Wheatbelt Recovery Plan

The Wheatbelt Recovery Plan is part of the next step in our COVID-19 journey. It’s part of WA’s $5.5 billion overarching State plan, focused on building infrastructure, economic, health and social outcomes.

The Wheatbelt Recovery Plan will deliver a pipeline of jobs in sectors including construction, manufacturing, tourism and hospitality, renewable energy, education and training, agriculture, conservation and mining.

WA’s recovery is a joint effort, it’s about Government working with industry together. We managed the pandemic together as a community. Together, we will recover.

Rebuilding our TAFE Sector

- $8 million to the Muresk Institute in Northam for a new trades workshop, classrooms and specialist facilities for agricultural machinery apprentices and a new workshop space for shearing skills
- $2 million to Central Regional TAFE’s Northam Campus for major upgrades to workshop facilities and equipment
- $25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of West Australians, with a variety of free courses available at South Regional TAFE’s Narrogin campus
- $32 million to expand the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and significantly reduce TAFE fees across 39 high priority courses
- $4.8 million for the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Re-engagement Incentive that provides employers with a one-off payment of $6,000 for hiring an apprentice and $3,000 for hiring a trainee, whose training contract was terminated on, or after, March 1, 2020 due to the economic downturn

Investing in Tourism and Industry across the Wheatbelt

- $175,000 for upgrades to visitor facilities in parks across the Wheatbelt region, including upgrading buildings, trails, camps sites and roads in the proposed Dryandra Woodland National Park and at Eaglestone Rock
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- $425,000 to upgrade visitor facilities in Nambung National Park, including improving services at the Pinnacles Desert Discovery and sealing the access road and car park at Lake Thetis
- $116 million for the Regional Land Booster Package that will make residential, commercial and industrial lots more affordable including residential lots in Badgingarra, Ballidu, Bolgart, Bruce Rock, Cervantes, Coomberdale, Coorow, Cunderdin, Darkan, Doodlakine, Dowerin, Dumbleyung, Hyden, Kalannie, Karlgarin, Kellerberrin, Kondinin, Kununoppin, Lake King, Moora, Moorine Rock, Narrogin, Newdegate, Popanyinning, Tammin, Varley, Wagin, Westonia, Williams and Wundowie and industrial lots in Avon, Bencubbin, Beverley, Dalwallinu, Darkan, Hyden, Lake Grace, Lake King, Mukiinbudin, Wagin, and Wickepin
- $15 million for the Native Vegetation Rehabilitation Scheme that delivers revegetation and habitat restoration across WA while providing employment and training opportunities for untrained workers including in the Wheatbelt
- $8 million to the Offsets Funds for Recovery program that creates green jobs by supporting conservation groups to carry out on-ground works such as fencing, seeding and planting across regional WA including the Wheatbelt
- $5 million to improve and increase roadside vegetation across the agricultural region to offset the impacts of roadworks aimed at making our roads safer
- $10 million towards the Clean Energy Future Fund to invest in clean energy technologies
- $8.1 million to continue the eConnected Grainbelt program that underpins essential digital information and weather data supplied to WA’s primary industries and emergency services and to maintain 187 automated weather stations

Building Infrastructure across the Wheatbelt

- Upgrades to Wheatbelt police stations including $1.5 million for Merredin Police Station, $2 million for Narrogin Police Station, $1 million for Wagin Police Station and $1 million for Williams Police Station
- $1.63 million towards maintenance and infrastructure upgrades in remote Aboriginal communities across WA including at Badjaling
- $35 million through the Regional Road Safety Program to upgrade 400 kilometres of Wheatbelt roads with shoulder sealing and installation of audible lines, creating around 150 local jobs
- $7 million towards upgrading Toodyay Road from Jingaling Brook to Toodyay
- $3 million towards upgrading Great Eastern Highway - Coates Gully Bridge in Wundowie
- $80 million for targeted maintenance programs for regional social, remote and government workers housing properties, including approximately 150 homes in the Wheatbelt
- $141.7 million to refurbish social housing across WA's ageing housing stock, including approximately 60 homes in the Wheatbelt
- $97 million to build new social housing including properties in the Wheatbelt
- $6 million for installation of rooftop solar PV on social housing including some properties in the Wheatbelt region, meaning lower power bills for residents
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• $13 million for urgent minor works and upgrades at Volunteer Emergency Services stations and units across the State, including:
  • $490,000 Tammin Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services
  • $730,000 Kellerberrin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
  • $640,000 Brookton Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
  • $730,000 Wagin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
  • $517,000 Baandee Bush Fire Brigade
  • $517,000 Mt Caroline Bush Fire Brigade
  • $517,000 Kellerberrin North Bush Fire Brigade
  • $324,000 Nungarin Bush Fire Brigade
  • $547,000 Julimar Bush Fire Brigade

• $2 million to provide water tanks to volunteer bushfire brigades

• Implementing the revamped WA Buy Local Policy 2020 to ensure State Government agencies prioritise local businesses based in the regional location in which works or services are being delivered

**Putting Patients First**

• $9.77 million for Aboriginal regional suicide prevention plans in each region of WA, prioritising Aboriginal-led and locally endorsed initiatives that accommodate a culturally informed social and emotional wellbeing approach to suicide prevention

• Establish a regional deployment pool of metropolitan clinical staff that can be deployed at short notice to regional locations across WA to support healthcare delivery

• $3.2 million to continue the Regional Men’s Health Initiative that focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of men in rural WA including in the Wheatbelt

**Supporting our Communities**

• $8.6 million of funding for additional outreach workers across WA, including two workers based in the Wheatbelt region, to provide support to women and children experiencing or at further risk of family and domestic violence

• $6.7 million to bolster the State’s family and domestic violence response teams, including one additional community sector team member in the Wheatbelt region, to support victims of family and domestic violence after a police call-out

• $1.1 million over two years for counselling, advocacy and support services across WA, including one service in the Wheatbelt region

• $4.2 million to continue the Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development program to help increase economic participation of Aboriginal people in regional WA

• $1.5 million to deliver financial counselling services across regional WA
Immediate Response

As the COVID-19 pandemic took hold, the McGowan Government was quick to announce $2.77 billion in relief and stimulus measures to protect Western Australians across the State and support the economy.

- **$942.8 million** Support for WA businesses
- **$556 million** Reduce or freeze household fees and charges and assist with energy payments
- **$456 million** Boost WA housing construction and Keystart
- **$487 million** Health and frontline service delivery
- **$159 million** Relief for crisis care organisations and not-for-profit sports, arts and community groups
- **$91.2 million** Police resourcing package
- **$14.4 million** Tourism industry grants
- **$30 million** Residential rent support
- **$30.6 million** Payments to maintain apprentices and trainees

For more information about the WA Recovery Plan please visit inthistogether.wa.gov.au