

3. BUDGET PRIORITIES

- The Government has made tough decisions so it can invest more in improving essential services for the people of New South Wales. It is investing more in health, education, social justice and support for children in out-of-home care.
- The 2025–26 Budget is continuing to support NSW households with the impacts of cost of living through measures such as energy bill relief, expanded support for first home buyers and reforms to create a better and fairer system for renters.
- This Budget also invests in initiatives that will support economic growth and help achieve a more diverse and strengthened economy that is able to adapt to future economic shocks and opportunities.

3.1 Building a platform for future growth and prosperity

The 2025-26 Budget builds on the work of the Government over the past two years. It delivers more of the essential services that underpin the health and prosperity of people in New South Wales and targets investments that will strengthen and diversify our economy.

This Budget reaffirms the Government's commitment to building a better New South Wales through:

- fiscal repair and responsible fiscal management
- delivering high quality services and outcomes that support communities
- investing in the drivers of future economic growth.

Refer to Box 1.2 of Chapter 1 Budget overview for further detail on the Government's delivery of its election commitments.

The 2025-26 Budget invests in new and expanded measures to support NSW families across priority areas such as health, education, transport and protecting the most vulnerable in the community.

3.2 Continuing fiscal repair and responsible financial management

This Government continues to focus on returning the State's finances to a stable footing. This gives the Government the ability to rebuild and enhance the delivery of essential services to the community, in areas such as health, education and transport.

Responsible management of the State's finances

This Budget builds on the Government's successful work to improve the fiscal position and outlook, with initiatives that aim to ensure the financial strength of the State into the future.

These initiatives include:

- completed a Comprehensive Expenditure Review, which identified \$13.0 billion in savings, reprioritisation and other budget improvement measures. More than \$11.0 billion of these measures are complete or on track for completion, with the remaining underway or in planning
- undertook a Strategic Infrastructure Review which identified and prioritised projects the Government should continue, delay or descope

- ceased contributions into the NSW Generations (Debt Retirement) Fund in March 2024 and approved the NGF Management Framework to establish principles for any future NGF contributions
- collated several of the State's investment funds into a single master fund known as OneFund.

As part of the 2025-26 Budget, the Government has introduced additional measures that build on these to ensure the future financial strength of the State, including:

- implementation of Phase 2 of OneFund, which includes pooling the Lifetime Care and Support Authority Fund, Workers Compensation (Dust Diseases) Fund and Motor Accidents Injury Treatment and Care Benefits Fund into the master fund structure
- a Contributions and Transfers Framework that minimises the need to fund schemes via debt by making use of available resources within OneFund to manage scheme liabilities more efficiently on a portfolio basis.

Building public sector capability and capacity

Since 2023, the Government has delivered significant industrial relations reforms, including:

- abolishing the wages cap
- introducing a mutual gains bargaining approach through the *Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy*
- delivering the biggest pay increase to essential workers in over a decade
- record pay increases for paramedics in recognition of the move towards university qualifications and professional registration requirements
- introducing the Safe Staffing Levels Policy in NSW Health.

Enhancing workforce pay and conditions

The mutual gains bargaining framework introduced by the Government is delivering pay increases for essential workers while driving productivity and efficiency in public sector workplaces, including:

- a pay increase for more than 90,000 Crown employees (including corrections officers, transport workers, school assistants and other essential workers) in exchange for overhauling redeployment policies to reduce redundancy costs, and modernising awards to remove outdated allowances
- an historic pay increase for NSW Police officers offset by savings from reforms to the Police Blue Ribbon Insurance Scheme, plus improved flexibility arrangements
- multi-year pay increases for teachers in our public schools and TAFE teachers, combined with conversion of temporary to permanent staffing.

Better pay and conditions provide certainty and financial security to our essential public sector workforces. This helps to attract and retain highly skilled and qualified workers and reduce vacancies, supporting:

- enhanced safety for our community by ensuring we have police on our streets
- quality education and support for our students by providing permanent teachers and support staff in our classrooms, ultimately benefitting students and educational outcomes
- improved patient care through the roll out of minimum staffing levels in hospitals, particularly in emergency departments and critical care units
- timely emergency response by accredited paramedics receiving professional rates of pay.

Box 3.1: The benefits of the Government's investment in essential workers with the *Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy*

The Government's *Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy* and investments in essential workers has delivered benefits, including:

- rebuilding the teaching workforce and reducing administrative burden: with public school teacher vacancies falling to a four-year low at the start of the 2025 school year, teacher resignations falling for the first time in 13 years and the number of merged and cancelled classes halved
- enhancing job security for TAFE teachers: with more than 3,000 casual TAFE teachers and delivery support staff made permanent
- bolstering the police's frontline capabilities: with applications to join the NSW Police Force increasing by over 70 per cent over the last two years and the largest class of NSW Police Force recruits in 11 years attesting at the Police Academy in May 2025
- securing essential workers in regional areas through initiatives such as:
 - the key worker housing program that provides workers with stable and affordable housing, and
 - various allowances and incentive schemes to support regional workers, including the Regional Skills Relocation Grant, Rural Health Workforce Incentive Scheme and remote area living allowances.

These programs help attract and retain talent, particularly to regional areas, in sectors like healthcare, education and emergency services.

The Government has also introduced a range of reforms that enhance job security of community service workers in New South Wales by:

- providing greater funding certainty and job security to community service organisations by offering longer-term arrangements up to five years
- introducing the Community Services Industry scheme, a new portable long service leave scheme allowing eligible workers to accrue long service leave after seven years of service regardless of the number of employers.

3.3 Delivering on our priorities

The Government is continuing to deliver on its priorities, including housing, essential services and infrastructure and cost-of-living support. The investment in this Budget builds on the support provided over the last two years and looks to the future economic prosperity of the State.

Jobs and industry

The Budget provides support to ensure New South Wales can attract investment and take advantage of the technology needed to help our businesses grow, including:

- creation of a new Investment Delivery Authority to fast-track proposals valued over \$1.0 billion through the planning system
- \$512.3 million to grow the creative economy and restore Sydney as a vibrant world-class city, including:
 - the \$380.6 million package to support the NSW screen and digital games sector, to grow more local jobs and secure the future of the industry to strengthen the NSW music industry

- \$20.6 million for the Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner to support the night-time economy and local councils through regulatory reform, precinct-based initiatives and other support
- \$20 million for Sound NSW to implement the NSW Contemporary Music Strategy
- \$100 million to sustain critical biosecurity functions
- \$79.2 million Innovation Blueprint package to cement New South Wales as the best place to innovate, including \$20 million for the Emerging Technology Commercialisation Fund to help businesses commercialise research into marketable products and services
- \$59.6 million of upgrades to regional research facilities to support regional economic growth
- \$41.2 million to enhance and modernise primary industries research and development
- \$38.5 million investment in Tech Central including the relocation of the Sydney Startup Hub and an enhanced collaboration hub
- \$27.3 million to establish a new Future Jobs and Investment Authority to coordinate new economic opportunities in coal-producing regions in the Hunter, Illawarra, Central West and North West.

Refer to Section 3.4 of this chapter for further information.

Housing and planning

To address ongoing pressures faced by households in the State's housing system, the Government is investing in initiatives to improve access to quality housing.

New support for the housing system and housing projects include:

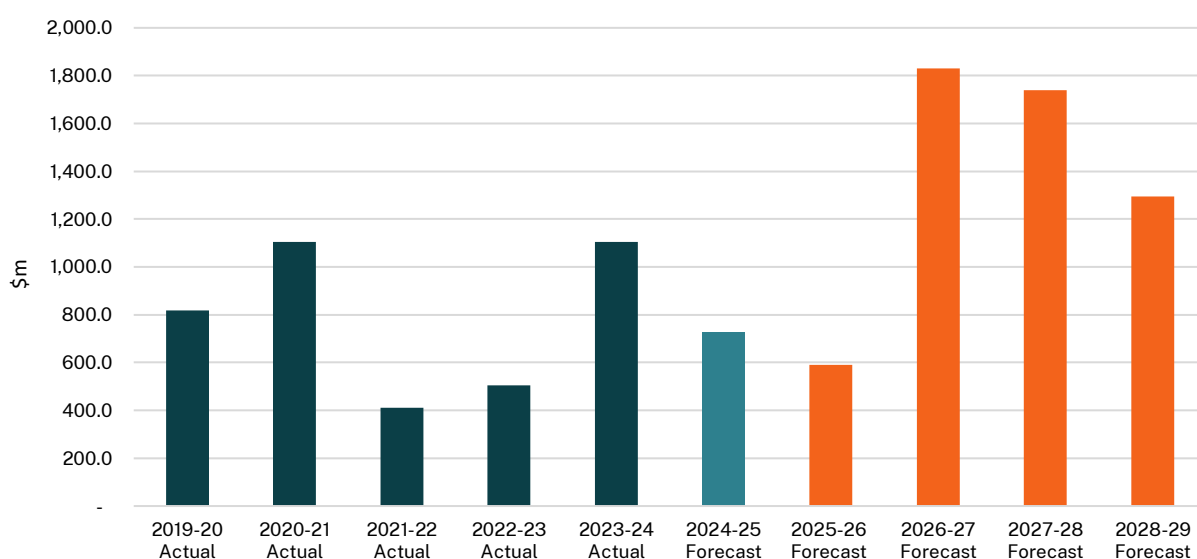
- Pre-Sale Finance Guarantee to support the accelerated commencement and early completion of up to \$1 billion of residential development projects at a time on a rolling basis during the National Housing Accord period
- allowing developers to build infrastructure instead of paying the Housing and Productivity Contribution where approved, as part of a new works in kind (WIK) framework
- a permanent land tax concession of a 50 per cent reduction in assessed land value for new build-to-rent developments (the temporary land tax concession was due to expire in December 2039). Build-to-rent developers will also be able to apply for exemptions from foreign purchaser duty and land tax surcharges (or a refund of surcharges paid)
- \$145.1 million to support the ongoing work of the Building Commission NSW to reform the residential building and construction industry and improve consumer outcomes
- \$83.4 million to accelerate planning approvals, including for large-scale market, social and affordable housing. This includes \$10.6 million additional resources for the newly established Housing Delivery Authority
- \$20.9 million to support regional councils to bring forward critical enabling infrastructure for new homes during the National Housing Accord period by funding interest on loans
- \$20 million to ease pressure on the crisis accommodation system. This is in addition to the \$527.6 million support package for homelessness services announced in the 2024-25 Budget
- \$13.8 million to the Department of Education to accelerate the delivery of 4,800 construction trades workers to support our home building agenda.

Transport and roads

The Government is investing in a range of projects to provide safe and accessible transport, improve road safety and upgrade roads across the State, including:

- \$1.0 billion for the first stage of the Fifteenth Avenue Upgrade between Liverpool and the new airport, jointly funded by the NSW and Australian Governments
- \$500.0 million for Mona Vale Road West – Upgrade
- \$369.9 million to maintain and uplift bus services, including bus service improvements, improved connections to train and metro services and increased school services in priority areas
- \$115.0 million for Terrigal Drive Upgrade
- \$200.0 million for Homebush Bay Drive
- \$56.3 million to deliver 50 articulated diesel buses to address the bus shortages within the Sydney Metropolitan bus network
- \$52.2 million for Peak Hill Road Upgrade, Tooraweenah Road Upgrade, Central Coast Roads Package, Coreen Avenue and Coombes Drive Upgrades, Kurrajong Road Intersection Upgrade at Beech Road and Lyn Parade, and Coreen Avenue and Lemongrove Road Signals
- \$40.0 million for upgrades to Wentworth Park Light Rail stop to improve accessibility and amenity.

Chart 3.1: Western Sydney roads capital expenditure, 2019-20 to 2028-29



Education and training

The 2025-26 Budget includes a range of initiatives aimed at improving educational outcomes and enhancing training opportunities, including:

- \$3.0 billion in 2025-26 to maintain, upgrade and build new public schools, public preschools and TAFEs across New South Wales
- \$1.2 billion over four years for TAFE to promote ongoing skills development
- additional NSW funding to reflect the Better and Fairer Schools Agreement. The NSW Government will provide additional funding by removing the 4 per cent provision of indirect school costs which will achieve the Australian and NSW Government's commitment to funding 100 per cent of the Schooling Resource Standard

- \$40.2 million to deliver the ongoing commitment to Fee Free Apprenticeships and Traineeships for priority qualifications balanced with maintaining a supply of high-quality training and improving the sector's performance
- \$10.0 million in 2025-26 to progress work on expanding the public provision of early childhood education and care in New South Wales.

Health

The Essential Health Services package invests \$836.4 million in 2025-26 to support core health services and reduce overdue surgeries. It also funds the opening of new and upgraded hospitals including the Sydney Children's Hospitals at Randwick and Westmead, Gunnedah Hospital and the Statewide Mental Health Infrastructure Program.

Other significant measures include:

- \$158.8 million on top of \$126.6 million already invested to deliver three new regional helicopter bases to improve ambulance and paramedic response times
- \$83.8 million for a Maternity Care and First 2,000 Days package that includes measures to grow and upskill the maternity workforce, and increase midwifery continuity of care and parenting support in regional areas
- \$23.1 million over three years for Building on Aboriginal Communities Resilience to expand community-led suicide prevention and wellbeing support programs that are culturally responsive
- \$15.4 million in 2025-26 to boost the community mental health workforce, enhance support for young people with severe and complex mental illness and provide regional communities with mental health support.

The NSW Government will deliver \$12.4 billion of capital investment to build and upgrade health infrastructure over the next four years, with \$3.3 billion in 2025-26. The total capital program includes:

- an additional \$700.0 million for the New Bankstown Hospital to integrate hospital inpatient services bringing the total investment in the New Bankstown Hospital to \$2.0 billion – the largest ever investment in a new hospital in New South Wales
- \$492.0 million to develop a Statewide Pathology Hub on the Westmead Health campus
- an additional \$90.0 million to provide the full range of maternity and birthing services at the new Rouse Hill Hospital, with a further \$120 million also announced by the Australian Government. These two funding commitments increase the total investment for the new Rouse Hill Hospital project to \$910.0 million.

Social, community and justice investment

The Government continues to focus on building stronger, safer communities across the State and supporting the most vulnerable in our community in areas such as:

- the out-of-home care system, including a \$1.2 billion child protection package to provide more support for children and young people in out-of-home care (see Box 3.2)
- \$731.8 million over four years for First Nations initiatives, including \$202.4 million of additional investment in Closing the Gap provided in this Budget, to deliver 14 initiatives co-designed with the NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations and the NSW Closing the Gap Joint Council (see Box 7.2 in Chapter 7 Recurrent expenditure)
- \$272.7 million for domestic, family and sexual violence services to continue work on reducing violence against women and children and supporting victim-survivors

- \$226.8 million for the Victims Support Scheme, ensuring continued access to counselling and financial support for victims of violent crime and modern slavery
- \$49.4 million for a new hub to support victim-survivors to participate in legal proceedings in a trauma-safe environment, allowing witnesses to give evidence remotely via video link
- \$34.5 million for upgrades to the Downing Centre and John Maddison Tower, allowing for the creation of 15 new courtrooms to improve time to justice for victims and their families.

Box 3.2: Reforming the child protection system in New South Wales

The Government is embarking on major reform of the out-of-home care (OOHC) system in New South Wales. A reform plan has been developed, which sets out the vision to rebuild a world class OOHC system that enables children to thrive in supportive, stable environments and sees recovery and restoration for more children and families.

Urgent work has been undertaken to stabilise the OOHC system and improve system performance. Achievements to date include:

- reducing the number of children in high-cost emergency arrangements by 35 per cent since November 2023 and ending the use of unaccredited emergency accommodation for vulnerable children as of April 2025
- recruiting more foster carers, with more than 240 government recruited emergency carer households who have kept hundreds of children out of emergency arrangements
- standing up government-run Waratah Care Cottages to better support children and sibling groups and to be less reliant on emergency arrangements.

The 2025-26 Budget provides \$1.2 billion to further support this reform plan by investing:

- \$797.6 million to continue supporting children and young people in OOHC while reforms are designed and implemented, and setting aside investment for a reformed OOHC program. This will improve the OOHC system and ensure all children and young people can thrive in supportive and stable environments
- \$191.5 million to support recruitment of more than 200 new and retention of 2,126 caseworkers with higher pay and more specialised training, including 100 new leading caseworker roles
- \$143.9 million for a major increase of 20 per cent to the foster care allowance to recognise the critical role of foster carers to keep children safe
- \$49.2 million for government-owned, purpose built or upgraded residential OOHC housing that will deliver safe and stable housing for children over 12 years of age with high and complex needs
- \$10 million to support the Office of the Children's Guardian to continue to oversee organisations and uphold children's rights to be safe.

These reforms will ensure that every dollar spent delivers better outcomes for vulnerable families.

Emergency services and police

This Budget invests in services which help keep our community safe, particularly in times of crisis, including:

- \$46.3 million for a new replacement Police Class 1 Ocean Patrol Vessel, the Nemesis, to ensure the NSW Police Force can continue to conduct extended offshore operations
- \$35.9 million for Fire and Rescue NSW to maintain critical frontline fire, rescue and hazardous materials response services
- \$34.4 million for the NSW Rural Fire Service to continue leasing its essential fixed wing aircraft and helicopters for emergencies
- \$33.9 million to strengthen the Public Safety Network to better support Emergency Services Organisations, government agencies and local councils in delivering critical services that protect communities and infrastructure
- \$11.5 million to expand Fire and Rescue NSW's Class 3 Appliance Renewal program which will deliver an additional 10 firefighting vehicles over the next two years. The program accelerates the replacement of ageing pumpers to maintain a target service life of 15 years, thereby helping to keep emergency response vehicles fit for purpose
- \$6.0 million for the NSW Police Force to purchase critical communications and analysis equipment to assist in specialist investigations to disrupt crime and keep citizens of New South Wales safe
- \$5.5 million to deliver eight Class 1 vehicles to enhance Fire and Rescue NSW operational flexibility, support regional response capacity, strengthen community resilience and meet increased demand for emergency services.

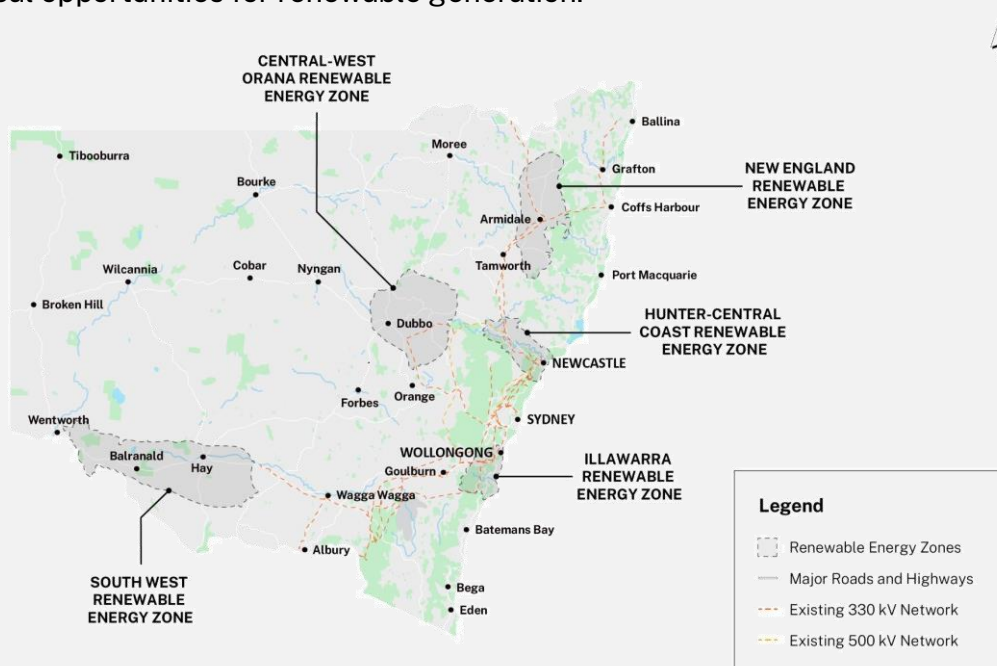
Environment, water and energy

The Government remains committed to a sustainable and healthy environment, through investment in protecting and restoring our environment through:

- \$472.9 million over four years for long lasting biodiversity protections and environmental management through improving the Biodiversity Offset Scheme, nature protection, visitor infrastructure in national parks, biodiversity conservation and environmental water management
- \$319.1 million for the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism Program to improve river health and increase the amount of water returned to the environment
- \$21.5 million for the Stockton Beach Repair Project to nourish sand on the beach to protect assets, rehabilitate the coast and restore beach useability
- \$5.3 million to allow free entry for eligible veterans into national parks and reserves
- \$3.0 million in 2025-26 for the installation of new pumps to improve water quality for Coogee stormwater and to divert stormwater flows from the northern drain to the old wastewater outfall at Dolphin Point.

Box 3.3: Energy Infrastructure Roadmap

The Roadmap is NSW's 20-year plan to transform our electricity system to provide affordable, clean and reliable energy. It is based on developing five Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) across New South Wales that have the benefit of favourable network access and/or ideal opportunities for renewable generation.



Just over half of the minimum 12 gigawatts of renewable generation and 40 per cent of the two gigawatts of long duration storage required by 2030 is locked in. This year's highlights include the following:

- Central West Orana REZ: contracted for the delivery of the new transmission link, with construction to start in mid-2025, and awarded access rights to ten projects totalling 7.15 gigawatts of generation and storage.
- South West REZ: awarded access rights to four projects with a combined generation capacity of 3.56 gigawatts and continued construction of *EnergyConnect* (by Transgrid), a new 900km transmission line connecting the three state energy grids.
- Hunter – Central Coast REZ: appointed AusGrid as the preferred network operator to upgrade the existing network, minimising impacts on communities and the environment.
- Waratah Super Battery: one of the largest batteries in the world finished construction in October 2024 and is undergoing final testing.
- Hunter Transmission Project: appointed Transgrid as the preferred network operator.
- New England REZ: launched a registration of interest process for a network operator for the new transmission line.
- Illawarra REZ: announced as an urban renewable zone focusing on local energy solutions.
- Broken Hill: The Silver City Energy Storage Centre has received planning approval. It will transform a mine site into a first-of-its-kind compressed air energy storage system.
- Secured Australian Government support for 3.7 gigawatts of renewable generation in the Capacity Investment Scheme, in the Central-West Orana, New England and South-West REZs.
- Committed \$115.5 million to build the Newcastle Logistics Precinct, a critical new hub to manage the movement of large renewable components.

Cost-of-living support

The Government has responded to the financial burden confronting NSW households arising from a unique range of circumstances that have placed cost-of-living pressure on household budgets.

This Budget provides cost-of-living support to households in 2025-26, including:

- an extension of the National Energy Bill Relief Fund of \$150 to the electricity bills of all households and eligible small businesses from 1 July 2025 to the end of 2025 – delivered by the NSW Government with Australian Government funding
- increased battery discount from 1 July 2025 through the Cheaper Homes Batteries Program (administered by the Australian Government)
- double the current incentive from 1 July 2025 through the Virtual Power Plant scheme.

Box 3.4: Toll reform

Since January 2024, NSW motorists have saved \$139 million through the Government's \$60 toll cap scheme. However, toll costs continue to contribute to cost-of-living pressure for NSW households.

Acknowledging significant reform is highly complex and will take time, the 2025-26 Budget commits funding that can be used over the next five years to continue supporting important toll reform initiatives and restore fairness, simplicity and transparency.

This includes \$15.4 million allocated in 2025-26 to the stand-up of NSW Motorways to spearhead the reform, and the provision of \$9.8 million over five years for the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal to facilitate its ongoing toll price monitoring role and improve transparency for motorists.

The 2025-26 Budget also provides funding for continuation of initiatives such as motorist improvements, and \$9.4 million to continue the Government's negotiations with private toll operators to secure a better deal for drivers.

Effective public services

This Budget invests in the public service to make it more efficient and effective, including:

- \$104.1 million for the Government Technology Platform operating model to deliver cost-effective, reusable and secure digital platforms products and services for all NSW Government entities
- \$160.4 million for the Shared Services Optimisation (GovConnect onboarding) program which consolidates multiple Shared Services Hubs within a single ERP platform and service model to support more than 100 agencies across eight NSW Government departments servicing more than 81,000 staff
- \$87.7 million for Cyber Security NSW's work with NSW Government entities to prevent, detect and recover from cyber incidents
- \$46.8 million for All-of-Government Communication Services, providing governance and policy guidance for advertising, as well as government's largest shared communication and engagement channels
- \$5.6 million over two years to support the Government's Workforce Mobility Placement program, supporting the attraction, retention and redeployment of skilled public servants, ensuring talent remains within the public sector
- \$2.6 million to recruit and train additional legislative drafters, allowing the Parliamentary Counsel's Office to support the delivery of the NSW Government's legislative program

- \$1.3 million to expand the team reviewing Unsolicited Proposals, providing capacity to receive and execute complex commercial proposals that unlock innovative ideas and solutions.

3.4 Growth opportunities for our State

Productivity growth has declined in New South Wales since the early 1990s. When productivity growth is low, the economy slows, putting downward pressure on wage growth and living standards.

Higher productivity supports higher wages, and better public services. Rising productivity depends on a culture of adaptability and innovation. Businesses and individuals, through their efforts to innovate, create new products, improve processes and adopt new technologies, are the main forces behind increasing productivity.

The Government's role in increasing productivity involves investing in infrastructure, education and regulatory reforms, as well as focusing on the efficiency of government services.

Investments in productivity-enhancing infrastructure will continue to directly underpin the State's economic growth opportunities while helping to increase overall living standards. The Government also continues to invest significantly in emerging technology, water infrastructure, planning reforms and other opportunities to increase the capacity of the economy to respond to future challenges.

The 2025-26 Budget maintains the Government's focus on investing in key enablers of economic growth to support the State's ongoing commitment to productivity and income growth, and delivering a more diversified and sustainable economy that is able to adapt to future opportunities and challenges.

Innovation and emerging technology

By investing and delivering new, innovative and clean technologies, the State is investing in a diversified and agile economy, alongside traditional sectors, such as manufacturing, agriculture and finance.

To support and unlock the State's future economic growth, the new Investment Delivery Authority has been established to run an expression of interest to identify investment proposals and clear barriers to major investments valued at over \$1 billion (see Box 3.5 for more information).

The Government is investing in the development of the innovation ecosystem, making New South Wales the best place to innovate. The NSW Government's \$79.2 million Innovation Blueprint package is designed to support innovative businesses to connect with investors and researchers, and to scale opportunities to drive economic growth. Measures include:

- \$38.5 million investment in Tech Central including the relocation of the Sydney Startup Hub and an enhanced collaboration hub at the centre of NSW's innovation ecosystem
- \$20.0 million over four years for the Emerging Technology Commercialisation Fund, including the BioSciences Fund and Physical Sciences Fund, to support NSW businesses to commercialise research into marketable products and services
- \$6.0 million over three years to establish the Innovative Manufacturing Adoption Fund, supporting NSW-based businesses to diversify and expand manufacturing capabilities through the use of innovative technologies
- \$6.0 million to continue the Minimum Viable Product Ventures Program, supporting businesses to increase the commercialisation of innovative products
- \$4.0 million to establish the Diversity Pre-accelerator Program supporting founders from diverse backgrounds with tools to develop their business models and secure seed investment

- \$2.0 million over two years for the Housing Innovation Network to connect researchers, start-ups and industry to support the delivery of housing through new technologies and applied research
- \$2.0 million to establish a Housing Innovation in Construction program to support the delivery of housing by introducing innovative solutions such as industrialised construction facilities and advanced manufacturing processes
- \$700,000 for the extension of the National Space Industry Hub, supporting the growth of the space sector in New South Wales with targeted infrastructure, mentorship and connections to global partnerships and supply chains.

The NSW Government is also introducing a critical minerals royalty deferral scheme to support new mining projects, attract additional investment to regional areas and support the development of an industry segment crucial to the energy transition.

Box 3.5: Investment Delivery Authority

The NSW Government is committed to lifting productivity and encouraging more private investment in New South Wales. To assist in unlocking the State's future economic growth, the Government is creating a new Investment Delivery Authority (IDA). The Authority has two clear objectives, to:

- identify and clear barriers to major private investment projects
- advise on broader system reforms that promote investment, competition and support productivity in New South Wales.

The IDA will draw on the success and lessons from the Housing Delivery Authority and Housing Taskforce, helping to resolve delays that arise from the planning system and reduce project uncertainty.

The IDA will advise the Treasurer, Minister for Planning and Minister for Industry and Trade on planning support and options for non-planning support to remove barriers to major non-residential projects selected through an expression of interest process. It will also identify system-wide reforms to remove barriers to investment, competition and productivity in New South Wales.

Projects eligible for consideration by the IDA must demonstrate capability to commence development quickly, be aligned with the Government's priorities and have capital investment values above \$1 billion.

Tourism and the arts

The Government is also investing in tourism, the arts and the night-time economy, including additional funding of:

- \$280.6 million for Screen NSW to support the Made in NSW and Post, Digital and Visual Effects Rebate programs
- \$135.0 million for Destination NSW events, promotion and industry support to grow the NSW visitor economy
- \$100 million capital funding to locate a new screen production space
- \$20.6 million for the Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner to support the night-time economy and local councils through regulatory reform, precinct-based initiatives and other support
- \$20.0 million for Sound NSW to implement the NSW Contemporary Music Strategy through grants programs, capacity-building initiatives and regulatory reform to strengthen the NSW music industry.