Regional Highlights

Regional Highlights presents an overview of key initiatives and programs in the 2017 Budget. It complements the extensive information contained in the other Budget Papers by presenting budget details of particular relevance to the communities in each of the Territory’s seven regions.

This book details initiatives in service delivery, targeted specifically for each region classified by the Government’s strategic priorities of creating jobs, investing in children, empowering the bush, and building safer, fairer and stronger communities. It also includes Territory-wide initiatives, which apply across all regions.

Important infrastructure projects are identified for each region as well as on a Territory-wide basis.

Where Commonwealth funding is provided from national partnership agreements and can be used flexibly, it is included under the title of the relevant agreement.

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Regional Highlights

Some initiatives cannot be accurately apportioned between regions, however they are important and relevant across the Territory. Details of these initiatives are provided here, in addition to the information specific to each region in later sections.

The Government is embarking on a comprehensive major projects program, with $1.20 million being invested in the redevelopment and rejuvenation of both Darwin and Alice Springs central business districts (CBDs). These projects will be progressed in collaboration with the Commonwealth and local councils. In addition, Government will facilitate a number of key projects in the regions to stimulate the economy, including the progression of a Logistics and Agribusiness Hub in Katherine, a common-user mine processing facility in Tennant Creek and market-led investment attraction options for a potential water theme park in Darwin and retirement villages in Darwin, its rural area and Alice Springs. This is underpinned by total infrastructure payments of $1.75 billion in 2017-18.

Creating Jobs

- $60M additional repairs and maintenance funding as part of the $250M economic stimulus program
- $30M for Immediate Work Grants for repairs and upgrades to community facilities
- $16.3M for the Home Improvement Scheme
- $11.1M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $9.9M over five years to accelerate land resource mapping activities through a soil, water and biodiversity assessment program
- $7.9M for Home Renovation Grants for first home owner-occupiers to use Territory small businesses for minor improvements to their homes
- $6M over three years to establish the Land Management and Conservation Fund
- $5.7M for industry development grants to enhance the capacity and capability of local businesses
- $5.16M to support the plant and livestock industries by protecting market access and minimising the impact and establishment of exotic pests and diseases
- $5M over two years for tourism initiatives to attract tourists from China and India
- $5M for Security Systems Assistance Grants for small businesses
- $2.8M to deliver effective and efficient administration of mineral and energy titles and tenure within the Territory to assist industry exploration

 Territory Wide

Barkly
Katherine
East Arnhem
Top End Rural
Central Australia
Darwin
Palmerston
and Litchfield
Territory Wide
$2.7M for management and research to ensure sustainability of Territory aquatic resources
$2.54M to ensure active mining operations, including exploration and extractive sites, operate in a manner that supports sustainable economic development
$2.47M to monitor the quality of Territory water supplies by providing analytical testing
$2.4M for land and water assessments to unlock the Territory’s agricultural potential
$1.8M to provide a quality-assured veterinary laboratory that supports diagnostic, regulatory and research programs
$1.8M for business centres across the Territory that provide frontline customer service to businesses and workers
$1.7M to manage and deliver geoscience and exploration data to the minerals and petroleum exploration industry
$1.7M to implement workforce attraction programs
$1.02M for the Environment Grants Program to assist community groups, industries, schools, local governments and businesses to benefit the Territory environment
$1M to employ additional Aboriginal interpreters to facilitate the implementation of the Remote Housing Investment Package
$1M to adapt intensive agricultural production systems to improve agribusiness investment certainty
$0.75M to encourage innovative exploration for minerals and petroleum in greenfield regions
$0.5M to establish a Canberra-based Territory defence advocate to ensure future defence investment is focused in the Territory
$0.5M to establish the Indigenous Carbon Unit
$0.5M to continue the sustainable management of the Territory recreational fishing sector
$0.5M to protect Territory waters from aquatic pests and diseases
$0.5M to commence a market-led investment attraction process for retirement villages in Darwin, its rural area and Alice Springs
$0.28M to establish water advisory committees and water allocation plans
$0.2M to appoint an independent Buy Local industry advocate, to be assisted by support staff, to keep Government spending in the Territory

Investing in Children
$11.5M for grants to support sports in the Territory
$8M for early intervention and support to tackle challenging behaviours and assist students with additional needs and mental health
$4M to support public library services
$2.7M to support the Northern Territory Institute of Sport
$1M to expand the Nurse-Family Partnership Program to support vulnerable children and families
$0.5M to upskill teachers in digital literacy and introduce computer coding training into primary and secondary schools as an emerging essential literacy
$0.4M to commence training and skilling programs for teachers and emerging and aspiring principals, including the Early Years of Teaching mentoring program
$0.3M to expand enterprise education and innovation programs within schools to ensure students are able to access advice and training in new technologies and emerging industries

Infrastructure Highlights
$1.1B over 10 years for the Remote Housing Investment Package including:
- $500M for the construction of new public housing
- $200M for new government employee housing in remote communities
- $200M to build additional living areas on existing housing under the Room to Breathe program
- $200M for additional repairs and maintenance
$44.5M over two years for land servicing, essential services and headworks infrastructure to support the 10-year Remote Housing Investment Package
$250M economic stimulus program including $129M to fast-track major infrastructure projects across the Territory
$140.4M over five years from 2016-17 to implement the Territory Government Housing Strategy, which will refresh the Territory’s public housing stock and deliver a sustainable public housing program
$77.88M to continue to upgrade the Arnhem Highway over the Adelaide River floodplain
$12.66M in Commonwealth funding for additional teacher housing in remote locations
$6.55M to upgrade various motorsport facilities
$5M to enhance recreational fishing infrastructure
$1.4M for renal-ready rooms in remote communities
Empowering the Bush
• $75.1M to continue to provide essential services in 72 remote Aboriginal communities
• $22.3M to provide municipal and essential services to homelands and outstations
• $10M for the final year of the $30M three-year Telstra and Territory Government co-investment program to further expand telecommunications services across remote Territory communities
• $6M including an additional $1M in 2017-18, for the Homelands Extra Allowance program to improve existing housing in homelands
• $5M for the Strategic Local Government Infrastructure Fund for regional and shire councils’ projects aimed at raising the standards of key community infrastructure
• $4.3M to expand the Regional Network to facilitate economic development across the Territory and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda
• $4.2M for the Regional Economic Infrastructure Fund
• $3.6M for Aboriginal Territorians to access training and increase workforce participation
• $2.5M to lead whole of government coordination for the development and implementation of Aboriginal affairs-related policies
• $1.5M for DriveSafe NT Remote, the Aboriginal driver education and licensing program
• $1M additional funding for the Remote Aboriginal Development Fund
• $1M to support remote Aboriginal economic development initiatives
• $0.8M to continue the First Circles Engagement Program to support emerging Aboriginal leaders
• $0.76M to provide regional bus programs and trial intra-town passenger services in priority regional and remote areas
• $0.66M to support the Indigenous Community Marine Ranger Program
• $0.63M to support development of Aboriginal commercial fishing and aquaculture capacity
• $0.62M to enable community access to Territory coastal waters
• $0.3M to provide tailored extension and support services through the Indigenous Pastoral Program to improve commercial viability and sustainability
• $0.1M to complete the program with the Centre for Appropriate Technology to install 30 mobile hotspots in remote locations across Central Australia and the Top End

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities
• $259M over five years, including $80.1M in 2017-18, for the Core Clinical Systems Renewal Program
• $92.06M for disability services including community care and support
• $57.05M for mental health services and suicide prevention programs
• $48.98M for alcohol and other drugs services including treatment and care options to reduce harm
• $45M over four years, including $8.6M in 2017-18, for a new policing management system to replace the Police Real-time Online Management Information System
• $37.17M for road ambulance services
• $27.62M for hearing, oral and cancer screening services including the hearing worker’s initiative and mobile breast screening services
• $23.46M for the third year of the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment agreement with the Commonwealth
• $17.2M to provide assessment, withdrawal and specialised alcohol treatment services to assist people with alcohol misuse issues and dependence associated with the reintroduction of the Banned Drinker Register
• $14.2M to continue to support the headlease rental initiative of the Real
Housing for Growth plan, including headleases for both affordable and social housing
• $12.4M for disease control services including disease prevention and early intervention, immunisation and disease surveillance
• $10.72M for primary health care services in urban and remote areas
• $10M incentive funding to expand the community housing sector
• $9M over four years to support the Territory screen sector
• $8M over four years to support motorsports
• $6.4M for the Sport Voucher Scheme
• $6M over three years for infrastructure upgrades to community art galleries, art centres, museums, libraries and keeping places
• $5.05M to continue upgrading UHF radio equipment and infrastructure
• $5M for the Remote Community Sports Infrastructure Program
• $5M for the first year of a four-year resourcing and recruitment plan for Territory police
• $4.65M over two years from 2016-17 to support community football and hold Australian Football League games in Darwin and Alice Springs
• $4.57M for aged care services including home and community care services
• $4.36M for promoting and protecting the interests of adults with impaired decision-making capacity by providing information advocacy, investigations and guardianship
• $4.1M over two years for grants to assist Indigenous ranger groups to purchase essential equipment
• $3.5M for the Urban and Regional Oval Lights Program
• $3.32M for environmental health services including statutory surveillance and monitoring of public and environmental health standards
• $3M to establish an Independent Commission Against Corruption
• $3M over four years to trial housing accommodation support in Darwin and Palmerston for mental health clients
• $2.8M to support Territory show societies
• $2.7M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
• $2.4M for river and groundwater resource monitoring and flood forecasting
• $2.23M for grants to organisations and peak bodies
• $2M to purchase and maintain additional CCTV cameras and related network equipment
• $1.49M to assess and monitor threatened and significant wildlife, and reduce feral cats and threats from fire
• $1.4M for rangelands monitoring of natural resources on pastoral lands
• $1.3M over two years to develop and maintain mountain bike trails
• $1.2M under a national project agreement to establish pest and weed management in respect to wild dogs, acacia and mimosa
• $1M to support and develop school business managers through enhancing training programs and other support mechanisms
• $1M for the Safe at Home Program that assists victims of property crime to stay in their homes
• $1M to support National Rugby League matches in the Territory
• $0.85M to support the Northern Territory Public Sector Indigenous Employment and Career Development Strategy 2015-2020
• $0.8M to tackle youth substance misuse in remote communities through the delivery of diversion programs
• $0.72M to maintain the herbarium as the authoritative reference collection of Territory plants
• $0.69M for the sustainable management of wildlife
• $0.59M to provide crisis counselling, support, referrals and information services to victims of crime
• $0.5M to establish a Renewable Energy Unit
• $0.46M for the Community Justice Centre fast and free dispute resolution service
• $0.16M to improve Territory bushfire management
Central Australia

The Central Australia region occupies about 42 per cent of the Territory’s land area and is home to 17 per cent of the Territory’s population. There are about 40 700 people living in the region, of whom around 39 per cent are Aboriginal. Alice Springs, the main service centre in the region, has a population of about 25 400. About 36 per cent of the region’s population are aged 24 years or under and about 6 per cent are aged 65 years or older.

The main industries in the Central Australia region include pastoral, tourism, defence, Aboriginal arts and culture, mining, and oil and gas exploration. Mineral production and exploration is a key driver of economic activity and employment in the region, particularly around the Tanami and Alice Springs.

Domestic and international visitors are important contributors to economic activity. Tourist attractions in Central Australia include Kata Tjuta, Kings Canyon, Uluru and the West MacDonnell Ranges. Aboriginal arts and culture-related industries are an important source of employment and the Territory Government is investing $70 million over the next few years in an Indigenous Arts Trail to support Aboriginal and cultural tourism. In Central Australia the Arts Trail will encompass an Iconic National Indigenous Art Gallery and Iconic National Indigenous Cultural Centre.

The Government, through a major projects program, is embarking on the redevelopment and rejuvenation of the Alice Springs CBD. This includes $20 million to provide a major face lift for the CBD. Planning and design work will progress in 2017-18 for projects to unlock business and industry development and promote community wellbeing. Government is also commencing market-led investment attraction options for a retirement village in Alice Springs.

Creating Jobs
- $16.4M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $6.2M to operate Alice Springs Desert Park
- $2.27M to establish and operate an Alcoota Megafauna Fossil Exhibition in Alice Springs
- $0.78M for regional tourist organisations and visitor information centres to continue to deliver marketing and visitor information services
- $0.75M to provide new generation geoscience to investigate resource potential and promote investment
- $0.68M for research and development to assist the cattle industry in improving productivity, reducing management costs and accessing premium meat markets
- $0.6M to operate the Arid Zone and Old Man Plains research stations
- $0.2M to adapt agricultural production systems to improve agribusiness investment certainty
- $0.16M for Small Business Champions to support individual businesses and non-government organisations
- $0.1M to support the Arid Lands Environment Centre

Investing in Children
- $80.88M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $32.58M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
- $31.53M for out of home care and child protection services
- $26.9M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
- $8.48M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
- $7.78M for preschool education in government schools
- $7.47M for family support services
- $4.04M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
- $3.78M for isolated student education through the Alice Springs School of the Air and distance education
- $1.89M to provide school buses and special needs transport for students
- $1.17M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
- $0.99M for nationally accredited vocational education and training, and employment pathways in schools
Empowering the Bush

- $18.7M under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing to continue providing property and tenancy management for remote Aboriginal public housing
- $2.3M to manage and operate Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park and Stuart Lodge in Alice Springs
- $1.7M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities

- $262.66M for hospital services including patient travel and aeromedical retrieval services
- $64.45M to provide police, fire and emergency services, including nine police stations and a further six funded under the National Partnership Agreement on the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment at Finke, Haasts Bluff, Imanpa, Mutitjulu, Nyirripi and Santa Teresa, and two fire stations and 12 volunteer groups
- $51.51M for primary health care services in urban and remote areas
- $39.52M to provide safe, secure and humane care of adult prisoners at Alice Springs Correctional Centre and a range of therapeutic, education and reintegration interventions to assist in their rehabilitation
- $8.64M for seniors and carers
- $6.28M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including Papunya, Mutitjulu, Yuendumu, Ti Tree, Hermannsburg and Docker River. Registry services are provided through the Magistrates Court at Alice Springs
- $6M to replace the Alice Springs women’s shelter
- $5.99M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice, including bail support

Infrastructure Highlights

- $53.3M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
- $31.25M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Northern Australian Roads Program to extend the seal of the Plenty Highway
- $20.38M to continue remediation and upgrades to Alice Springs Hospital
- $20M for City Deals for the redevelopment and revitalising of infrastructure in the Alice Springs central business district (CBD)
- $11.5M to establish youth bail support accommodation facilities
- $9.98M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Northern Australian Roads Program to extend the seal on Tjukaruru Road
- $6.2M for upgrades to sporting facilities in Alice Springs
- $3M to upgrade the Domestic Violence Court in Alice Springs
- $1.1M for upgrades to Alice Springs Youth Detention Centre

- $5.9M for youth justice services
- $5.28M for domestic and family violence services
- $3.55M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders
- $1.85M for the rehabilitation and integration of offenders through a continuation of Work Not Play program
- $1.8M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
- $1.5M to invest in the Alice Springs Centre for Excellence in Solar Energy
- $1.3M to provide public bus transport
- $1.25M to expand after-hours youth services in Alice Springs
- $0.5M for additional funding for court support services
- $0.19M for programs aimed at assisting community-based offenders to engage in work readiness and training to enhance employability
Creating Jobs
• $4.8M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
• $1M to support the Legacy Mines Unit, including projects around Tennant Creek
• $0.38M for research and development to assist the cattle industry to maximise productivity and reduce herd management costs
• $0.35M to provide new generation geoscience to investigate resource potential and promote investment
• $0.16M for Small Business Champions to support individual businesses and non-government organisations
• $0.1M for regional tourist organisations and visitor information centres to continue to deliver marketing and visitor information services

Investing in Children
• $25.57M to provide primary school education in government and non-government schools
• $9.52M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
• $5.51M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
• $5M capital grant to upgrade Purkiss Reserve sporting facilities
• $4.02M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
• $3.6M for out of home care and child protection services
• $2.57M for preschool education in government schools
• $2.3M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
• $1.17M for family support services
• $1M to implement a Healthy Life Creative Life program to improve education outcomes through an integrated program of sport, the arts, social and emotional learning, culture, language and learning on country for remote secondary students who are at risk of disengaging from school and their local communities
• $0.5M for isolated student education through distance education
• $0.26M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools
• $0.25M to continue the Back to School payment scheme

Empowering the Bush
• $23.8M for housing and infrastructure investment in Arlparra and Elliott
• $5M under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing to continue providing property and tenancy management for remote Aboriginal public housing
• $0.8M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities
• $24.1M for hospital services including patient travel
• $14.2M to provide police, fire and emergency services, including three police stations and a further three police stations funded under the National Partnership Agreement on the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment at Alpurrurulam, Arlparra and Willowra, and one fire station and three volunteer groups
• $7.57M for primary health care services in urban and remote areas
• $4.19M to provide a low-security prisoner work camp in Tennant Creek to contribute to real-life skills and experiences for prisoners to assist in their rehabilitation and reintegration
• $1.2M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
• $1.08M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders in line with sentences and orders issued by the courts and the Parole Board
• $0.75M for seniors and carers
• $0.62M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice
• $0.5M to expand after-hours youth services in Tennant Creek
• $0.45M for domestic and family violence services
• $0.33M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including at Elliott and Ali Curung. Registry services are provided through the courthouse at Tennant Creek
• $0.3M for youth justice services

Infrastructure Highlights
• $25M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Beef Roads Program for selected strengthening and widening on the Tablelands Highway
• $14.3M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
• $12.5M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Beef Roads Program for selected upgrades to improve the cattle supply chain on the Barkly Stock Route
• $6.5M to construct a new preschool at Tennant Creek catering for up to 88 enrolments, integrated with facilities for the on-site Families as First Teachers program
• $5M for stage 1 of the Sandover Highway upgrades to extend the seal to the Utopia health clinic
• $2M to provide entry statements along the Stuart Highway into Tennant Creek

• $6.5M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Beef Roads Program for selected strengthening and widening on the Tablelands Highway
• $14.3M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
• $12.5M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Beef Roads Program for selected upgrades to improve the cattle supply chain on the Barkly Stock Route
• $6.5M to construct a new preschool at Tennant Creek catering for up to 88 enrolments, integrated with facilities for the on-site Families as First Teachers program
• $5M for stage 1 of the Sandover Highway upgrades to extend the seal to the Utopia health clinic
• $2M to provide entry statements along the Stuart Highway into Tennant Creek
The Katherine region extends from the Ord Bonaparte area in the west to the Gulf of Carpentaria in the east. The town of Katherine is the main service centre with a population of about 11,100. The region has a population of about 21,200 people, of whom about 55 per cent are Aboriginal. About 41 per cent of the region's population is aged 24 years and under, and about 6 per cent is aged 65 years and over. Industries in the region include tourism, horticulture, pastoral and mining. The McArthur River Mine, located near Borroloola, is one of the world’s largest suppliers of lead and zinc in bulk concentrate form.

Road and rail infrastructure and a strategic location have enabled Katherine to develop as a regional freight hub, servicing industries in both the Territory and the Kimberley region. The Royal Australian Air Force’s (RAAF) Base Tindal, Bradshaw Field Training Area and Delamere Air Weapons Range are located in the region. Tourist attractions in the Katherine region include Nitmiluk Gorge, Leliyn (Edith Falls) and Mataranka.

The Government is embarking on a comprehensive major projects program that facilitates many key projects to stimulate the economy. This includes progressing a Logistics and Agribusiness Hub in Katherine and an expression of interest process to redevelop and revitalise the former Katherine Sports and Recreation Club site.

Creating Jobs
- $7.7M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $1.8M to provide new generation geoscience to investigate resource potential and promote investment
- $1.2M to adapt intensive agricultural production systems to improve agribusiness investment certainty

Investing in Children
- $55.52M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $21.6M for out of home care and child protection services
- $20.66M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
- $13.36M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
- $7.18M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
- $5.58M for family support services
- $5.38M for preschool education in government schools
• $3.48M for isolated student education through the Katherine School of the Air and distance education
• $3.38M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
• $1.71M to provide school buses and special needs transport for students
• $1M to implement a Healthy Life Creative Life program to improve education outcomes through an integrated program of sport, the arts, social and emotional learning, culture, language and learning on country for remote secondary students who are at risk of disengaging from school and from their local communities
• $0.66M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
• $0.65M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools

Empowering the Bush
• $23.9M under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing to continue providing property and tenancy management for remote Aboriginal public housing
• $0.8M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda
• $80 000 to support the Indigenous Community Marine Ranger Program
• $60 000 to enable community access to Territory coastal waters

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities
• $42.18M for hospital services including patient travel and cancer treatment and accommodation
• $34.23M to provide police, fire and emergency services, including 10 police stations and a further two

police stations funded under the National Partnership Agreement on the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment at Minyerri and Yarralin, and one fire station and eight volunteer groups
• $16.65M for primary health care services in urban and remote areas
• $5.44M for seniors and carers
• $4.39M for domestic and family violence services
• $3.49M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders in line with sentences and orders issued by the courts and the Parole Board
• $2.4M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
• $2M for youth justice services
• $2M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice
• $1.62M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including Beswick, Ngukurr, Timber Creek, Kalkaringi, Borroloola and Lajamanu. Registry services are provided through the courthouse at Katherine
• $0.72M to continue the provision of category 5 aircraft rescue and fire-fighting at the RAAF Base Tindal
• $0.6M for community engagement and programs including gender equity and social inclusion initiatives
• $0.5M to provide assistance to pastoralists and other landholders to manage grader grass, prickly acacia and rubber bush
• $0.14M for programs aimed at assisting community-based offenders to engage in work readiness and training to enhance employability

Infrastructure Highlights
• $68M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
• $57.41M to continue to upgrade Keep River Plains Road to support Project Sea Dragon and the development of the Ord
• $40.08M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Northern Australian Roads Program for selected strengthening and widening and extending the seal on the Buntine Highway towards the Western Australia border
• $8M to construct the new Katherine fire station co-located with St John Ambulance
• $2.45M for Nitmiluk National Park infrastructure upgrades to support business ventures and enhance visitor experiences as part of the four-year $10M program
The East Arnhem region covers East Arnhem Land, Groote Eylandt and Elcho Island. The major population centres are Nhulunbuy and Alyangula. Due to the difficult terrain, access for travellers and freight is mainly by air or sea.

The East Arnhem region has a population of about 13,900, of whom around 64 per cent are Aboriginal. Nhulunbuy, with a population of about 2,100, has seen a population decline of over 50 per cent since 2013 as a result of the curtailment of operations at the Gove alumina refinery. East Arnhem’s population is relatively young and dispersed, with about 43 per cent aged 24 years and under and about 4 per cent aged 65 years and over.

Mining production is the main economic activity in the region and includes the production of manganese at the Groote Eylandt Mining Company mine at Groote Eylandt and bauxite at the Rio Tinto mine at Gove Peninsula.

Other industries in East Arnhem include buffalo farming, aquaculture and fishing. Traditional Aboriginal cultural experiences, Aboriginal art, and the remote and natural wilderness attract tourists to the region, providing significant economic and employment activity.

**Creating Jobs**
- $5.8M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $0.32M for Small Business Champions to support individual businesses and non-government organisations
- $0.2M to provide new generation geoscience to investigate resource potential and promote investment

**Investing in Children**
- $44M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $22.11M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
- $16.09M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
- $9.03M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
- $8.86M for out of home care and child protection services
- $4.59M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
- $4.42M for preschool education in government schools
- $2.5M for family support services
- $0.84M to provide school buses and special needs transport for students
- $0.72M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
- $0.67M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools
- $0.66M for isolated student education through distance education

**Empowering the Bush**
- $16M under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing to continue providing property and tenancy management for remote Aboriginal public housing
- $1.1M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda
• $0.47M to support development of Aboriginal commercial fishing and aquaculture capacity
• $0.2M to operate an Indigenous marine ranger training program based in Nhulunbuy
• $0.19M to support the Indigenous Community Marine Ranger Program
• $30 000 to enable community access to Territory coastal waters

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities
• $31.5M for hospital services including patient travel
• $21.75M for primary health care services in urban and remote areas
• $12.22M to provide police, fire and emergency services, including three police stations and a further four police stations funded under the National Partnership Agreement on the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment at Bulman, Gapuwiyak, Numbulwar and Ramingining, and one fire station and six volunteer groups
• $3.52M for domestic and family violence services
• $3.41M for seniors and carers

Infrastructure Highlights
• $45.7M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
• $9.5M in Commonwealth funding to continue to upgrade police facilities at Alyangula and Angurugu
• $8.97M to continue remediation and upgrades to Gove District Hospital
• $5.7M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to continue building a preschool on the Angurugu Primary School site in conjunction with replacing the kitchen, canteen and ablutions destroyed by fire
• $5.2M to continue to build a multipurpose hall/emergency shelter at Ramingining School
• $2M to widen the seal at Milingimbi Airstrip
• $1M to design and construct a new safe house in Galiwin’ku

• $2.53M to provide a low-security prisoner work camp in Nhulunbuy to contribute to real-life skills and experiences for prisoners to assist in their rehabilitation and reintegration
• $1.3M for youth justice services
• $1.08M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders in line with sentences and orders issued by the courts and the Parole Board
• $0.95M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice
• $0.9M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
• $0.4M for community engagement and programs including gender equity and social inclusion initiatives
• $0.26M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including Alyangula, Nhulunbuy, Numbulwar and Galiwin’ku. Registry services are provided through the courthouse at Nhulunbuy
Top End Rural

The Top End Rural region encompasses the Tiwi Islands and many small communities extending east to East Arnhem and south of the Palmerston and Litchfield region to the Katherine region. About 18,900 people live in the region, the majority of whom are Aboriginal. The region’s population is relatively young, with about 41 per cent aged 24 years and under, and about 5 per cent aged 65 years or older. Tourism, horticulture and mining contribute significantly to the region’s economic activity.

Mining activity in the region includes uranium oxide from the Ranger Mine near Jabiru and gold from Cosmo Deeps Mine near Pine Creek.

Tourism includes world renowned attractions such as Litchfield and Kakadu national parks, as well as the Daly River for recreational fishing and camping.

Creating Jobs
- $5.8M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $1.6M to operate the Douglas Daly, Beatrice Hill and Coastal Plains research farms
- $1.4M to adapt intensive agricultural production systems to improve agribusiness investment certainty
- $0.55M to manage and maintain Crown land including associated buildings and weed control

Investing in Children
- $29.83M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $12.17M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
- $6.45M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
- $0.17M to continue research on improving farmed buffalo production and marketing
- $5.52M for out of home care and child protection services
- $3.31M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
- $3.04M for family support services
- $2.66M to provide school buses, special needs transport and ferries for students
- $1.87M for preschool education in government schools
- $0.65M for isolated student education through distance education
- $0.57M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
- $0.2M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
- $0.19M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools

Infrastructure Highlights
- $51.9M under the National Partnership Agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment to continue to construct new and upgrade existing housing and provide associated infrastructure in remote Aboriginal communities
- $22.79M for the Strategic Economic Development Roads to continue to improve the flood immunity of Port Keats Road at Yellow Creek crossing
- $6M for the Bathurst Island Airstrip reconstruction and extension
- $4.59M to continue upgrades to Kambolgie Creek crossing on Gimbalt Road in Kakadu to improve flood immunity
- $3.96M in Commonwealth funding to continue construction of a multipurpose police station, residential housing and visiting officer quarters, multifunction room/court house, associated boat and storage sheds, communications tower and back-up generator in Wadeye
- $2.2M to continue to construct the Rocky Creek Bridge and complete the Fog Bay Road upgrade
- $1.89M to continue upgrades to Wadeye barge landing

Empowering the Bush
- $18.3M under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing to continue providing property and tenancy management for remote Aboriginal public housing
- $1.3M for budget assistance grants to the Victoria Daly and West Daly regional councils
$1M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda

$0.77M to support the Indigenous Community Marine Ranger Program

$0.29M to enable community access to Territory coastal waters

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities

$41.1M for primary health care services in remote areas

$14.02M to provide police, fire and emergency services, including 10 police stations and a further three police stations funded under the National Partnership Agreement on the Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment at Minjilang, Peppimenarti and Warruwi, and one fire station and nine volunteer groups

$6M in Commonwealth funding for the environmental management of the former Rum Jungle mine site

$3.15M to provide public bus and ferry transport

$1.6M for seniors and carers

$1.49M for domestic and family violence services

$0.9M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities

$0.69M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders in line with sentences and orders issued by the courts and the Parole Board

$0.6M for youth justice services

$0.49M to assess and monitor marine megafauna including dolphins, dugongs and turtles

$0.4M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including Wadeye, Daly River and Jabiru. Registry services are provided through the Magistrates Court at Darwin

$0.25M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice

$0.25M for the Kenbi Fire Resilience Project

$0.2M for community engagement and programs including gender equity and social inclusion initiatives
The Palmerston and Litchfield region encompasses the city of Palmerston, the Litchfield Shire, East Arm and Robertson Barracks and extends east across Cape Hotham Forestry Reserve, south following the Adelaide River to the Darwin River Dam and north to Wickham Point.

Around 58,600 people live in the region, with about 35,100 people residing in Palmerston. About 10 per cent of the region’s population is Aboriginal, about 38 per cent of the population aged 24 years and under and about 6 per cent of the population aged 65 years and over.

Industries in the Palmerston and Litchfield region include aquaculture, horticulture, cattle and crocodile farming, defence, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and helium production. LNG production will increase substantially following the completion of construction of the Ichthys LNG plant at Bladin Point. The project will transition from the labour-intensive construction phase to the less labour-intensive operation and export phase in 2017-18, which is likely to have significant impact on the region. During this transition the residential and non-residential construction sectors will play an increasingly important role in the region.

The region has a significant defence presence, with the Robertson Barracks army base, located near Palmerston, which also hosts the ongoing rotations of United States Marines in the Territory each year. Further, new developments at East Arm, including the Marine Industry Park, will support ongoing defence presence in the region and aid future oil and gas activity in the Territory.

Creating Jobs

- $7.1M to operate the Territory Wildlife Park
- $6.8M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $1.55M to manage and maintain Crown land including associated buildings and weed control
- $0.7M to adapt intensive agricultural production systems to improve agribusiness investment certainty

Investing in Children

- $108.21M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $43.6M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
- $37.58M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
- $24.76M for out of home care and child protection services
- $9.92M for preschool education in government schools
- $7.09M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
- $5.07M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
• $3.48M to provide school buses and special needs transport for students
• $2.25M for family support services
• $1.81M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
• $1.7M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools
• $1.34M for isolated student education through distance education
• $1.29M for tertiary education, including support for Charles Darwin University

Empowering the Bush
• $0.3M for the Regional Network to facilitate economic development in the region and deliver the Government’s Local Decision Making agenda
• $0.14M to provide technical and diagnostic support to the Banana Freckle Eradication Program

Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities
• $131.91M to provide safe, secure and humane care of adult prisoners at Darwin Correctional Centre and a range of therapeutic, education and reintegration interventions to assist in their rehabilitation
• $24.41M to provide police, fire and emergency services including two police stations, two fire stations and six volunteer groups
• $6.25M to provide public bus transport
• $5.24M for Better Outcomes for Youth Justice, including bail support
• $5.13M for primary health care services in urban and rural areas
• $5.11M for seniors and carers
• $2.83M for domestic and family violence services
• $2.56M to provide assessment, monitoring and supervision services to community-based offenders in line with sentences and orders issued by the courts and the Parole Board
• $2.4M for the Building Better Schools program to provide additional funding of $0.3M to every government and non-government school for refurbishments and upgrades to school facilities
• $2.1M to continue operating Palmerston Water Park
• $1.7M for youth justice services
• $1.3M for gamba grass management and response to high fire risk associated with gamba grass infestation
• $0.6M for an intensified cabomba eradication program in Darwin River
• $0.6M for community engagement and programs including gender equity and social inclusion initiatives
• $0.37M to incorporate Palmerston Regional Hospital into the Territory’s urban bus network
• $90,000 for investment in post-release support and accommodation to assist offender reintegration into the community

Infrastructure Highlights
• $100M contribution towards the construction of the ship lift facility
• $49.1M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for Palmerston Regional Hospital
• $25.8M to construct the new Palmerston police station including a community hall
• $12M for stages 1 and 2 of the 14-lot industrial subdivision at Darwin Business Park North
• $9M for the Zuccoli school stage 1, including headworks, services and a shared community recreation oval
• $6.03M to continue upgrades to Don Dale Youth Detention Centre
• $5M for stage 1 development works to create a marine service area
• $4M for stage 1 of the 20-lot industrial subdivision at the Defence Support Hub
• $1.2M to establish youth bail support accommodation facilities
Darwin is the Territory’s capital city and the main population and administrative centre. About 85,000 people live in Darwin, representing about 35 per cent of the Territory’s population. Among the regions Darwin’s population has the lowest proportion of young people, with about 31 per cent aged 24 years and under and the highest proportion of the population aged over 65 years, at about 9 per cent.

Major industries in Darwin include construction, defence, tourism, and public administration and safety. Major defence projects in the region include the planned redevelopment of HMAS Coonawarra and Larrakeyah Barracks. Further upgrades have been highlighted for potential upgrades in the 2016 Defence White Paper.

Currently the Ichthys LNG project is making a substantial contribution to construction activity, employment and investment in the Darwin, and Palmerston and Litchfield regions. The project will transition from the labour-intensive construction phase to the less labour-intensive operation and export phase in 2017-18, which is likely to have significant impact on the greater Darwin economy.

The Government, through a major projects program, is embarking on redeveloping and rejuvenating the Darwin CBD. This includes $100 million for City Deals to revitalise State Square including an iconic art gallery and a new museum on Myilly Point. Government is also commencing market-led investment attraction options for a potential water theme park and retirement village in Darwin.

**Creating Jobs**
- $28M in Territory and Commonwealth funding to operate and deliver vocational education and training for Territorians to develop new or build on existing skills to gain employment
- $1.62M to manage and maintain Crown land including associated buildings and weed control
- $1.42M for the management of the Frances Bay Mooring Basin and associated wharves
- $1.37M to revitalise and manage Stokes Hill Wharf
- $1M to support the Darwin Festival
- $0.81M for regional tourist organisations and visitor information centres to continue to deliver marketing and visitor information services
- $0.5M to commence a market-led investment attraction process for a water theme park
- $0.25M to continue the fisheries enhancement program including fingerling production and options for artificial structures
- $0.2M to operate the Berrimah Research Farm facility
- $50,000 to support the Environmental Defenders Office

**Investing in Children**
- $158.57M for primary school education in government and non-government schools
- $74.68M for middle years education in government and non-government schools
• $66.04M for senior years education in government and non-government schools
• $34.33M for out of home care and child protection services
• $12.63M for preschool education in government schools
• $10.05M to provide school buses and special needs transport for students
• $8.32M for tertiary education, including support for Charles Darwin University
• $7.06M for early childhood education and care, including early childhood services subsidies
• $6.3M for family support services
• $5.6M to implement the Territory’s Indigenous Education Strategy, including the expansion of the Families as First Teachers program
• $3.2M for isolated student education through distance education
• $2.63M to provide nationally accredited vocational education and training, and support for employment pathways in schools
• $2.32M to continue the Back to School payment scheme
• $0.97M for international education in government schools

**Building Safer, Fairer and Stronger Communities**

• $546.97M for hospital services including patient travel, aeromedical retrieval, and cancer treatment and accommodation services
• $254.69M to provide police, fire and emergency services including two police stations, three fire stations, one volunteer group, and a training college and forensic laboratory
• $24.93M for primary health care services in urban areas, including prisoner health services
• $17.43M to provide public bus transport

**Infrastructure Highlights**

• $100M for City Deals for the redevelopment and revitalising of infrastructure in the Darwin CBD
• $39.42M to continue stage 1 of the Barneson Boulevard Link
• $25M for redevelopment of Warren Park to create a home for rugby league
• $18M for the Darwin High School redevelopment and expansion, stage 1 of the Bullocky Point Education Precinct projects to support leading science, technology, engineering, art and mathematic subjects, courses and activities
• $18M in Territory and Commonwealth funding for the Royal Darwin Hospital positron emission tomography (PET) scanner and cyclotron infrastructure works, and purchase of major equipment
• $11.92M to continue to construct a multistorey carpark at the Royal Darwin Hospital
• $10M as the Territory Government contribution to support the Darwin luxury hotel project
• $10M for Truck Central design and infrastructure works for the Transport Industry Precinct
• $9.7M to refurbish and expand the Nightcliff renal facility
• $6M for Ludmilla Primary School stage 1 master plan of a redevelopment to create contemporary learning environments including a vibrant integrated early childhood facility
• $3M to continue to refurbish and upgrade TIO Stadium
• $2.5M for the multipurpose reception facility for training, health and wellbeing at the Peter McAulay Centre
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