastructure Statement Budget Paper No.04 Appropriation Bills Gender Equality Budget Statement Overview: Our plan for New South Wales Our plan for Regional New South Wales Our plan for Western Sydney Performance and Wellbeing – Consultation Paper

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