



May 2026

Geraldton

Creating jobs and opportunities
Delivering services for the Mid West





Seven Cities Geraldton

© Government of Western Australia

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community.

We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.

Contents

Premier’s vision 2

A strong regional hub for the Mid West 6

Budget highlights 8

Economic and industry profile 10

Emerging opportunities 12

Creating jobs and opportunities 15

Industry development 16

Transport 18

Energy 20

Water 22

Environment 24

Delivering services for the Mid West 27

Housing 28

Health 30

Education and training 32

Safe and inclusive communities 34



Seven Cities is about ensuring each of the seven **major regional centres** outside of Perth can be **everything they can be.**

Delivering quality services to communities across the State.

And ensuring **Western Australia** remains the **strongest economy** in the nation for generations to come.



Seven Cities is my vision for regional WA

Western Australia is the strongest economy in the nation and our regions have been central to our economic success.

As Western Australians, our regions also tell us who we are and where we've come from.

But our regions are also central to our future – whether we live in Perth, one of the seven regional cities outside of Perth or in the smaller communities these centres serve.

Across the State, traditional industries like mining, agriculture and tourism will continue to thrive.

But the new wave of economic opportunities are immense.

This includes becoming a renewable energy powerhouse, and making more things here.

These new industries will benefit all Western Australians, and continue to drive the national economy.

But they will all take place in our regions and be driven by the seven regional cities outside of Perth.

To seize these opportunities for all Western Australians, these seven cities must have the infrastructure, services and skilled local workers industry will need.

They must be great places to live and work, with thriving communities that attract people to our regions – and make them want to stay.

And they must have the capacity to service the needs of the smaller communities that surround them.





Our Seven Cities vision will prioritise housing, but it will also deliver investments in health, education and community safety, as well as the energy, water, transport and industrial infrastructure necessary to make our new economic opportunities a reality.

Seven Cities is about ensuring each of our seven regional centres can be everything they can be, ensuring Western Australia remains the strongest economy in the nation for generations to come.

And the best place in the world to get a quality job, no matter where in the State we live.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Roger Cook'.

Roger Cook MLA
Premier of Western Australia



A strong regional hub for the Mid West

Geraldton is a vibrant coastal city that serves as a key regional hub and gateway to Australia's Coral Coast and the Abrolhos Islands.

Located in the Mid West region, Geraldton is the windiest of our Seven Cities.

Its seaside lifestyle, strong community spirit, and emerging role in WA's renewable transition make Geraldton a great place to raise a family and get a quality job.

Importantly, it is a regional hub which supports the economic opportunities and social wellbeing of surrounding communities.

These include Kalbarri and Northampton to the north, Mullewa to the east and Dongara to the south.

As one of WA's Seven Cities, Geraldton's future will be built on its existing strengths and a new wave of emerging opportunities.

These include becoming a renewable energy powerhouse, adding value to our traditional industries like mining and agriculture, and making more things here.

For Geraldton specifically, these opportunities include the renewable energy transition and expanding the local tourism industry.

To grow these industries and retain the local workforce they depend on, we're providing additional support with a renewed investment in housing, health, and infrastructure.

A photograph of the Marine Terrace building in Geraldton, Western Australia. The building is a large, multi-story structure with a prominent corner tower featuring a red and white striped lighthouse-like design. It has a red-tiled roof and a balcony with a metal railing. In the foreground, there are streetlights and some banners. A white and red lighthouse is visible on the left side of the building.

Marine Terrace, Geraldton

Geraldton is defined by its deep maritime roots and a vibrant coastal character, making it a standout lifestyle destination.

As part of the Cook Government's Seven Cities vision, Geraldton will continue to play a vital role in strengthening regional

Western Australia, ensuring we continue to diversify the WA economy so that it remains the strongest economy in the nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Dawson'.

Stephen Dawson MLC

Minister for Regional Development

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jackie Jarvis'.

Jackie Jarvis MLC

Minister for Mid West



Budget highlights

The 2026-27 State Budget continues our support for WA families. Making investments to grow our economy, make more things here, and deliver on our priorities of jobs, health and housing.

This year's budget builds on our past commitments by investing in the services and infrastructure that regional WA needs.



Key investments for Geraldton include:

- 
- **Geraldton Health Campus**
 - A further \$10.9 million to support training of clinical specialists at the expanded \$192.3 million Geraldton Health Campus.
 - **\$21.4 million** for Champion Bay Senior High School for new sports hall and refurbishment of existing infrastructure.
 - **\$7.1 million** to deliver classroom upgrades, including lighting and air conditioning upgrades at Geraldton Senior High School.
 - **Seven Cities GROH Build** – The delivery of 37 new homes for frontline workers in Geraldton as a part of a statewide build of more than 500 Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) homes, delivered in partnership with Rio Tinto, BHP and Hancock Prospecting. Delivered alongside a revamped Home Ownership Subsidy Scheme (HOSS), which will include shared equity to encourage government workers to purchase homes in the communities they work in.
 - **Regional Airfare Zone Cap**
 - Ongoing support for the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme amid increasing fuel costs.
 - **Regional Housing Support Fund** – \$50 million top-up to the Regional Housing Support Fund, increasing the fund's value to \$75 million.
 - **\$3.8 million** to provide continued support for the operation of the Inter Regional Flight Network, including from Geraldton.
 - **Third round of Student Assistance Payments** – \$90 million will be invested to deliver a third round of the Western Australian Student Assistance Payment, which is delivering \$150 for each primary and kindergarten student and \$250 for each secondary school student.
 - **Fuel Support Payment** – \$198 million to offer a \$100 payment to all Western Australians with a valid driver's licence.

Economic and industry profile

Geraldton's economy reflects its role as the powerhouse of the Mid West, combining strong industry foundations with a diverse and evolving economic base.

With a Gross Regional Product estimated at over \$4 billion and a workforce of approximately 17,000 across the Greater Geraldton area, the city drives economic activity across a vast region, supporting both local communities and major export industries.

The Port of Geraldton plays a central role in facilitating trade, particularly for grain, iron ore, mineral sands and other bulk commodities, linking regional production to global markets. Service-based industries ensure the delivery of essential services to residents and surrounding towns, reinforcing Geraldton's role as a regional centre.





Looking ahead, Geraldton is well positioned for continued growth, with opportunities emerging in clean energy, advanced manufacturing, logistics and tourism. This forward momentum, combined with its established industry base, reinforces Geraldton as a city of economic confidence; one that continues

to attract investment, support jobs and drive prosperity across the region. Over 9% of Geraldton's population is Aboriginal and Aboriginal Corporations are taking an increasing role in the region's economic development thanks to a number of recent Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Key economic facts:

Gross Regional Product (Geraldton): **\$4.383 billion**

Regional GRP (Mid West): **\$8.953 billion**

Jobs (Geraldton): **17,295**

Jobs (Mid West): **26,361**

Population (Geraldton): **42,104**

Population (Mid West region): **58,931**



Emerging opportunities

Geraldton and the broader Mid West are well positioned to support a range of emerging industry opportunities, including:

Clean energy and transition industries particularly large-scale wind and solar generation, green hydrogen and green iron production and export, supported by the region's natural assets and port infrastructure.

Mineral processing and value-adding, building on the Mid West's rich deposits of critical minerals and established mining sector to move further along the supply chain.

Logistics and port-led development, leveraging Geraldton's strategic location and established transport networks to strengthen its role as a key export and distribution hub.

Health, care and education services, supporting a growing and ageing regional population while expanding local training and workforce development opportunities.

Agribusiness innovation and food production, including advanced horticulture, aquaculture and supply chain development linked to domestic and international markets.



Tourism growth, especially nature-based, coastal and experiential tourism connected to the Coral Coast, Abrolhos Islands and the region's unique landscapes and heritage.

Targeted State Government and industry investment is helping to position Geraldton with the infrastructure, land supply, energy capacity and connectivity needed to unlock these opportunities, ensuring the city and region remain competitive, resilient and well placed for long-term growth.





Creating jobs and opportunities

Industry development

What we're delivering

- **Geraldton Port Maximisation Project** – Expanding the capability of the port and grow economic opportunities in areas like rare earths and lithium.
- **Oakajee Strategic Industrial Area** – Planning for a new heavy industrial precinct and multi-user, deep-water port to support strategic and downstream processing industries in the Mid West.
- **State Development Act** – giving the State Government the ability to coordinate and expedite high priority projects.
- **WA Freight Rail Network** – planning and negotiations to bring the Freight Rail Network back into Government hands.
- **Investments at the port and Eastern Breakwater Tourism Jetty** are aimed at facilitating commercial tourism, specifically cruise ships and smaller vessels catering to the Abrolhos archipelago.

Growing the Mid West

Residential land supply in Geraldton directly supports the regional workforce. Teachers, nurses, police and other frontline workers who serve communities from Dongara, Northampton, and Mullewa, live in Geraldton and depend on an adequate supply of affordable housing.





Transport

New investment

- **Fuel Support Payment** – \$198 million to offer a \$100 payment to all Western Australians with a valid driver's licence.
- **Regional Airfare Zone Cap** – Ongoing support for the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme amid increasing fuel costs.
- **\$113.5 million** for road maintenance throughout WA, including in the Mid West.
- **\$33.1 million** contribution to the nationally coordinated Fuel Excise Relief Program and a further \$4.5 million through deferred up-lift in heavy vehicle charges, supporting industry in the Mid West.
- **\$3.8 million** to provide continued support for the operation of the Inter Regional Flight Network, including from Geraldton.

What we've delivered

- ✓ **\$4.4 million** upgrade to Hosken Street-North West Coastal Highway junction near Bluff Point.
- ✓ **Geraldton Cycling Network Expansion Project** – a multi-stage initiative to connect the region's northern and southern suburbs.
- ✓ **Regional Road Safety Program** – upgraded roads across the Mid West region
- ✓ **Oakajee Access Road and North West Coastal Highway** upgrade to provide critical access to the future Oakajee Strategic Industrial Area.

What we're delivering

- **Mid West Secondary Freight Network Program** – Sealing shoulders, widening traffic lanes, improving signage and line marking to improve road safety, freight efficiency, connectivity and lead to travel time savings for all road users.
- **TransWA Fare Reduction**
 - Halved fares for bus services connecting towns around Geraldton and supporting travel to Perth, making regional travel more affordable.
- **TransGeraldton bus services**
 - Part of a statewide program to cap public transport fares at one-zone prices.
- **Regional Pensioner Travel Card** – A further \$100 increase, bringing the total card value to \$775 per year, supporting older residents across the Mid West to stay connected.
- **Regional Airfare Zone Cap** – Capped airfares for regional residents travelling to Perth, including Geraldton to Perth.



Energy

New investment

- **Energy Ahead** - \$16 million to extend delivery of Energy Ahead to provide energy efficiency upgrades and education for up to 10,000 low income households.
- **\$973 million for Western Power** - Responding to demand growth, expand the network, and increase electricity capacity infrastructure for industrial and residential customers.
- **\$30 million** to top up the Investment Attraction Fund for a second round of grants through the New Energies Industries Funding Stream.

What We're Delivering

- **WA Residential Battery Scheme** – Providing up to \$5,000 towards the cost of a household battery, plus no-interest loans of up to \$10,000 for households earning less than \$210,000 per year.

- **Battery Manufacturing Program** – Supporting local businesses to manufacture household batteries in Western Australia, creating advanced manufacturing jobs.

Growing the Mid West

The Mid West is strategically positioned within some of Western Australia's highest-quality wind and solar resource zones, making it a key focus for large-scale renewable energy investment. Multiple utility-scale wind energy projects are currently proposed or in development across the region.

These projects represent a substantial opportunity for the regional economy. As investment in renewable energy accelerates, the Mid West is well placed to leverage its natural advantages to drive regional growth, support local industry participation, and create sustained employment opportunities.

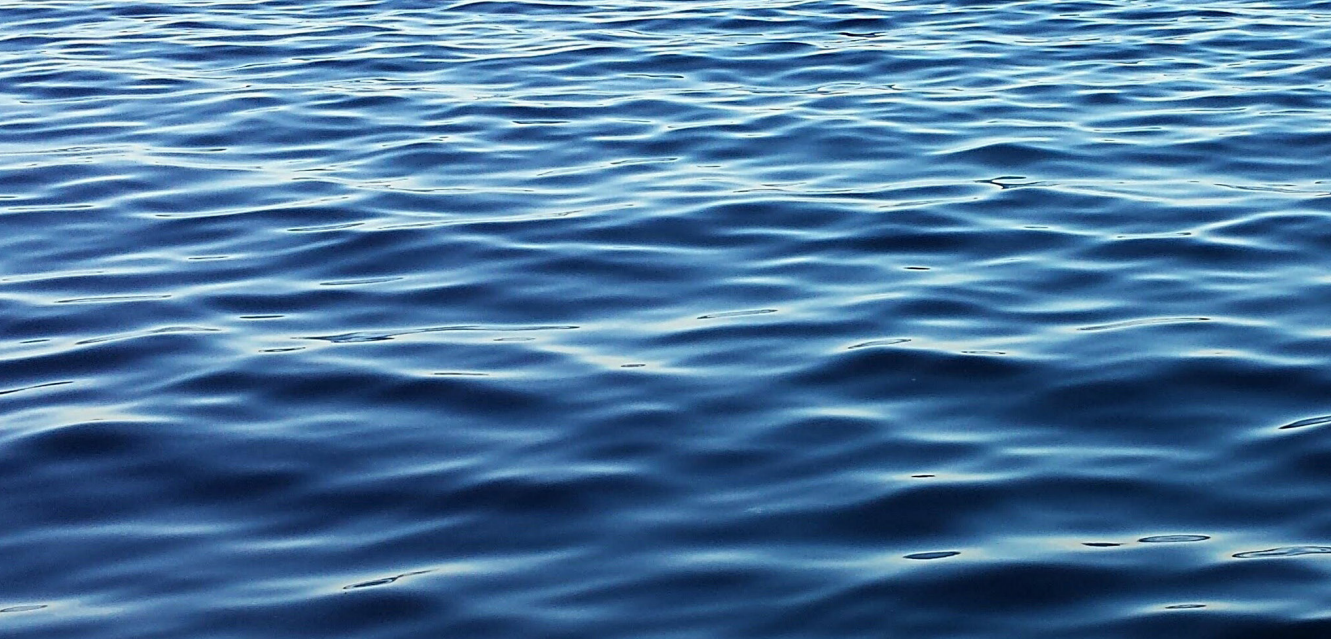
At the same time, the Mid West plays an important role in Western Australia's energy security through its proximity to the onshore Perth Basin, which has seen renewed investment and exploration activity in recent years. Gas resources in the northern Perth Basin are expected to support domestic energy supply, providing a reliable and flexible source of power generation to complement the increasing share of renewables in the energy mix.

Water



What we're delivering

- **Regional water and power price subsidy** - \$3.9 billion over four years statewide to keep regional water and power prices in line with metropolitan prices, directly benefiting households and businesses across the Mid West.
- **Advancing investigations and stakeholder engagement** on water supply options for the future Oakajee Strategic Industrial Area.
- **Planning for Geraldton's next water source** to ensure long-term water security is underway. Water Corporation is actively assessing future supply options to ensure the system remains safe, reliable and sustainable, including groundwater and seawater desalination.



New investment

Water infrastructure - \$75 million investment in water and wastewater infrastructure services to facilitate residential lot development.

Regional Water Source Fund - \$52.9 million to establish a Regional Water Source Fund for water source planning and investigation in the regions.

Growing the Mid West

Water security is a foundation for economic growth across the Mid West. The region's agricultural sector, which produces grain, livestock, premium fruit and vegetables, depends on reliable water supply.

The Mid West Pilot Regional Drought Resilience Plan, developed with support from the MWDC, is building long-term preparedness for a drying climate across the City of Greater Geraldton and the Shires of Northampton and Chapman Valley.

A complementary Extension Regional Drought Resilience Plan supports the North Midlands shires, ensuring farming communities in Carnamah, Coorow, Irwin, Mingenew, Morawa, Perenjori and Three Springs are better prepared for future dry seasons.

Environment

New investment

- **\$24.7 million** to continue biosecurity and animal disease preparedness work.
- **\$8.5 million** towards a Fisheries Support Package, including funding for the enhanced science program and upgrades to the FishCatchWA app.

What we're delivering

- **Abrolhos Islands development** – Delivering a new public access multi-purpose jetty on Rat Island, refurbishing a fishing camp for visitor facilities, and adding 10 new public moorings at the Abrolhos Islands.
- **Wallabi Island Group**
 - Establishing of a new national park, creating visitor facilities, and preparing management plans.
- **Geraldton Eastern Breakwater Jetty** – Improving mainland access to the islands. The funding aims to support tourism development while protecting the environmental and cultural heritage.

Growing the Mid West

The Mid West's natural environment is its greatest asset and a major draw for residents, visitors and investment. Ancient landscapes, pristine coastline and internationally recognised national parks are complemented by productive farmland and a mediterranean climate.

Environmental investment in the region supports both conservation and the growing eco-tourism economy, creating jobs in park management, guiding, hospitality and infrastructure while protecting the landscape that defines the Mid West.



Delivering services for the Mid West



Housing

New investment

- **Seven Cities GROH Build**
 - The delivery of 37 new homes for frontline workers in Geraldton as a part of a statewide build of more than 500 Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) homes, delivered in partnership with Rio Tinto, BHP and Hancock Prospecting. Delivered alongside a revamped Home Ownership Subsidy Scheme (HOSS), which will include shared equity to encourage government workers to purchase homes in the communities they work in.
- **Regional Housing Support Fund** – \$50 million top-up to the Regional Housing Support Fund, increasing the fund's value to \$75 million.
- **\$297 million tax package** – to support first home buyers and boost housing supply, including First Home Owner duty concessions, increased First Home Owner Grant cap, and an extension of the Off-the-Plan Transfer Duty Concession.
- **Social and affordable houses** – \$1 billion for the construction of social and affordable housing dwellings.
- **\$593 million** for 500 shared equity dwellings, 165 social housing dwellings, refurbishment of properties and land acquisition.

What we're delivering

- **Mahomets Flats** – Unlocking an 8.8ha land reserve owned by the City of Greater Geraldton for up to 140 key-worker homes.
- **Olive Street** – Supporting a key worker housing project to develop seven homes, which will be available for key workers such as teachers, healthcare professionals and police.
- **Station Square** – Enabling Stage 2 of the Station Square project, providing up to 40 new homes.
- **Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation**, providing safe, culturally appropriate and affordable accommodation for Aboriginal people visiting Geraldton.

Growing the Mid West

Ensuring continued housing supply in Geraldton is essential to attract and retain the teachers, nurses, police and allied health professionals who serve communities across the Mid West.

- **The Regional Housing Support Fund** is available to support housing and land supply projects across the region, including in smaller towns where even a handful of new lots can make a significant difference.
- **Housing First Support Services** in Geraldton are providing outreach to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, with benefits extending across the region.
- **Crisis accommodation** in Geraldton for women and children impacted by family and domestic violence has been expanded, delivering 12 purpose-built refuge units, providing emergency accommodation for victim-survivors from across the Mid West, and the establishment of the Safe at Home program.



Health

New investment

Geraldton Health Campus – \$15.6 million to support training of clinical specialists for service delivery at the expanded Geraldton Health Campus.

WA Country Health Service – \$68.6 million for additional funding to the WA Country Health Service to maintain regional palliative care, renal care, cancer and eye services, and continued support programs.

\$214.1 million for an uplift to WA Health’s statewide maintenance programs.

\$143 million for additional investment in medical equipment and imaging replacement program throughout WA.



Geraldton Health Campus

What we're delivering

- **\$192 million redevelopment of Geraldton Health Campus** is an investment in the Mid West, including delivering an expanded emergency department.
- **A radiation oncology service** for Geraldton.
- **Royal Flying Doctor Service Base** – Establishing a base in Geraldton for aeromedical services, delivering faster emergency responses and better healthcare for regional and remote communities.

Growing the Mid West

Geraldton Health Campus is the primary hospital for the entire Mid West. Patients from Kalbarri, Dongara, Mullewa, Mingenew and Meekatharra depend on Geraldton for emergency, surgical, maternity and specialist services.

The oncology centre alone reduces travel and disruption for cancer patients from across the Mid West who would otherwise need to travel to Perth for treatment.



Education and training

New investment

- **Third round of Student Assistance Payments –** \$90 million will be invested to deliver a third round of the Western Australian Student Assistance Payment, which is delivering \$150 for each primary and kindergarten student and \$250 for each secondary school student.
- **\$145.6 million** to meet training enrolment demand, and to continue discounted fee settings, including lower fee and Fee-Free training courses to the end of 2027 including at the Geraldton campus.
- **\$219 million** uplift for school maintenance throughout Western Australia.
- **\$102.7 million** for minor works at schools across the State.

What we're delivering

- **Geraldton Senior High School** – Refurbishing classrooms, including upgrades to lighting and air-conditioning systems, to improve student comfort, creating more modern, fit-for-purpose learning environments.
- **Champion Bay Senior High School** – \$23.4 million additional investment for Champion Bay Senior High

School's new sports hall and refurbishments to its existing sports hall.

- **Waggrakine Primary School** – Delivered a new Education Support facility, supporting students with additional learning needs and aligning with broader investment in modern, inclusive school infrastructure across the region.

Growing the Mid West

Geraldton's schools and TAFE campus serve students from across the region. Families in smaller towns rely on Geraldton's secondary schools, specialist education services and vocational training pathways.

Fee-Free TAFE construction courses directly support the housing pipeline, training the local workforce needed to build the homes the region needs.

Safe and inclusive communities

New investment

- **\$421 million** for child protection services plus \$46.3 million to boost support for foster and grandcarers.
- **\$288.1 million** as part of Thriving Kids for children aged 8 and under with developmental delays or autism.
- **\$61.4 million** to continue the Target 120 early intervention program for young people coming into repeated contact with WA Police, including in Geraldton.
- **\$60.7 million** to provide ongoing funding for road safety community awareness campaigns and school education programs.



What we're delivering

- **GBSC Sport Park –** Upgrading toilet and changerooms, including the delivery of modern, accessible amenities and improved facilities for women and girls.
- **Geraldton Netball Association –** Upgrading the Wonthella facility, with works expected to include a new indoor court, improved lighting, resurfacing of outdoor courts and enhanced spectator and player amenities.
- **Geraldton Turf Club –** Upgrades to racing and community infrastructure

that improve the quality and reliability of facilities, while also boosting tourism.

- **Geraldton's West End Precinct** has been a generational project to reinvigorate a quintessential part of Geraldton for locals and tourist alike.
- **Implementing the On Track to Thrive pilot program** in Geraldton which focuses on diverting vulnerable children from the criminal justice system, supporting these young people and helping keep the Geraldton community safe.

Growing the Mid West

Safe, inclusive communities are the foundation of regional liveability. Investment in family safety, sport, arts and emergency services strengthens every community across the Mid West.

The WA Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program and broader commitment to Aboriginal empowerment supports economic participation, cultural connection and community wellbeing for Aboriginal people across the region.



