

Queensland 2009-10 State Budget release - summary

The Queensland State Budget for 2009-10 was handed down by Treasurer Andrew Fraser on Tuesday 16 June, 2009. Key priorities for this Budget are about delivering jobs for Queensland, strengthening community services and returning the Budget to surplus.

The following summary of information may be of particular interest to the Queensland divisions' network. Please note that further information is yet to be provided on the details of a number of these funding commitments. Further detail will be provided once it is made available.

Queensland Health services

Queensland Health's operating budget will grow to \$9.037 billion in 2009-10, which is an 8.2% increase on the previous year.

Health function expenses relate to the following:

- Acute hospital services including the provision of medical, surgical and obstetric services;
- Provision of primary health care for individuals or small targeted groups providing curative, promotive, preventative and rehabilitative services;
- Access to quality emergency medical and outpatient services, residential care services for the aged and young people with physical and intellectual disabilities and mental health services.

Queensland Health workforce and infrastructure

Queensland Health in 2009-10 has committed to focus spending broadly on upgrading emergency departments, new rehabilitation and maternity services as well as expanding cancer treatment facilities. The following are a list of particular funding commitments:

- \$7.9 million over three years to train and recruit 30 nurse practitioners to work in the busiest emergency departments to reduce waiting times;
- \$110 million over three years for the Surgery Connect Program to provide treatment for waitlisted public patients through utilising spare private capacity;
- \$16.7 million to improve services for mothers and babies by introducing new or enhanced maternity and neonatal services across Queensland;
- \$69.9 million over four years to improve rehabilitation and transition care at Eventide, Sandgate and Rockhampton and Townsville;
- \$125.7 million capital funding for the expansion of the adult and/or paediatric emergency departments at Logan, QE11, Bundaberg and Redland Hospitals;
- \$155 million for the construction of the \$1.762 billion 750 bed *Gold Coast University Hospital* to provide complex care, research and teaching opportunities by late 2012;
- \$105 million for the \$1.283 billion *Queensland Children's Hospital* to provide enhanced paediatric services by 2014;
- \$21.8 million for the \$446.3 million redevelopment of the Cairns Base Hospital with enhanced rehabilitation facilities and radiation oncology services;
- \$61 million for the new \$405.6 million Mackay Base Hospital to provide new, acute service facilities;

- \$25.4 million to continue the \$65.2 million redevelopment of the Mount Isa Hospital;
- \$74.2 million for the \$240 million Robina Hospital expansion;
- \$39.4 million for additional beds at the Townsville Hospital as part of a \$332.8 million expansion;
- \$74.2 million for the \$149.1 million of the Rockhampton Hospital to provide additional beds in partnership with funding from the Australian Governments Health and Hospitals fund.
- \$4.2 million for the \$122 million Ipswich Hospital expansion for additional beds;
- \$8.3 million to commence work on the \$1.494 billion Sunshine Coast University Hospital precinct;
- Employment of additional doctors, nurses and allied health professionals as part of the “100, 000 jobs to keep Queensland strong policy”.

Community services

A number of financial commitments have been made with regards to community services and the community sector more broadly. Some of these commitments are highlighted below:

- \$414 million funding increase (over four years) in wages for community service workers;
- \$1 million in 2009-10 (\$3 million over three years) for Young Care to enable additional accommodation support for young people with disabilities on the Gold Coast;
- \$2.1 million in 2009-10 to support people with psychiatric disabilities transition from Queensland Health acute and extended treatment facilities to community living;
- \$446.8 million in recurrent funding for the Home and Community Care Program for additional services across Queensland to support the needs of the frail aged, people with disabilities and their carers.

Further information

For further information regarding the Queensland 2009-10 State Budget release or to access the Budget statements in full visit the Queensland Government State Budget website at

<http://www.budget.qld.gov.au/index.shtml>