



# Budget Briefing Pack

# 2021/22

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This Budget Briefing Pack compiles key investments and initiatives in this year's State Budget. To access the full Budget papers, visit

[www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au](http://www.ourstatebudget.wa.gov.au).

## WACOSS Media Release

Thursday 9 September 2021

### **Future-focused State Budget for a rainy day**

The Western Australian Council of Social Service has welcomed this year's state budget which builds on WA's strong economic position to invest for the future of our community. Forward-thinking investment in our health system, action on climate change and social housing will provide better outcomes for generations of Western Australians to come.

Quotes attributable to WACOSS CEO, Louise Giolitto:

"This year's State Budget is generally welcomed by WACOSS, but there is always more that needs to be done," Ms Giolitto said.

"The announcement earlier this week of an extra \$875 million for social housing by the Premier Mark McGowan and Housing Minister John Carey will help to relieve the pressures on WA's social housing system.

"This Budget also supports the continuation of successful early intervention and prevention programs like the Olabud Doogethu justice reinvestment site in Halls Creek and the expansion of Home-Stretch for young people transitioning out of out-of-home care to independence.

"Extending foster-care services up to the age of 21 is a great example of preventative policy that works and will ultimately change the lives of young people for the better; by supporting people early through community-based services, we can ensure they are able to thrive. It is important that the State continues to identify and invest into other similar successful initiatives so they too can shift from short-term piecemeal funding to sustain long term outcomes.

"We were also glad to see significant investment from the McGowan Government in the area of Family and Domestic Violence, following through on their pre-election commitments.

"The COVID-19 downturn disproportionately affected low-income households, women, young people and migrant communities. These are sections of the community that already doing it tough. Many Western Australians that are currently accessing community support services are doing so for the first time, which is a concern to us, and this is placing additional strain on already stretched services.

"It is pleasing to see the continued focus on ensuring low rises in household fees and charges, as these changes have a big impact on our most vulnerable West Australians. The two-zone cap on public transport fees will have a significant impact for low-income households living in outer suburbs where unaffordable fares act as a barrier to finding employment and support.

"The announcement of the end of the wages cap for the public sector demonstrates the unsustainability of low wages growth as costs of living continue to increase, but we would encourage the Government to apply the same thinking to community services contracts as they come up for renewal.

"While we are disappointed not to see the establishment of an Emergency Support Relief Fund to assist private renters who are at risk of homelessness due to rent hikes, we will continue to work with the McGowan Government to ensure that we minimise the impacts of COVID-19 on the whole community.

"This budget marks an important shift in State Government planning and investment in longer term outcomes. The combination of our strong economic position and the Premier's unprecedented political majority creates an opportunity to think bigger and create a legacy that benefits our whole community into the future.

"With strong investments in health and mental health in this budget and policy reforms underway to put the commissioning of social services on a more strategic and sustainable footing, we look forward to the opportunity to work with the McGowan Government in the years ahead to strengthen initiatives that reduce the demand for crisis services and deliver better wellbeing outcomes to the WA community."

Ends.

## Household fees and charges

*Household fees and charges, such as an energy, disproportionately impact households on the lowest incomes, as they spend a higher percentage of their income on many of those charges. This Budget has a welcome focus on ensuring household fees and charges remain low.*

Table 8.7

### ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE 'REPRESENTATIVE' HOUSEHOLD

	2020-21 \$ level	% change	\$ change	2021-22 \$ level
<b>Motor Vehicles <sup>(a)</sup></b>				
Vehicle licence charge	384.84	4.0	14.72	399.56
Recording fee	10.30	-	-	10.30
Drivers licence	88.10	-	-	88.10
Motor Injury Insurance (MII)	403.90	3.0	12.10	416.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>887.14</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>26.82</i>	<i>913.96</i>
<b>Utility Charges <sup>(b)</sup></b>				
Electricity <sup>(c)</sup>	1,748.54	1.75	30.61	1,779.15
Water, wastewater and drainage <sup>(d)(e)</sup>	1,729.48	1.75	30.31	1,759.79
<i>Total</i>	<i>3,478.02</i>	<i>1.75</i>	<i>60.92</i>	<i>3,538.94</i>
<b>Public Transport <sup>(f)</sup></b>				
Student fares <sup>(g)</sup>	280.00	-	-	280.00
Standard fares <sup>(h)</sup>	1,128.96	-	-	1,128.96
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,408.96</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,408.96</i>
<b>Emergency Services Levy (ESL) <sup>(e)</sup></b>	271.47	4.3	11.62	283.09
<b>Stamp Duty <sup>(i)</sup></b>				
Stamp duty on general insurance <sup>(j)</sup>	195.36	-	-	195.36
Stamp duty on MII	41.60	-	-	41.60
<i>Total</i>	<i>236.96</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>236.96</i>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>6,282.55</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>99.36</b>	<b>6,381.91</b>

<b>Initiative</b>	Household Fee Rises and Concessions
<b>Investment</b>	\$397 million
<b>Description</b>	Household fees and charges to rise by 1.6 per cent. Concessions, including the Energy Assistance Payment, indexed.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment ensures that the increase in household fees and charges remains below CPI, resulting in an increase of \$99.36 for the 'average household' on 2020-21 levels. The indexation of concessions means that they should rise in line with increases in the household basket of costs.

<b>Initiative</b>	Public Transport Fares Freeze and Cap
<b>Investment</b>	\$57.1 million over four years
<b>Description</b>	Public transport fares have been frozen. From 1 January 2022, the Government will cap Transperth fares at the cost of a 2-Zone ticket.
<b>Implications</b>	Unaffordable public transport fares can act as a significant barrier to finding employment or accessing support, particularly for households in Perth's outer suburbs. Capping fares at two-zones will result in sizeable savings for those households.

## Housing and homelessness

*Access to safe, secure and affordable shelter is essential for people to be able to fully engage in our community. Stable tenancies are crucial to support positive outcomes in areas like health and wellbeing, education and employment. This State Budget includes an extra \$875 million for social housing to deliver 3,300 homes, which will help to relieve the pressures on WA's social housing system.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Social Housing Investment fund
<b>Investment</b>	\$750 million
<b>Description</b>	An extra \$750 million fund for future construction projects and other initiatives that increase social housing supply.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment fund will deliver a pipeline of social housing dwellings, including using alternative building methods such as modular construction, to increase stock as rapidly as possible.

<b>Initiative</b>	Spot Purchasing
<b>Investment</b>	\$50 million
<b>Description</b>	A spot purchase program to deliver 97 social housing dwellings.

<b>Initiative</b>	METRONET dwelling conversion
<b>Investment</b>	\$26 million
<b>Description</b>	Convert 72 dwellings from METRONET Social and Affordable Housing and Jobs Package into social housing.

<b>Initiative</b>	Regional Renewal Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$20 million
<b>Description</b>	Regional renewal projects in Geraldton, Bunbury and Albany for ageing social housing stock.

<b>Initiative</b>	Common Ground Capacity Expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$38.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Increases existing investment for the design, construction and fit out of two Common Ground facilities at Perth and Mandurah, up to a total of \$73.5 million.
<b>Implications</b>	Common Ground is a model of permanent, supported housing in a purpose-built complex for adults who have experienced chronic homelessness or are low income earners.

<b>Initiative</b>	Boorloo Bidee Mia (Perth Pathway to Housing)
<b>Investment</b>	\$18 million
<b>Description</b>	Transitional accommodation facility that will provide support for up to 100 adults who are sleeping rough.
<b>Implications</b>	Provides safe, affordable and culturally appropriate accommodation in the Perth CBD. It includes tailored care plans for each resident and support to transition to more permanent accommodation.

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth Futures
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.4 million
<b>Description</b>	Establishes a new crisis accommodation facility for teenagers in the northern suburbs of Perth under the Teenagers in Need of Crisis Accommodation initiative.
<b>Implications</b>	The facility will provide short-term accommodation, from one night up to three months, for young people aged 15 to 19 experiencing homelessness or who are unable to stay in their family home.

<b>Initiative</b>	Local Government Homelessness fund
<b>Investment</b>	\$6 million
<b>Description</b>	Encourages partnerships with local governments to co-fund homelessness intervention initiatives that are tailored to on-the-ground, location-specific needs.
<b>Implications</b>	Grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$200,000 in value will be awarded through four annual funding rounds. The fund supports implementation of All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness and provides a mechanism to establish local cross-sector partnerships that drive innovative responses to homelessness.

## Investment for Aboriginal People and Communities

<b>Initiative</b>	Aboriginal Community Connectors Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$14.05 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding to continue this program across 13 locations in Western Australia, including Hedland, Roebourne, Carnarvon, Meekatharra, Mullewa, Kalgoorlie and Geraldton. The program provides safe transport options, culturally responsive crisis support and local employment opportunities.
<b>Implications</b>	Support for Aboriginal people in regional areas to access services and reduce barriers to economic and social participation. The focus on culturally responsive services is critical for Aboriginal communities, to enable better economic outcomes in the future.

<b>Initiative</b>	Better Beginnings Program Expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$1 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding to expand this early literacy and learning program into the Kimberley and Pilbara regions. This is part of an investment package that will also include \$8 million towards creative learning programs in schools, and \$1 million in community grants.
<b>Implications</b>	Early childhood education programs are needed in regional WA to close existing gaps in education outcomes. Successful implementation will require a culturally responsive lens and partnerships with regional communities.

<b>Initiative</b>	Social and Emotional Wellbeing Pilot Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$17.6 million
<b>Description</b>	Establishing a Social and Emotional Wellbeing Pilot within five Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in the regions. This will support individuals and families to access the culturally secure services to maintain and improve health and wellness.
<b>Implications</b>	Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services are well-placed to trial these approaches through a culturally-responsive and place-based lens.

<b>Initiative</b>	Aboriginal Tourism initiatives
<b>Investment</b>	\$12.1 million/20 million
<b>Description</b>	To implement the regional component of the Tjina: Western Australian Aboriginal Tourism Action Plan 2021-25
<b>Implications</b>	An incentive to showcase Aboriginal culture throughout Western Australia.

<b>Initiative</b>	Strong Spirit Strong Mind Regional Expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.2 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding to expand the Strong Spirit Strong Mind metro project state-wide. This project operates within the Mental Health Commission as a registered training organisation focused on culturally-responsive approaches to alcohol and other drug use.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment will support local Aboriginal employment and increased capability of regional services to work in culturally-responsive ways.

<b>Initiative</b>	Aboriginal Rangers Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$45 million
<b>Description</b>	This funding will continue and expand the Aboriginal Ranger program, which trains and employs Aboriginal people to undertake land and sea management activities.
<b>Implications</b>	The Aboriginal Ranger Program is a highly-effective at achieving conservation, employment, economic and community outcomes, while valuing Aboriginal knowledge and ways of working.

<b>Initiative</b>	Yawuru Conservation Parks
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.5million
<b>Description</b>	For facilities and upgrades in Yawuru conservation parks.
<b>Implications</b>	Likely to support the influx of tourists in the Broome area.

<b>Initiative</b>	Broome Aboriginal-led Specialist Family Violence Court
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.6 million
<b>Description</b>	An Aboriginal-led court model, based on the successful Barndimalgu Court in Geraldton, to better tackle family violence legal issues.
<b>Implications</b>	A welcome initiative to enable Aboriginal leadership and involvement in decision making through the court system, and culturally secure outcomes.

<b>Initiative</b>	Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation
<b>Investment</b>	\$77 million
<b>Description</b>	Short Stay Accommodation provides safe and suitable short-term accommodation for Aboriginal people travelling from remote areas to regional centres or Perth to access services. This includes:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6.3 million for planning and land acquisition in Perth</li> <li>• \$18 million for Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay</li> <li>• \$20 million for Kununurra Aboriginal Short Stay</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	This funding is critical to ensure Aboriginal people who need to come into metropolitan or regional centres to access critical services are able to access safe and secure accommodation while doing so.

<b>Initiative</b>	Boorloo Bidee Mia – Perth Homelessness Facility
<b>Investment</b>	\$18.03 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding to establish a culturally-responsive homelessness facility in the Perth CBD that will provide support for up 100 adults who are sleeping rough.
<b>Implications</b>	This initiative will have an immediate impact by assisting rough sleepers into supported accommodation. It is a positive step towards a state-wide housing first response with a culturally-responsive lens.

<b>Initiative</b>	North West Aboriginal Housing Fund
<b>Investment</b>	\$14.08 million
<b>Description</b>	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4.93 million for the Jalbi Jiya (Your Home) Program</li> <li>• \$6.209 million for the Yindjibarndi Ganallili Accommodation and Transitional Housing Program</li> <li>• \$3.108 million for the Yura Yungi Employee Accommodation and Career Development Program</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	Co designed in partnership with local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, the program will deliver pathways to home ownership, particularly for apprentices, low-income tradespeople, and those working in Aboriginal health services as well as affordable secure longer term housing for those exiting the justice system.

<b>Initiative</b>	Connected Beginnings Roebourne
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.87 million
<b>Description</b>	Connected Beginnings helps Aboriginal children prepare for school. The program contributes to objectives under Closing the Gap.
<b>Implications</b>	The early years are a critical stage of development, and supporting families during this period has been proven to improve education and life outcomes.

## Gendered Measures

*A focus on women's health and family and family and domestic violence services. Limited investment in repairing and rebuilding women's workforce participation and economic security or to further close the gender pay gap.*

### Prevention and Early Intervention

<b>Initiative</b>	Respectful Relationships program expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$2.3 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	Expansion to include sport and recreation clubs and organisations and continue the Teaching Support program, which provides professional learning, resources, and support to schools to implement respectful relationships and gender equality education from an early age
<b>Implications</b>	An important initiative that targets the critical role that schools and recreational centres have in creating a culture of respect, disrupting the cycle of family violence through primary prevention focused on developing pro-social behaviours that lead to equitable and respectful relationships.

<b>Initiative</b>	FDV primary prevention framework
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.4 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	Framework to guide prevention activities and support capacity building and training efforts
<b>Implications</b>	Places much needed emphasis on primary prevention and family violence response, supporting a better understanding of family violence across sectors.

### Family Support

<b>Initiative</b>	Access to Regional Childcare
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.8 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	The package will help improve access to childcare in regions such as the Pilbara, Goldfields-Esperance, and the Kimberley, which have significant waiting lists, challenges attracting staff, a lack of suitable facilities and a need for support in governance and management.
<b>Implications</b>	By the first year of school, children living in regional and remote areas are more likely to be considered developmentally vulnerable than children in major cities. It is particularly important that high quality early childhood education is accessible and affordable in these communities and that challenges associated with recruiting, retaining and developing early childhood education teachers are addressed.

<b>Initiative</b>	Grandcarers Support Scheme
<b>Investment</b>	\$6.2 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	This investment is a tripling of grandcarer support payments for grandparent carers who have primary responsibility of the care their grandchildren through an informal arrangement.
<b>Implications</b>	This increase is a significant step in formally acknowledging and supporting the significantly important care role grandparents carers take on.

## Health

<b>Initiative</b>	Women and Babies Hospital
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.8 billion
<b>Description</b>	\$1.8 billion was allocated in the 2020-21 Mid-year Review to a Special Purpose Account to fund the construction of a new Women and Babies Hospital.
<b>Implications</b>	Provides a boost to women's health services, with a focus on accommodating the complex level and type of care for women and newborns. Important that plans to address worker shortages across the state include nurses, midwives and local health workers.

<b>Initiative</b>	Women's Community Health Services
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.5 million over the Budget period
<b>Description</b>	Women's community health services in the Kimberley will be expanded addressing mental illness and family, domestic and sexual violence via additional spending of \$2.8 million over 2021-22 to 2024-25. A further \$2.7 million will be spent over the forward estimates period to establish a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women's community health service in the South Eastern corridor, including health promotion, nursing, counselling and midwifery services.
<b>Implications</b>	A welcome expansion of Women's Community Health Services in the regions and specialised services for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse women.

<b>Initiative</b>	Expansion of Eating Disorder Treatment Service
<b>Investment</b>	\$31.7 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	\$31.7 million over the budget period to establish a State-wide eating disorder service for people aged 16 and above. The hub and spoke model provides a centralised, tertiary level specialist service consisting of a State-wide day program and early intervention, as well as community and clinical spokes involving prevention campaigns and a pilot specialist multidisciplinary outpatient clinic.
<b>Implications</b>	Important to see this service expanded as eating disorders disproportionately affect young women and are particularly challenging given their association with a variety of physical and psychiatric comorbidities.

### Economic Security

<b>Initiative</b>	Green Jobs
<b>Investment</b>	\$48 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	The Green Jobs Plan will provide employment opportunities for people who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including people in regional areas, Aboriginal people, youth, women, and people with disabilities.
<b>Implications</b>	This funding is part of the \$60.3 million investment in environmental projects as part of WA Recovery Plan, aiming to create approximately 1,000 conservation jobs State-wide in areas such as fencing, seeding, planting, managing threats, and improving native vegetation and habitat for fauna. It is unclear how this plan will create jobs for women, young women or women with disabilities.

## Children, young people and families

*There are some important investments in health and mental health for children and young people and some efforts to address the lack of access to childcare services in the regions. We hope to see a greater focus in the future focused on early intervention to improve the outcomes and reduce the costs of crisis services in the future, such as community-based supports for families proven to keep kids out of care.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Increase support payments for Grandcarers
<b>Investment</b>	\$6.2 million
<b>Description</b>	This investment triples support payments for grandparent carers who have primary responsibility of the care of their grandchildren through an informal arrangement.
<b>Implications</b>	This increase is a significant step in formally acknowledging and supporting the important role that grandparent carers take on and the financial responsibilities that come with this.

<b>Initiative</b>	Regional access to childcare
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.1 million
<b>Description</b>	The Department will deliver the Government's commitment to support the viability of regional childcare by retaining childcare workers in the regions and establishing a sustainable model to support regional childcare. The package will help improve access to childcare in regions such as the Pilbara, Goldfields-Esperance, and the Kimberley, which have significant waiting lists, challenges attracting staff, a lack of suitable facilities and a need for support in governance and management.
<b>Implications</b>	Investing in childcare provides valuable support to families, allowing them to pursue other critical needs such as employment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Early Childhood Dental program
<b>Investment</b>	\$11.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Implementation of an Early Childhood Dental Program to provide free dental assessment and oral health promotion to children from six months of age.
<b>Implications</b>	Valuable initiative to support early years dental health.

<b>Initiative</b>	Children's hospice
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.2 million
<b>Description</b>	A new initiative investing in palliative care services, funds enable the planning and design of a dedicated Children's Hospice.

<b>Initiative</b>	Health Navigator program
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Establishing a two-year pilot to assist children in out-of-home care access better health care.
<b>Implications</b>	Targets a critical gap in health outcomes for vulnerable children

<b>Initiative</b>	Child and Adolescent Health Service hubs
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.5 million
<b>Description</b>	To create a co-location hub in Midland, Community health hub in Murdoch.
<b>Implications</b>	Expands and co-locates local health services for children and young people to improve access and referral.

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth Mental Health commitments (see also Mental Health factsheet)
<b>Investment</b>	\$129.9 million
<b>Description</b>	This investment covers a variety of initiatives, for example, forensic outreach service (\$12 mil), mental health community treatment services (\$10 mil), and community assessment and treatment teams (\$36 mil).
<b>Implications</b>	Investing young people is an essential step to forming early intervention and preventative approaches that lead to healthy communities.

<b>Initiative</b>	Growth in child protection services
<b>Investment</b>	\$93 million extra
<b>Description</b>	2020/21 was the first reduction in the total number of children entering care since the mid-90's (due to pandemic restrictions on department activities, not any change in need or policy). This will fund a significant increase in assessments and investigations.
<b>Implications</b>	Evidence of significant outcomes from Early Intervention Family Support services is publicly released in budget papers (with AIFS – 91% and EIFS 86% children not taken into care 12 months later). With these amazing results it would make sense to invest more in early intervention and less in increasing numbers in state care.

## Domestic and family violence

*A welcome investment in programs that are prevention-oriented, culturally-safe and support women's financial and housing security. Limited investment in men's behaviour change programs.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Broome Aboriginal-led specialist family violence court
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.6 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	\$2.8 million over the forward estimates period to operate a new specialist Family Violence Court in Broome to support Aboriginal women who have experienced domestic violence, and provide interventions for perpetrators of violence. A further \$2.8 million in capital expenditure in 2021-22 and 2022-23 has been allocated for transportable buildings, transportation and ICT costs.
<b>Implications</b>	Aims to provide more Aboriginal women, families and individuals with culturally-safe family violence support. The Family Violence Intervention Service provides offenders with the opportunity to complete programs to address their violent behaviour before the final sentence is delivered.

<b>Initiative</b>	Safe at Home program expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.4 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	An additional \$3.4 million over 2021-22 to 2024-25 has been allocated to the program, which includes support services, transitional accommodation and home security upgrades.
<b>Implications</b>	The Safe at Home program provides support for women and children to enable them to stay in their own home when it is safe for them to do so. The Safe at Home program will be expanded to support an additional 150 women per annum who are at risk of FDV, as well as their children.

<b>Initiative</b>	Warlang Bidi (Peel) and Andrea Mia (Kwinana) refuge expansions
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.4 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	Refuges officially opened in December 2020, a commitment under the <a href="#">2017 State Government's Stopping Family and Domestic Violence Policy</a> . In July 2021, both women's refuges received additional funding of \$2 million through the WA Recovery Plan for construction of an additional six units at each site.
<b>Implications</b>	The \$3.4 million in funding will go towards the additional operating costs to meet the expanded capacity of the FDV refuges in Peel and Kwinana.

<b>Initiative</b>	Two additional one-stop FDV hubs (one metropolitan and one regional)
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.1 million over 2021-2022
<b>Description</b>	One Stop Hubs are designed to make it easier for victims of family and domestic violence, by providing a range of specialist services in one location, such as alcohol and other drug counselling, mental health support, housing, legal and financial support, FDV education and awareness activities.
<b>Implications</b>	The two additional Hubs were part of the \$29.5 million Safe Home Safe Family package, announced in February 2021. The Department will spend \$1.1 million in 2021-22 to finalise planning and leasing of premises for the future additional hubs; and enhance the coordination of services through the existing hubs.

<b>Initiative</b>	Rapid Rehousing Pilot Project
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.3 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	To support women and children leaving refuges, \$3.3 million will be spent over 2022-23 to 2024-25 on a pilot program to assist up to 80 women and their children, with a focus on Aboriginal women, to access safe transitional housing in the private rental market, including bond and rental subsidies.
<b>Implications</b>	This pilot is filling a gap in supportive services available to women, providing assistance dedicated to helping them meet their housing needs and to reclaim financial independence.

<b>Initiative</b>	FDV primary prevention framework
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.4 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	Framework to guide prevention activities and support capacity building and training efforts.
<b>Implications</b>	Places much needed emphasis on primary prevention and family violence response, supporting a better understanding of family violence across sectors.

<b>Initiative</b>	Respectful Relationships program expansion
<b>Investment</b>	\$2.3 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	Expansion to include sport and recreation clubs and organisations and continue the Teaching Support program, which provides professional learning, resources, and support to schools to implement respectful relationships and gender equality education from an early age.
<b>Implications</b>	Targets the critical role of schools and recreational centres in creating a culture of respect and disrupting the cycle of family violence through prevention.

<b>Initiative</b>	Family and Domestic Violence Program for Women in Prison
<b>Investment</b>	\$2 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	An additional \$2 million over the forward estimates period on a program to ensure that the safety and legal needs of these women are addressed.
<b>Implications</b>	Almost every woman prisoner has lived with violence, and often this has contributed to her imprisonment. This program will fill a gap in prevention or rehabilitation prison-based programs designed specifically for women and targeting their experiences around violence.

<b>Initiative</b>	Caring Dads program
<b>Investment</b>	\$110,000 over 2021-2022
<b>Description</b>	Trial of the Caring Dads program in the Peel region.
<b>Implications</b>	Caring Dads is Australia's first evidence-based behaviour-change program helping fathers who have used violence, to improve their relationship with their children. The program recognises the importance of making fathers equally accountable for their behaviour and for their children's wellbeing — a role that is often assigned to women as protectors of their children.

## Climate, Energy and Disaster

*The Budget has a significant focus on three intersecting transformational challenges facing our community: climate change, how we use and generate energy, and natural disasters. The establishment of the Climate Action Fund is an important step to improve the climate-resilience of our state and move towards a low-carbon future. At the same time, there is recognition that a just and equitable transition is necessary to ensure the benefits of new and renewable energy technologies are widely shared.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Climate Action Fund
<b>Investment</b>	\$750 million
<b>Description</b>	Delivers initiatives designed to address the threat of climate change and to create sustainable jobs.
<b>Implications</b>	This package includes the expansion of the State's softwood plantation estate (linked to ending native forest logging); renewable energy initiatives such as standalone power stations and research into a green steel industry; a future climate-related initiative fund; new renewable hydrogen initiatives; Carbon Innovation Grants and coastal erosion management.

<b>Initiative</b>	Household Energy Efficiency Scheme
<b>Investment</b>	\$13 million over four years
<b>Description</b>	To assist around 10,000 households to reduce their energy costs.
<b>Implications</b>	This scheme will assist households experiencing hardship by supporting their energy efficiency. It will be delivered in partnership between energy retailers, Energy Policy WA and NGOs.

<b>Initiative</b>	Smart Energy for Social Housing
<b>Investment</b>	\$5 million from 2021-22 to 2023-24, with \$1 million spent in 2020-21
<b>Description</b>	The continuation of the Smart Energy for Social Housing plan that formed part of the WA Recovery Plan package.
<b>Implications</b>	Eligible public housing tenants will have a rooftop solar system installed and offered a discounted rate for electricity consumed during off-peak times. The first 10 properties (located in Clarkson, Gosnells, Balga, Ellenbrook, Rockingham and Girrawheen) had solar installed in December 2020, and have since reported savings of between \$30 and \$200 each.

<b>Initiative</b>	Virtual Power Plants on Schools
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.8 million
<b>Description</b>	Delivers six virtual power plants at Kalgoorlie and Geraldton public schools, announced as part of the WA Recovery Plan package.
<b>Implications</b>	A VPP is a network of distributed energy resources (DER) such as solar PV, batteries and electric vehicles, that are 'aggregated' and dispatched based on demand to provide the same services to the electricity system as a traditional power plant. These school pilot projects will test the benefits of the VPP model for both the schools and the electricity system.

<b>Initiative</b>	Western Australian Advocacy for Consumers of Energy Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$954,000 over four years
<b>Description</b>	Funding to continue development of consumer advocacy capacity and capability in the energy sector.
<b>Implications</b>	This will assist in improving energy outcomes for consumers, by providing support and opportunities for engagement and learning for energy consumer advocates.

<b>Initiative</b>	Boosting frontline emergency services to help Western Australians recover from major disasters
<b>Investment</b>	\$281.8 million
<b>Description</b>	Targeted spend on resources, equipment and facilities.
<b>Implications</b>	This spending includes the State Governments contribution towards the joint Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement for the replacement cost of public infrastructure lost as a result of natural disasters, including the Wooroloo bushfires and the flooding in Carnarvon.

## Justice and Corrective Services

*This Budget delivers some promising investment towards Early Intervention, Prevention, and Diversion, with a welcome increase in support for Aboriginal community-led approaches.*

*Notably the election commitment to fund Olabud Doogethu, SRWA's partner social reinvestment site was fulfilled with an announcement of \$1.452 million. This is an excellent step forward for funding place based initiatives, which we hope to see more of in the future.*

*Most significant expenditure in justice continues to fund punitive approaches and the tertiary end of the system, with a 'record breaking' investment of \$1.78 billion in the WA Police Force, and year on year expenditure of almost \$1 billion on adult corrective services. To create truly safe communities we need to shift our focus to sustainably funding evidence-based responses that address the underlying causes of offending and produce better community outcomes.*

### POLICE

<b>Initiative</b>	WA Police Increased Operating Budget
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.686 billion
<b>Description</b>	Funds the election commitment to recruit an additional 950 police officers over a four-year period, enabling additional DNA and forensic testing through PathWest (\$6.318 million) alongside infrastructure planning (\$2.06 million). An extra \$27.5 million funds a new police helicopter, and \$126.5 million to refurbish and expand Police Stations in Baldivis, Forrestfield, Fremantle, and extended operating house in Gosnells, Warwick, and Rockingham.
<b>Implications</b>	Increasing numbers of police officers is likely to increase demand on frontline services. The significant expansion will inevitably have flow on impacts to the rest of the justice system - increasing rates of incarceration and bringing more cases through the courts, without reducing the underlying social causes of offending.

### EARLY INTERVENTION, DIVERSION, REHABILITATION

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth Justice Programs for Regional Communities
<b>Investment</b>	\$27.8 million
<b>Description</b>	Described as keeping communities in the State's north safe and strong, it includes \$17.1 million to continue the Regional Youth Justice Services program until 2025.
<b>Implications</b>	Funding for services to support young people in contact with the system is positive, however an ongoing systemic issue is that intensive support is not available to young people at risk until <i>after</i> they have gone through the system. We need to identify them earlier and providing support before the crisis point.

<b>Initiative</b>	Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy Additional Funding
<b>Investment</b>	\$7.8 million
<b>Description</b>	This includes a new night patrol program at Fitzroy Crossing, a collaborative project designing an on-country alternative to detention in Broome, and the continuation of the TAFE learning program, existing night patrols and safe place activities.
<b>Implications</b>	This is welcome funding in justice reinvestment approaches in the Kimberley. These programs are cost-effective, sustainable, and empowering approaches that support young people to live their best lives while increasing community safety.

<b>Initiative</b>	Olabud Doogethu
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.452 million
<b>Description</b>	To deliver therapeutic and diversionary options for young people coming into contact with the justice system in Halls Creek.
<b>Implications</b>	This highly welcome investment will sustain this grassroots community program in the State's North. Programs such as this one enable young people to remain connected to community and education, and support raising the age.

<b>Initiative</b>	Western Desert Justice Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.5 million
<b>Description</b>	To offer therapeutic diversionary options in pre-sentence orders, culturally appropriate drug and alcohol services and mentoring on Country east of Newman (Martu Country).
<b>Implications</b>	An excellent initiative which will support culturally secure options to divert people with Alcohol and Drug addictions from the prison system, and support families and communities to heal.

<b>Initiative</b>	Operational Funding for PCYCs
<b>Investment</b>	\$18 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding for PCYCs around the State to continue work with youth by providing safe spaces and structured programs to support at-risk and disadvantaged youth. This is in addition to \$11.3 million provided for PCYCs in the 2020-21 State Budget.
<b>Implications</b>	While safe spaces for at risk young people are critical, the continual injection of significant funds to PCYC's around the state is questionable, when compared to the lack of funding for similar community-led initiatives that demonstrate stronger engagement with targeted cohorts, measurable outcomes, and greater cultural connection.

## LEGISLATIVE REFORM

<b>Initiative</b>	Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Bill 2021
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.63 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding for the Mental Health Commission, the Department of Justice and the Department of Communities to progress the Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Bill 2021 for introduction.
<b>Implications</b>	Many individuals in contact with WA's justice system have cognitive impairments – often undiagnosed. Current legislation governing the detention of individuals with cognitive impairment is outdated, with significant human rights concerns about indefinite detention without trial.

## REHABILITATION IN PRISON

<b>Initiative</b>	Establishment of the Bunbury Prison Alcohol and Other Drug Unit
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.3 million
<b>Description</b>	Expansion of the state's drug treatment prison model.
<b>Implications</b>	In-prison Alcohol and Drug rehabilitation has been effective and shows promising results in the existing sites. The more we can effectively rehabilitate people, the more likely they are to reintegrate to the community successfully- hence moving to a therapeutic incarceration model is an improvement. However, these supports are only offered to individuals <i>after</i> going through the system. Increasing future funding for community-based Alcohol and Drug rehabilitation can reduce crime and incarceration to deliver better outcomes for all.

## Mental Health

*The 2021-22 Budget delivers a record \$495 million boost to the Mental Health Commission, increasing the amount of money allocated to the Mental Health Commission by 11 per cent. This spending includes \$311 million for community supported accommodation and supports across the state. Despite this, spending in prevention and community support still remains a low proportion of the overall mental health budget.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Mental Health Commission Boost
<b>Investment</b>	\$495 million
<b>Description</b>	The budget sees a significant increase in mental health spending and in particular targeted spending.

<b>Initiative</b>	Step Up/Step Down Facilities
<b>Investment</b>	\$25.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Facilities that provide a community mental health service and short-term residential support
<b>Implications</b>	These services aim to support people safely in the community and close to personal supports from family and friends. They provide short term residential support and individualised care.

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth long-term housing and psychosocial support
<b>Investment</b>	\$27.7 million
<b>Description</b>	Youth housing with integrated services to assist young people to live in the community while accessing mental health and AOD supports.
<b>Implications</b>	This is a welcome budget spend that fulfils an election commitment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Active Recovery Teams across several locations, including regional locations in Geraldton and Northam
<b>Investment</b>	\$37 million
<b>Description</b>	The ART model was designed to bring community treatment and community Alcohol and Other Drug or mental health supports together to target people who regularly return to hospital because their needs are poorly met once they are discharged.

<b>Initiative</b>	Emergency mental health centres and localised community mental health supports
<b>Investment</b>	\$24.6m million
<b>Description</b>	Mental Health Emergency Centres and Behavioural Assessment Urgent Care Centres at Armadale Health Service and Rockingham General Hospital.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment will relieve some of the distress of presenting at an emergency department by reducing ED wait times.

<b>Initiative</b>	109 mental health hospital beds
<b>Description</b>	The opening of 332 new beds across Western Australian hospitals, supported by additional workforce, with 109 of those beds for mental health.

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth Mental Health commitments
<b>Investment</b>	\$129.9 million
<b>Description</b>	This investment covers a variety of initiatives, for example, forensic outreach service (\$12 mil), mental health community treatment services (\$10 mil), and community assessment and treatment teams (\$36 mil).
<b>Implications</b>	Investing young people is an essential step to forming early intervention and preventative approaches that lead to healthy communities.

<b>Initiative</b>	Expansion of Eating Disorder Treatment Service
<b>Investment</b>	\$31.7 million over the budget period
<b>Description</b>	\$31.7 million over the budget period to establish a State-wide eating disorder service for people aged 16 and above. The hub and spoke model provides a centralised, tertiary level specialist service consisting of a State-wide day program and early intervention, as well as community and clinical spokes involving prevention campaigns and a pilot specialist multidisciplinary outpatient clinic.
<b>Implications</b>	Important to see this service expanded as eating disorders disproportionately affect young women and are particularly challenging given their association with a variety of physical and psychiatric comorbidities.

## Alcohol and Other Drugs

*Please see funding of election commitments tackling alcohol and other drugs through positive programs, including initiatives implementing the recommendations of the methamphetamine taskforce and the ten-year plan.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Perth-based Alcohol and Other Drug Rehabilitation Facility
<b>Investment</b>	\$12.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Purpose-built 20-bed alcohol and other drug withdrawal rehabilitation facility in the Perth metropolitan area
<b>Implications</b>	This is a welcome spend delivering on an election commitment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Youth long-term housing and psychosocial support
<b>Investment</b>	\$27.7 million
<b>Description</b>	Youth housing with integrated services to assist young people to live in the community while accessing mental health and AOD supports.
<b>Implications</b>	This is a welcome budget spend that fulfils an election commitment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Expansion of the 'Alcohol. Think Again' program
<b>Investment</b>	\$6.7 million
<b>Description</b>	Prevention based community education program for parents and young people, to inform and influence the behaviour of young people aged 12-17 to reduce alcohol-related harm.
<b>Implications</b>	This campaign is part of a comprehensive approach that aims to reduce alcohol-related harm and poor health outcomes.

<b>Initiative</b>	Extending the Strong Spirit Strong Mind program
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.2 million
<b>Description</b>	Prevention program for Aboriginal youth and provision of AOD education.
<b>Implications</b>	Promotes healthy environments and creates safer communities, while building the capacity of the Aboriginal human services workforce in areas that have a significant impact on community outcomes.

<b>Initiative</b>	Methamphetamine Action Plan initiatives
<b>Investment</b>	\$8.6 million
<b>Description</b>	Expanding Community Alcohol and Other Drug services in the Peel region to build on the Methamphetamine Action Plan.
<b>Implications</b>	This spend forms part of an election commitment.

## Disability

*A welcome commitment to addressing the needs of people with a disability through the establishment of an Office of Disability. There has been no commitment to funding for individual and systemic disability advocacy beyond 2022.*

<b>Initiative</b>	<a href="#">Establishment of WA's first "Office of Disability"</a>
<b>Investment</b>	\$13.4 million over four years
<b>Description</b>	Operating within the Department of Communities, the Office of Disability will lead the State's strategic policy and stewardship functions for disability services, advise government on issues with NDIS and coordinate the State's response to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.
<b>Implications</b>	Accessing appropriate supports and services through the NDIS has been an ongoing challenge as the rollout has continued nationally – it is hoped the WA Office of Disability will help to smooth the transition and provide valuable feedback nationally to help improve the scheme for people with a disability.

<b>Initiative</b>	State Disability Strategy innovation fund
<b>Investment</b>	\$5 million split evenly over next 4 years (\$1.25 million each year over forwards)
<b>Description</b>	The innovation fund was flagged in the <a href="#">December 2020 State Disability Strategy announcement</a> – this election commitment has been honoured in the 2021-22 budget.
<b>Implications</b>	WACOSS supports the vision of a more inclusive Western Australia that acknowledges and responds to the value of diversity in our community.

<b>Initiative</b>	Extension of the changing places network
<b>Investment</b>	\$2 million over next 2 years: \$500k in 21-22; \$1.5million in 22-23
<b>Description</b>	Expanding the provision of secure, clean facilities for people with a disability to access appropriate bathroom facilities when in the community.
<b>Implications</b>	Expansion of the changing places network is a welcome investment that will enable more disabled Western Australians to get out into their community knowing that they will have access to public facilities. A small investment – a single changing places bathroom can easily cost \$500,000.

<b>Initiative</b>	Seed grants for disability micro-enterprise - bp2, v2, p514
<b>Investment</b>	\$500,000 in 2021-22
<b>Description</b>	Seed grants to support the establishment of innovative micro-enterprises of people with disability, and to develop and implement a business mentoring initiative to support interested businesses to employ someone with disability.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment has implications for job creation, education and training of disabled people. Encouraging disability-led enterprise is a positive thing for the WA economy.

<b>Initiative</b>	Provision of all-terrain wheelchairs for public use
<b>Investment</b>	\$100,000 in 2021-22
<b>Description</b>	Provision of purpose-built, all-terrain wheelchairs at beaches and in national parks so visitors with mobility needs can explore the great outdoors.
<b>Implications</b>	This investment goes some of the way to enabling more disabled Western Australians to enjoy our state's natural beauty.

<b>Initiative</b>	Improving accessibility on public transport – bp2, v2, p628
<b>Investment</b>	\$48.1 million over four years
<b>Description</b>	Provision for upgrading existing train stations to improve disability access, CCTV, lighting, station access and pathways. \$8 million has been allocated to upgrade rail stations at Cannington, Gosnells and Kelmscott to ensure compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.
<b>Implications</b>	Disabled people should be able to access and enjoy WA's public transport system just like everyone else. A significant number of train stations on the existing Perth rail network require upgrades to make them more accessible and safe for disabled people.

<b>Initiative</b>	Additional funding for students with disability
<b>Investment</b>	\$170.1 million over four years
<b>Description</b>	An additional \$170.1 million over the next four years to provide support for growth in numbers of students with disability.
<b>Implications</b>	Investment into the provision of educational supports for students with disability is welcome and appears to be in line with the State Disability Strategy of a more inclusive WA. Require greater clarity about where this funding is allocated.

<b>Initiative</b>	Investment in education support infrastructure for students with a disability
<b>Investment</b>	\$8.25 million
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3 million for South Bunbury Education Support Centre</li> <li>• \$3 million to construct an education support centre at Burns Beach Primary School</li> <li>• \$2 million for the West Coast Education Support Centre</li> <li>• \$250,000 for Castlereagh School</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	WACOSS supports additional funding to make WA public schools more accessible for disabled students in line with the State Disability Strategy.

<b>Initiative</b>	40 bed Transitional Care Unit
<b>Investment</b>	Unclear
<b>Description</b>	The TCU will have a dual focus, providing medium to long-term sub-acute inpatient care to adults with chronic and enduring mental illness and psychosocial disability, and short-term intensive clinical treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation for consumers in an inpatient setting.
<b>Implications</b>	Extra beds for Western Australians with psychosocial disability experiencing crisis or rehabilitation support is welcome.

## Education and Training

*A range of initiatives mostly focused on vocational education and training linking into schools and industry, little detail connecting to skills gaps and demand growth in the care economy.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Increase in school psychologists
<b>Investment</b>	\$42.2 million
<b>Description</b>	Funding for an additional 100 FTE school psychologists in Western Australian schools over the next four years to provide support for students and promote positive mental health, with a proportionate funding increase for non-government schools to purchase psychology services
<b>Implications</b>	An important investment at a time when the mental health outcomes of our young people is of growing concern.

<b>Initiative</b>	Expansion of Alternative Learning Settings
<b>Investment</b>	\$38.5 million
<b>Description</b>	Provides separate learning environments across WA for students excluded from mainstream schooling due to violent acts where they are taught self-regulation skills.
<b>Implications</b>	All young people have the right to access educational opportunities in a supportive and safe environment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Expanding School Chaplaincy Services
<b>Investment</b>	\$21.8 million
<b>Description</b>	Option for WA public schools to purchase chaplaincy services to support the social and emotional well-being of students and staff.
<b>Implications</b>	While investment is needed in social and emotional wellbeing we would prefer to see greater support for evidence-based programs.

<b>Initiative</b>	Additional VET places for secondary school students
<b>Investment</b>	\$29.8 million
<b>Description</b>	An extra 8,000 VET places for Year 11 and 12 students in schools to engage in industry relevant training, with options to attain their WA Certificate of Education. (On top of an extra 1,350 VET places introduced in 2021)
<b>Implications</b>	Alternative educational pathways are an important in supporting employment outcomes Best results occur when they are backed up by supported employment pathways.

<b>Initiative</b>	VET career taster program for year 9 students
<b>Investment</b>	\$19.2 million
<b>Description</b>	Aims to increase the number of training places for school students by 4,000 by the end of 2024, providing more opportunities to study a VET course in secondary school.
<b>Implications</b>	Early investment in the skill development of young people offers opportunities to partner with industry to create career pathways.

<b>Initiative</b>	Employer Incentive for Adult Apprentices
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.2 million
<b>Description</b>	100 additional places to see 200 additional Western Australian apprentices above the age of 21 into quality training.
<b>Implications</b>	Job readiness and investment in the existing workforce are vital to ensuring sufficient workforce for vital industries.

<b>Initiative</b>	Apprentices and Trainees Employed through Group Training Organisations
<b>Investment</b>	\$32.4 million
<b>Description</b>	300 new building and construction apprentices and trainees working on State Government projects.
<b>Implications</b>	While welcome, these measures target male-dominated industries, with a gap remaining in job creation for women, particularly in the social services and allied health sector.

<b>Initiative</b>	TAFE college lecturer's industry placement
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.9 million
<b>Description</b>	Supports TAFE lecturers to undertake industry placements to keep them at the forefront of innovation and quality education and enable them to upskill and maintain industry standards, practices, qualifications and skills.
<b>Implications</b>	Ensures better industry links and insights for current lecturers to deliver more relevant teaching – hope it includes the care industries.

<b>Initiative</b>	Improve access and equity for learner drivers pilot
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.9 million
<b>Description</b>	Implement a pilot initiative to help disadvantaged learner drivers in regional WA to obtain a driver's licence.
<b>Implications</b>	Support to obtain a drivers licence will positively impact young people in regional WA's ability to access employment opportunities.

## Regional Investment

*A range of initiatives to improve access to supports and services in regional Western Australia and to address specific challenges facing regional areas.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Regional access to childcare (see also Children and Young People factsheet)
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.1 million
<b>Description</b>	The package will help improve access to childcare in regions such as the Pilbara, Goldfields-Esperance, and the Kimberley.
<b>Implications</b>	Investing in childcare provides valuable support to families, allowing them to pursue other critical needs such as employment.

<b>Initiative</b>	Empowering Communities Program (neighbourhood centres)
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.2 million
<b>Description</b>	Support community neighbourhood centres and upskill service providers to transition into the Empowering Communities Program
<b>Implications</b>	Recognises the value of grass-roots community place-based services

<b>Initiative</b>	Connected Beginnings
<b>Investment</b>	\$1.4 million
<b>Description</b>	Connected Beginnings will help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children prepare for school in Roebourne through this newly funded initiative.
<b>Implications</b>	Investment in early education and supporting early childhood development, especially in regions where infrastructure is sparse, is vital.

<b>Initiative</b>	Social and Emotional Wellbeing Pilot Program
<b>Investment</b>	\$17.6 million
<b>Description</b>	As part of the Governments election commitments, it will be establishing a Social and Emotional Wellbeing Pilot Program at five Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service sites in the regions. This initiative will support individuals, families and communities to have access to the support and services they require to maintain wellness.
<b>Implications</b>	An injection of new investment into Aboriginal regional communities to support wellbeing is essential. WACOSS is supportive of this pilot program and looks forward to seeing further similar investments.

<b>Initiative</b>	Women and Newborn Health Service pilot program
<b>Investment</b>	\$785,000
<b>Description</b>	A 12-month Women and Newborn Health Service pilot program delivered by Karratha's Women's Place Inc. will provide health and support services and information to women experiencing mental illness, domestic and sexual violence or who have experienced sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse.
<b>Implications</b>	A 12-month pilot program to better understand Karratha women's health and social needs is a good starting point. We look forward to seeing this initial investment built upon with additional investments to follow.

<b>Initiative</b>	Women's Community Health Services
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.5 million
<b>Description</b>	A range of Women's Community Health Services (support services and information for those experiencing mental illness, family, domestic and sexual violence delivered in the region, namely in the Kimberley (\$2.8M) and Peel (\$2.2M).
<b>Implications</b>	While investment into women's health in the regions is essential, the lack of regional sites where the investment is allocated is noted.

<b>Initiative</b>	Regional Airfare Zone Cap
<b>Investment</b>	\$19.8 million
<b>Description</b>	The election commitment will be invested into the Regional Airfares Zone Cap. One-way flights to towns within 1,000km of the Perth would be capped at \$199, and fares to communities outside that range would be capped at \$299.
<b>Implications</b>	Ensuring West Australians who otherwise could not afford to can travel to regional centres is a valuable investment that opens up opportunities for individuals and the state.

<b>Initiative</b>	Improve access and equity for learner drivers pilot
<b>Investment</b>	\$4.9 million
<b>Description</b>	Implement a pilot initiative to help disadvantaged learner drivers in regional WA to obtain a driver's licence.
<b>Implications</b>	Support to obtain a drivers' licence will positively impact young people in regional WA's ability to access employment opportunities.