

Tuesday, 22 June 2021

NSW BUDGET TO ACCELERATE ROLL-OUT OF DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The NSW Government's position as a leader in the provision of digital services and technologies has been boosted by significant investments in the 2021-22 State Budget.

Minister for Digital and Minister for Customer Service Victor Dominello said the Budget would aid our digital ambition of driving growth and delivering improved outcomes.

"We are increasing the Digital Restart Fund's budget to \$2.1 billion, thanks to an extra \$500 million over three years, while the Data Analytics Centre - so crucial in informing the State's response to COVID-19 - will receive \$38.3 million over four years," Mr Dominello said.

Investment will enable the Government to accelerate the roll-out of a number of exciting new digital products and services over the next 12 months.

This Budget announces three significant new investments enabled by the Digital Restart Fund:

- The Ministry of Health's Single Digital Patient Record - Phase 1 Project to improve the quality and safety of care for patients by enhancing care coordination across hospital and other settings..
- The Department of Customer Service's eConstruction initiative to develop digital platforms for certification registries, aimed at delivering end to end quality assurance for builders, customers and suppliers to improve the transparency, accountability and quality of work within the building sector.
- Cyber security projects across the Departments of Education, Planning Industry and Environment, Premier and Cabinet, Communities and Justice, Police, Transport for NSW, and the Ministry of Health to improve the security of operating systems and applications and proactively manage cyber security threats.

"The Department of Customer Service will also see a \$130 million funding boost, the lion's share of which will go towards the work of Service NSW which has been a leading light for citizens and businesses throughout the pandemic.

"We want to save customers time and money when interacting with Government, and technology is a critical part of the solution as we've seen with the Service NSW App, the NSW QR Code system and Dine & Discover vouchers.

"This funding also allows us to build on popular products like the Digital Driver Licence, FuelCheck and Park'nPay, while also uplifting our cyber and information security systems."

Mr Dominello said the Budget also provides \$660 million in capital funding to complete the state-wide roll out of the Critical Communications Enhancement Program.

“The Public Safety Network provides emergency services organisations with a single, resilient, safe and integrated network to communicate, which helps save lives,” Mr Dominello said.

“Every second counts in an emergency and we need to protect front line responders by making it easier for them to communicate when it matters most.”

“This is the fourth tranche of funding this Government has committed to CCEP since 2016. This additional investment increases the state’s population coverage to 99.7 per cent, demonstrating our deep commitment to improving services in Regional NSW whilst supporting our front-line responders who rely on the Public Safety Network (PSN) for all their radio communications when natural disasters strike and emergencies unfold.”

Next to Australia’s triple zero emergency hotline, the PSN is the most critical communications network in NSW.

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