Regional Budget Statement
North Coast

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 as 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 jobs-generating building program, with 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 North Coast region.

Anna Bligh MP
Premier
and Minister for the Arts

Andrew Fraser MP
Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development

An Apprentice bricklayer at Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE
Protecting jobs on the North Coast

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-focused 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.
It might be one of Queensland’s smallest regions, but the North Coast has one of the State’s highest population growth rates. Covering an area of 5,794 square kilometres or 0.3 per cent of the State, the North Coast is home to almost 11 per cent of Queensland’s total population. More than 460,000 Queenslanders now call the North Coast region home.

The State’s North Coast region features a diverse economy including a robust tourism sector, a dominant retail trade sector, and a strong property and business services industry. The region features a well-developed infrastructure network, a host of leading sporting and recreational precincts, and a number of higher education facilities.

The Queensland Government recognises the valuable contribution the North Coast 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.

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 the North Coast region include:

- $450 million for stage two of the Northern Pipeline Interconnector, linking the Noosa Water Treatment Plant to the South East Queensland Water Grid
- $62.7 million towards upgrading the Citytrain network, including duplicating rail track between Caboolture and Beerburrum.

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 to lead Australia through the period of recovery and beyond.

In 2009-10, other job-generating investments in the North Coast region include:

- $84.4 million for vocational education and training activities
- $9.1 million to continue the $12.3 million redevelopment of trade facilities at the Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE at Nambour
- $3.37 million to create 420 jobs for young people and those disadvantaged in the labour market through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, which includes Queensland’s Green Army
- $675,000 as part of a $1.35 million grant to Sunshine Coast Regional Council to provide water infrastructure to meet the demands of the city’s increasing population.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital investment per capita</th>
<th>2008-09 to 2009-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South-East Queensland</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Data is based on ABS Statistical Divisions for 2006 ANZSIC. Due to boundary changes, data prior to 2008-09 has not been provided.

2. South East Queensland includes the ABS Statistical Divisions of Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, Cat no. 3218.0.
$1 million additional funding for new maternity services under the Mums and Bubs program to provide one-on-one midwifery support in Caboolture, Kilcoy and other locations across the State.

$900,000 for newborn and family drop-in clinics to provide specialist advice to new parents in Caboolture and across the state. This is part of the Universal Postnatal Contact Service Program.

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

- $59.1 million ($191 million over six years) to Sunshine Coast Health Services District to provide additional inpatient, renal and oral health beds at Caloundra and Nambour
- $28.12 million for the Home and Community Care initiative
- $13.8 million across South East Queensland to fluoridate the North Coast’s water supply
- $11.4 million to continue constructing the $13.4 million Nambour Residential Aged Care Facility
- $9.03 million to support people with a disability and their carers
- $8.2 million to continue the new $1.57 billion Sunshine Coast University Hospital at Kawana, with 110 public beds expected to be available from 2013-14
- $2.7 million to help Queenslanders remain in their own homes or in the private rental market
- $2.18 million to improve community sport and recreation facilities
- $2.1 million over four years to provide extra out-of-home care places for children with complex and extreme needs
- $1.59 million to support the homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless
- $1.32 million to support victims of domestic violence
- $876,000 for the $21 million Caboolture Health Precinct
- $365,000 for the $27.2 million Sunshine Coast Health Precinct
- $255,000 for non-government organisations for the Palliative Care Program
- $206,000 for local non-government organisations to employ chronic disease health workers to provide health screening services such as nutrition, physical activity, alcohol, child health, and sexual and reproductive health
- $158,000 in chronic disease Indigenous health funding to support the implementation of the National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

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 the North Coast region will include:

- $28.5 million to complete the $47.8 million duplication of Steve Irwin Way between the Mooloolah Connection Road and the Bruce Highway at the Caloundra interchange
- $22.6 million to complete the $37.9 million widening of the Caboolture-Bribie Island Fostering innovation

$750,000 ($1.88 million in total) from the National and International Research Alliances Program to the University of the Sunshine Coast for the Smart Forests Alliance Queensland project. World-leading biotechnology will be used to speed up production of fast-growing plantation trees, leading to increased forestry investment, sequestration of carbon and development of rural and regional industries.
Promoting education and early childhood development

The Queensland Government is focussed on ensuring every Queensland child has access to high-quality education, with an emphasis on major infrastructure investment to provide first-rate teaching and learning environments. In 2009-10, the Government will invest $15.4 million to complete construction of stage three of Meridan State College.

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 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

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 North Coast region and across Queensland, visit the Q150 website at www.q150.qld.gov.au
Internationally Australia is a standout performer; Queensland to remain ahead of the nation

- Queensland’s economy is expected to expand by ½% 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 1¼% in 2010-11, compared with ½% over the year to June quarter 2011 for Australia as a whole.
- Queensland’s year-average unemployment rate is forecast to peak at 7¼% in 2010-11, compared with a peak in the national rate of 8½% 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.
Government services on the North Coast

**Caboolture**

**Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation**
33 King Street
Caboolture QLD 4510
Telephone: 5431 2550
Facsimile: 5495 7456
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

**Caboolture**

**Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre**
Level 4, 33 King Street
Caboolture QLD 4510
Telephone: 5433 7700
Facsimile: 5433 7719
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

**Maleny**

**QGAP**
49 Maple Street
Maleny QLD 4552
Telephone: 5429 6293
Facsimile: 5494 2655
Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 9am to 2pm

**Maroochydore**

**Department of Communities – Sunshine Coast Regional Office**
Level 2, Platinum Building
18 Duporth Avenue
Maroochydore QLD 4558
Telephone: 5459 8600
Facsimile: 5459 8612
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

**Nambour**

**Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre**
Centenary Square
52-64 Currie Street
Nambour QLD 4560
Telephone: 5451 2222
Facsimile: 5451 2262
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

**Nambour**

**Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries**
47 Mayers Road
Nambour QLD 4560
Telephone: 5483 5800
Facsimile: 5483 5801
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:00am to 5pm

**Sunshine Coast**

**Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation**
13 Innovation Way
Birtinya QLD 4575
Telephone: 5437 1308
Facsimile: 5437 1320
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

---

**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

---

www.budget.qld.gov.au