

MORE JOBS

Government's number one priority is creating more jobs. More jobs mean stronger economic growth. Budget 2018 invests in creating and growing our economy.

Local jobs first

We believe in encouraging Territory businesses to employ people who live here, rather than fly-in fly-out (FIFO) workers. We will:

- introduce a two-year payroll tax rebate for Territory businesses that either:
 - employ a new employee who lives and works in the Territory, increasing the number of Territory employees
 - or replace an existing employee who was not previously resident in the Territory with a person who becomes or is a Territory resident and works in the Territory
- provide a new royalty deduction for the cost of buying, renting or building accommodation in the Territory for employees who live in the Territory
- provide a new royalty deduction for the cost of building infrastructure that provides economic or social benefits to Territory communities near to and affected by a mine's operations
- stop a royalty deduction for FIFO-related travel and ancillary costs for employees who do not live in the Territory.

Turbocharging tourism

Tourism is the second largest employer in the Territory and a cornerstone of the Territory economy. Over two years from 2017-18 we will provide:

- \$26.6 million to deliver smarter and more targeted tourism marketing, including campaigns with key airlines, focusing on niche markets and securing lucrative business events

- \$52.5 million to establish new tourism infrastructure to create more memorable experiences for our visitors, particularly in our parks and reserves
- \$24.5 million to develop and enhance our existing festivals, events and other tourism experiences to cement the Territory's reputation as a vibrant and exciting place to live, work and visit.

Supporting tourism by staging major sporting events:

- \$8.5 million over five years to bring AFL games to Darwin and Alice Springs
- \$1.25 million for an agreement with the Adelaide Strikers to host big bash league matches in Alice Springs in 2018 and 2019
- \$1 million to support National Rugby League games in the Territory.

Investing in infrastructure

Budget 2018 provides infrastructure payments of \$1.45 billion in 2018-19 to invest in building the Territory and drive more jobs that connect communities and drive economic growth.

The 2018-19 infrastructure program includes:

- \$626.4 million to upgrade the Territory's roads including \$76.3 million to upgrade the Arnhem Highway on the Adelaide River floodplain in partnership with the Australian Government and \$49.4 million to upgrade the Keep River Plains Road to support Project Sea Dragon in partnership with the Australian Government
- \$243.2 million for community safety including \$70 million for the construction of a fit-for-purpose

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youth justice training centre in Darwin and \$27.7 million for flood mitigation works across the Territory

- \$210.4 million in economic and community infrastructure including \$66 million to progress the City Deals projects including an underground carpark in Darwin, revitalising the Alice Springs CBD, \$27.6 million for headworks and subdivision works in Berrimah North, Borroloola, Darwin Waterfront, Larapinta and Palmerston East
- \$182 million for lifestyle and environment works, including \$30 million to enhance art galleries in Arnhem, Katherine and Tennant Creek as part of the National Iconic Arts Trail, and \$11.9 million to establish an adventure cycling track in West MacDonnell National Park
- \$136.6 million to enhance the Territory's education infrastructure including \$18.1 million to continue to redevelop and expand Darwin High School and \$15.9 million for a new multipurpose hall at Darwin Middle School
- \$79.5 million for health infrastructure to improve the wellbeing of Territorians, including \$17.3 million for various upgrades at Royal Darwin Hospital and \$8.9 million to continue the refurbishment and expansion of the Nightcliff renal facility.

Housing Territorians

The Territory Government is making a \$761.4 million investment to improve housing conditions across the Territory, including:

- \$171.2 million in Territory funding to continue the \$1.1 billion 10-year Remote Housing Investment Package with the Australian Government providing an additional \$110 million a year for five years
- \$61 million for new and upgraded urban public housing
- \$25.5 million over two years to address urgent infrastructure upgrades in town camps. These works are already underway and aim to make the dwellings as functional as possible. Twelve town camps have been prioritised for this work. A dedicated Town Camps

Futures Unit will be established in 2018 to work with town camp residents and stakeholders, including the Commonwealth, to develop future government policy and a long-term plan for each of the Territory's 43 town camps.

Investing in resources

To grow the minerals and energy sector, the Territory Government is supporting economic development and local jobs with \$5.33 million over three years to implement the 135 recommendations of the scientific inquiry into hydraulic fracturing.

\$26 million over four years will go to a new Resourcing the Territory program, which focuses on stimulating resource exploration and investment attraction through:

- providing incentives for selected industry exploration programs in under-explored areas. Incentives will fund 50 per cent (up to \$135 000) to provide an immediate stimulus to greenfields exploration using local drilling companies
- developing critical geoscience information to de-risk exploration investment and highlight mineral and petroleum potential in new areas
- promoting the Territory's resource potential and attracting investment into the Territory's exploration and development projects
- developing an online database of exploration drillholes and geochemical assay results of the past 120 years, which will substantially reduce the costs and risks to industry and assist industry to rapidly interpret and value-add to historical datasets.

Supporting primary industry

- \$400 000 to continue facilitation of major agribusiness projects including the development of regional agricultural precincts and support for the Katherine agribusiness and logistics hub (\$30 million in 2019-20).