My fellow Queeslanders,

This Budget is the most important in a generation. It builds a brighter future for Queensland.

We inherited an unsustainable financial position which we have to correct.

The Government is committed to lowering the cost of living for Queenslanders while at the same time investing in frontline services. We will continue to find new ways to deliver services in a more effective and efficient manner.

This Budget breaks the addiction to years of debt and deficit and starts Queensland on a path to regaining the AAA credit rating – which will save us hundreds of millions in interest payments each year which can be diverted to service delivery.

The Budget very clearly outlines a program:
- for families
- for Queensland business
- for regional Queensland.

It is a program that will:
- help keep the cost of living down
- reinvest in our schools
- deliver better health services
- support people with a disability and targets a 4% unemployment rate over six years.

This Budget also fulfils our pledge to Queenslanders at the recent election to:
- grow a four pillar economy
- lower the cost of living for families
- deliver better infrastructure and planning
- revitalise frontline services
- restore accountability in government.

The Government is committed to getting Queensland Back on Track. This Budget provides the strategy to do just that.

Queensland Government Debt

For more information about the 2012-13 State Budget: www.budget.qld.gov.au
Lowering the cost of living for Queensland families

In recent years Queensland families have been bearing the burden of rising living costs. This Budget looks to redress these pressures by providing savings for a number of essential services. Queenslanders will find savings when they turn on their lights, turn on their services not available within their local area.

- $917 million over three years to reinstate the principal place of residence stamp duty concession, providing savings of up to $7,175 when buying a home.
- An additional $97.7 million over four years to boost the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme which assists patients accessing specialist medical services not available within their local area.
- $92 million to deliver rebates of up to $80 per domestic water connection to households.
- $158.2 million over four years to halve public transport fare increases due in 2013 and 2014.
- $39 million over four years to reward regular commuters with free travel on the Translink network after nine journeys in a Monday to Sunday week.
- Repeal the Industry Waste Levy to reduce the burden on businesses and protect jobs.

How is the money spent?

- Economic services $2.8 billion
- Social welfare, housing and other community services $5.2 billion
- Education $10.7 billion
- Health $12.8 billion
- Transport and communications $6.5 billion
- Public order and safety $4.1 billion
- Other services $6.4 billion