

BUDGET 2019-20

Investing in generational change

Budget 2019 invests in education, health, early childhood development and youth justice reform to drive generational change.

Education and training

Budget 2019 invests \$1.28 billion to deliver best possible education and training across the Territory, including:

- \$518 million to resource government schools, including \$76 million towards meeting centralised school costs
- \$48.56 million to implement stage 2 of the Indigenous Education Strategy, including \$34.7 million in Commonwealth funding for remote communities
- \$42.6 million for a new government school in Zuccoli, including site servicing and a shared oval
- \$14.1 million for round 3 of the Building Better Schools initiative, providing \$300 000 per school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities to enhance student learning
- \$11.7 million for Darwin Middle School multipurpose hall, stage 2 of the Bullocky Point education precinct projects providing flexible-use spaces to support sports, music, arts, drama and indoor space for school assemblies
- \$10.82 million to implement a school resourcing model that provides schools with more equitable, transparent funding and increased support, in response to recommendations from the independent review of global school budgets
- \$8 million to continue early intervention and support to tackle challenging behaviours and help students with additional needs
- \$3 million to increase support for non-government schools to provide boarding services to Aboriginal students in the Territory
- \$2.2 million to support schools to evaluate and measure achievement of improved outcomes for students
- \$2.1 million to continue to improve educational services to young people in detention to enhance their prospects for engagement and rehabilitation
- \$2 million to promote an environment in government schools that is inclusive, fair and focused on delivering learning to meet individual needs.

Healthy Territorians

Budget 2019 provides a total of \$1.72 billion for safe, high quality and sustainable health services, supporting jobs and stronger communities, including:

- \$15.5 million to provide assessment, withdrawal and specialised alcohol treatment services to assist people with alcohol misuse issues and dependence, as part of the Banned Drinker Register
- \$8.93 million to reduce the impact of antisocial behaviour in Darwin and Palmerston
- \$6.6 million to continue works to refurbish and expand the Nightcliff renal facility
- \$5.8 million for upgrades at Alice Springs Hospital
- \$5 million to support delivery of the Sustained Nurse Home Visiting for Vulnerable Families program
- \$4.51 million for allied health services across the Top End
- \$2.92 million for emergency road ambulance and medical transportation services
- \$2.89 million to expand renal inpatient capacity at Alice Springs Hospital

- \$2.34 million to expand service capability of the patient retrieval service across Central Australia and address the growing demand in medical services
- \$0.93 million to provide psychosocial support for people in public housing with severe and persistent mental illness
- \$0.75 million to tackle substance misuse in remote communities through the delivery of diversion programs.

Remote Housing Investment Package

A good home provides firm foundations for positive health, education and employment outcomes, and helps build a strong sense of community. The government is continuing to deliver the 10-year \$1.1 billion Remote Housing Investment Package (and secured a five-year \$550 million co-contribution from the Commonwealth). In 2019-20 this will include:

- \$115.8 million to build new fit-for-purpose homes
- \$43.9 million to construct living spaces to ease the overcrowding in existing homes
- \$24.6 million for additional government employee housing.

The Territory Government is also providing \$61.8 million to support the rollout of new housing by preparing land and setting up electrical, water and sewerage infrastructure.

Early childhood development

Budget 2019 continues to deliver government's 10-year Early Childhood Development Plan, which provides a \$35.6 million investment over four years, including \$10 million in 2019-20. The plan includes:

- expanding the Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home visiting program to support expecting mothers in more regional and remote areas
- expanding the Healthy Under 5 Kids program to Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek, and all remote clinics managed by the the health services
- establishing seven Families as First Teachers sites in 2019-20 in Darwin, Alice Springs, Palmerston and rural regions, complementing the seven sites opened in 2018-19 to provide early learning and parent capacity building programs to families and children aged 0 to 5 years
- four new Hearing Health Partnership locations integrated with Families as First Teachers sites to promote ear health

hygiene, language and learning behaviours (established in 2018-19).

In addition, Budget 2019 continues to deliver \$11.4 million over four years to establish a network of 17 child and family centres by 2022-23 to target and coordinate support for families. This includes five sites to be established in 2019-20 including Tennant Creek (already underway), Katherine, Darwin northern suburbs and northern Arnhem Land.

Getting children back on track

Budget 2019 continues to support a range of youth justice initiatives and recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children to make generational change and provide better lives for young people across the Territory, through:

- \$70 million to progress contemporary youth justice centres in greater Darwin and Alice Springs
- \$20.29 million for government's plan 'Safe, Thriving and Connected: Generational Change for Children and Families'
- \$10.29 million over three years from 2018-19 for new infrastructure and to repurpose facilities to support regional youth justice programs and provide alternatives to detention
- \$6.96 million in 2018-19 and \$8.54 million ongoing from 2019-20 for the Back on Track program to reduce the number of young people who enter detention and provide early opportunities for them to engage with vocational education and employment pathways
- \$5 million over three years from 2018-19 for breaking the cycle of crime in Alice Springs, including \$2.33 million to support seven youth engagement night officers in Alice Springs
- \$4.8 million in 2018-19 and \$4.75 million ongoing from 2019-20 to support 'A Safer Territory – A plan for generational change', to break the cycle of crime in Palmerston, including \$1.5 million ongoing to establish and operate a Palmerston youth drop-in and crisis centre
- \$3.2 million for community youth diversion programs
- \$1.2 million for youth diversion innovation grants.

Budget 2019 also provides \$20 million to transform out of home care, to ensure that children and young people are safe and supported to learn and grow.