

VISIT BASE PACK

Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) – Gregory electorate

Building our Regions / Works for Queensland projects				
Building our Regions	Jobs		Funding	
	14.5		\$3.01M	
<u>Works for Queensland</u>	Since 2016, BRC has received \$5.65M for 36 projects, supporting 171 jobs. 25 projects are complete.			
<u>Completed projects, include:-</u>	Funding round	No of projects	Act Jobs	Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$350,000 Aramac showground amenities • \$300,000 Muttaborrasaurus interpretation center internal fit out • \$300,000 Barcaldine waste landfill stage 2 • \$165,000 The Globe Tower • \$125,000 Oak Street footpath 	2016-17	7	61.0	\$1.15M
	2017-19	6	52.0	\$1.13M
<u>Current projects, include:-</u>	2019-21	7	27.0	\$1.14M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$600,000 - Barcaldine sewerage treatment plant • \$500,000 Barcaldine swimming pool upgrade • \$100,000 splash pad and shade • \$50,000 Aramac caravan park and showground upgrade 	2020-21	4	16.0	\$1.11M
	COVID Rnd			
	2021-24	12	15.0	\$1.12M
	Total	36	171	\$5.65M
Major Roads/Transport				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.665M Barcaldine-Aramac Road pavement rehabilitation works completed November 2021 – fully funded by QG • \$5.25M for Barcaldine-Aramac Road widening completed December 2021 - jointly funded as part of the Road Safety Program Tranche 2 (\$4.2M AG; \$1.05M QG) • \$4.572M to widen 6.4 kms of Barcaldine-Aramac Road - jointly funded (\$3.658M AG; \$914,000 QG) • \$5.1M Barcaldine-Aramac Road widen narrow seal – completion expected by end June 2022 – jointly funded by AG (\$4.08M) and QG (\$1.02M) under Tranche 3 of the Road Safety Program • \$1.255M to widen 2.5 kilometres of the Barcaldine-Aramac Road – construction expected to begin mid-2022 – fully funded by QG under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme • \$9.65M Capricorn Highway (Emerald – Alpha) widening works – completion expected late-2022 – fully funded by the Queensland Government. 				
Education				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five schools in the Barcaldine Regional Council area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 have had almost \$1.1M of major infrastructure work ○ all schools have air conditioning and solar panels 				
Health				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned \$2.36M corridor flooring replacement for Barcaldine Hospital, expected to generate 7 jobs during construction will commence 30 June 2022 and is expected to be finalised by 30 June 2023. • \$0.83M upgrade to water treatment plant at Barcaldine Hospital multi-purpose health service - completed 30 March 2021. 				

**Barcaldine (Outback Queensland region)
Travelling Issues Briefs Index
2 May 2022**

1. Outback Queensland Region Profile

2. Government Achievements – Outback Queensland Region

3. Election Commitments – Outback Queensland Region

4. Building our Regions and Works for Queensland

5. 2021-22 Budget Regional Action Plan

LOCAL BRIEFS

6. Australian Worker’s Heritage Centre

7. Barcaldine Renewable Energy Zone

8. Drought Assistance and Water Supply

- Barcaldine has been drought declared since 2014

9. Housing – Outback Queensland

- By 30 June 2025, construction of 98 new social homes will commence in the Outback Queensland region. Planned investment is \$45.3M, supporting more than 141 jobs.

REGIONAL BRIEFS

10. COVID-19 – Economic Recovery

- \$131,787 in grants paid to 15 businesses
- \$5.65M for 36 Works for Qld projects supporting 171 jobs with 25 projects completed

11. COVID-19 – Tourism Support and Recovery

- Barcaldine Regional Council projects supported include:
 - Freedom Parks in Aramac, Jericho and Muttaborra to cater for self-sufficient parkers
 - Murra Kumbee Yambangku – Hands Sharing On Country Together
 - Dinosaur Dreaming Trail
 - Extension to the Australian Workers Heritage Centre
 - The Fringe Camp @ The Dolly – delivering an immersive “Desert Mob” experience

12. Health Overview – Central West Hospital and Health Service

- \$0.83M upgrade to water treatment plant at Barcaldine Hospital multi-purpose health service - completed 30 March 2021
- Planned \$2.36M corridor flooring replacement for Barcaldine Hospital, expected to generate 7 jobs during construction will commence 30 June 2022 and is expected to be finalised by 30 June 2023.

**Barcaldine (Outback Queensland region)
Travelling Issues Briefs Index
2 May 2022**

13. Policing and Youth Crime – Capricornia Police District

- 16% increase in offences
- 34% decrease in the number of proven offences
- 150% increase in number of distinct 10-17-year-old offenders

** small number involved exaggerate the percentage difference*

14. Road and Transport Upgrades – Barcaldine

- \$5.665M Barcaldine-Aramac Road pavement rehabilitation works completed November 2021 – fully funded by QG
- \$5.25M for Barcaldine-Aramac Road widening completed December 2021 - jointly funded as part of the Road Safety Program Tranche 2 (\$4.2M AG; \$1.05M QG)
- \$4.572M to widen 6.4 kms of Barcaldine-Aramac Road - jointly funded (\$3.658M AG; \$914,000 QG)
- \$5.1M Barcaldine-Aramac Road widen narrow seal – completion expected by end June 2022 – jointly funded by AG (\$4.08M) and QG (\$1.02M) under Tranche 3 of the Road Safety Program
- \$1.255M to widen 2.5 kilometres of the Barcaldine-Aramac Road – construction expected to begin mid-2022 – fully funded by QG under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme
- \$9.65M Capricorn Highway (Emerald – Alpha) widening works – completion expected late-2022 – fully funded by the Queensland Government.

15. Proposed Deviation to Rockhampton to Longreach Long-Distance Coach Route

16. Schools Overview

- Five schools in the Barcaldine Regional Council area
 - 3 have had almost \$1.1M of major infrastructure work
 - all schools have air conditioning and solar panels

REGION PROFILE	OUTBACK QUEENSLAND
ELECTORATE	SITTING MEMBER
Cook	Ms Cynthia Lui (ALP)
Gregory	Mr Lachlan Millar (LNP)
Traeger	Mr Robbie Katter (KAP)
Warrego	Ms Ann Leahy (LNP)

Queensland Government FTEs		2021	2015
Doctors	Cairns & Hinterland HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	695.27	450.65
Nurses		2562.25	1,960.71
Other health professionals		797.78	500.77
Doctors	Central West HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	21.21	16.10
Nurses		149.65	144.39
Other health professionals		33.26	18.60
Doctors	North West HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	68.31	47.00
Nurses		349.68	282.37
Other health professionals		63.90	44.57
Doctors	South West HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	29.10	22.83
Nurses		368.77	309.21
Other health professionals		79.68	56.30
Doctors	Townsville HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	742.48	595.70
Nurses		2415.53	2,160.14
Other health professionals		802.63	581.02
Ambulance officers	<i>source: PSC supplied MOHRI data</i>	90.30	73.89
Police officers		307.09	292.09
Fire officers		45.80	22.00
Teachers		738.40	662.61
Teacher aides		202.81	213.42

Employment – annual rate change	2022 (Feb)	2015 (Feb)
Queensland employment	4.2%	1.6%
Queensland – Outback employment (SA4)	-2.8%	10.1%
Unemployment Rate		
Queensland unemployment	4.3%	6.5%
Queensland - Outback unemployment (SA4)	9.5%	5.5%
Queensland youth unemployment	10.4%	14.1%
Queensland - Outback youth unemployment (SA4)	33.8%	17.7%

Employment by industry (2016 census)	Number	Percent
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3,501	15.1%
Mining	3,325	14.3%
Public administration and safety	2,379	10.2%
Health care and social assistance	2,243	9.6%
Education and training	1,918	8.3%

	Queensland	OQ Region
Median age (estimated as at 30 June 2020)	37.8 years	35.3 years
Population (estimated as at 30 June 2020)	5,176,186	47,936
Crime rate (per 100,000 persons) 2020-21	9,154	25,472

Tourism (Dec 2021)	Tourism Region	Visitors	Expenditure
Domestic tourism	Outback	933,000	\$596.2M
International tourism	Queensland	not published	not published

ECONOMIC PROFILE

Budget 2021-22	Outback Queensland
Infrastructure	\$770M
<u>Community wellbeing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social housing 	
<u>Utilities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glenore Weir Stabilisation Fred Haigh pump station electro-mechanical overhaul Mount Isa City Council supply – diesel backup for portable water system 	
<u>Transport and roads</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aramac – Torrens Creek Road, pave and seal Cloncurry – Dajarra Road, widen and seal Flinders Highway (Julia Creek – Cloncurry), Scrubby Creek Kennedy Developmental Road (The Lynd – Hughenden), progressive sealing Mount Isa to Rockhampton corridor upgrade – funding commitment 	
<u>Government services</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eromanga Natural History Museum Paroo Civic, Community and Enterprise Centre Project Unmanned Aerial Systems flight test range 	
<u>Recreation and culture</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Henry Memorial Oval Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program Mount Isa Family Fun Precinct Redevelopment – Stage 2 Outback Rail Adventure 	

Budget 2021-22	Outback Queensland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Globe Tourist Lookout – Barcaldine • The Fringe Camp – Barcaldine • Mornington Shire Civic Centre Project • Carpentaria Tyre Recycling Project • Talaroo Hot Springs tours and accommodation • Gallipoli Park upgrade 	
Health	\$467.3M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cunnamulla Hospital - decommission operating theatre and provide single ward rooms • Windorah Primary Health Care Centre – replacement of existing facility • Hughenden Hospital – electrical infrastructure upgrades • Mornington Island Hospital – staff accommodation and replacement air conditioning • Normanton Hospital – hydraulics upgrade • Aramac Primary Health Care Centre • Longreach Hospital – improve facilities • Barcaldine Hospital – improve facilities • Augathella Multi-purpose Health Service – fire system upgrade 	
Education	\$16.6M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloncurry State School – upgrade skills development and training facilities • Sunset State School – upgrade to amenities block • Longreach State High School – upgrade skills development and training facilities • Spinifex State College – Mount Isa – senior campus 	
Total jobs supported in this region	2,800

	Jobs	Funding		
Building our Regions (Rounds 1-5) (30 Sep 2021)				
Outback Queensland region	283.1	\$51.04M		
Works for Queensland (Summary) – Outback Queensland region (28 Feb 2022)				
2019-21 Rnd	1,130.0	\$27.80M		
2020-21 Covid Rnd	663.0	\$26.33M		
2021-24 Rnd	154.0	\$27.03M		
Back to Work (Total across all programs – 31 Mar 2022)		Employers	Jobs	Funding
Initial Back to work (closed 30 Jun 2021)		320	767	\$7.44M
Revitalised Back to Work (31 Jan 2022)		12	9	\$66,375
Skilling Queenslanders for Work (31 Mar 2022)		Jobs	Funding	
Total Projects		410	\$8.05M	

Local Government	Mayor
Barcaldine Regional Council	Cr Sean Dillon
Barcoo Shire Council	Cr Sally O'Neil
Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	Cr Andrew Martin
Boulia Shire Council	Cr Rick Britton
Bulloo Shire Council	Cr John Ferguson
Burke Shire Council	Cr Ernie Camp
Carpentaria Shire Council	Cr Jack Bawden
Cloncurry Shire Council	Cr Greg Campbell
Croydon Shire Council	Cr Trevor Pickering
Diamantina Shire Council	Cr Robbie Dare
Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	Cr Jason Ned
Etheridge Shire Council	Cr Barry Hughes
Flinders Shire Council	Cr Jane McNamara
Longreach Regional Council	Cr Tony Rayner
McKinlay Shire Council	Cr Philip Curr
Mornington Shire Council	Cr Kyle Yanner
Mount Isa City Council	Cr Danielle Slade
Murweh Shire Council	Cr Shaun Radnedge
Paroo Shire Council	Cr Suzette Beresford
Quilpie Shire Council	Cr Stuart Mackenzie
Richmond Shire Council	Cr John Wharton
Winton Shire Council	Cr Gavin Baskett

PREVIOUS VISITS

Since 2015, the Government has:

- held off-site Cabinet meetings, with receptions, in Longreach and Mt Isa

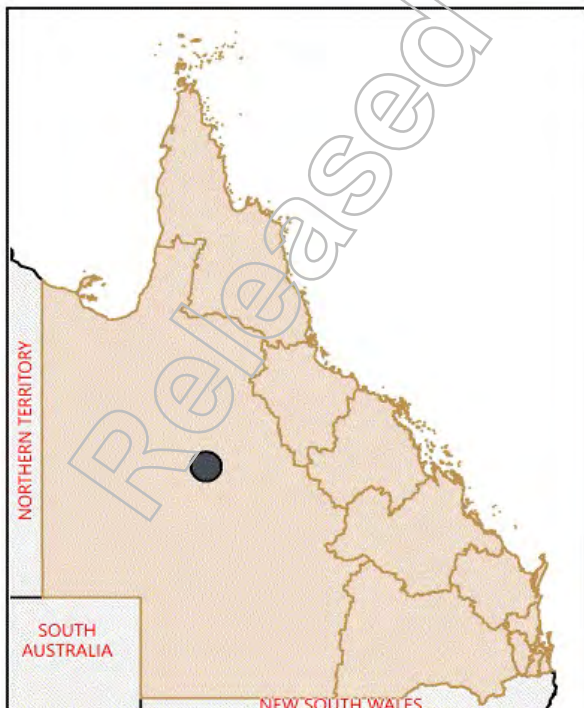
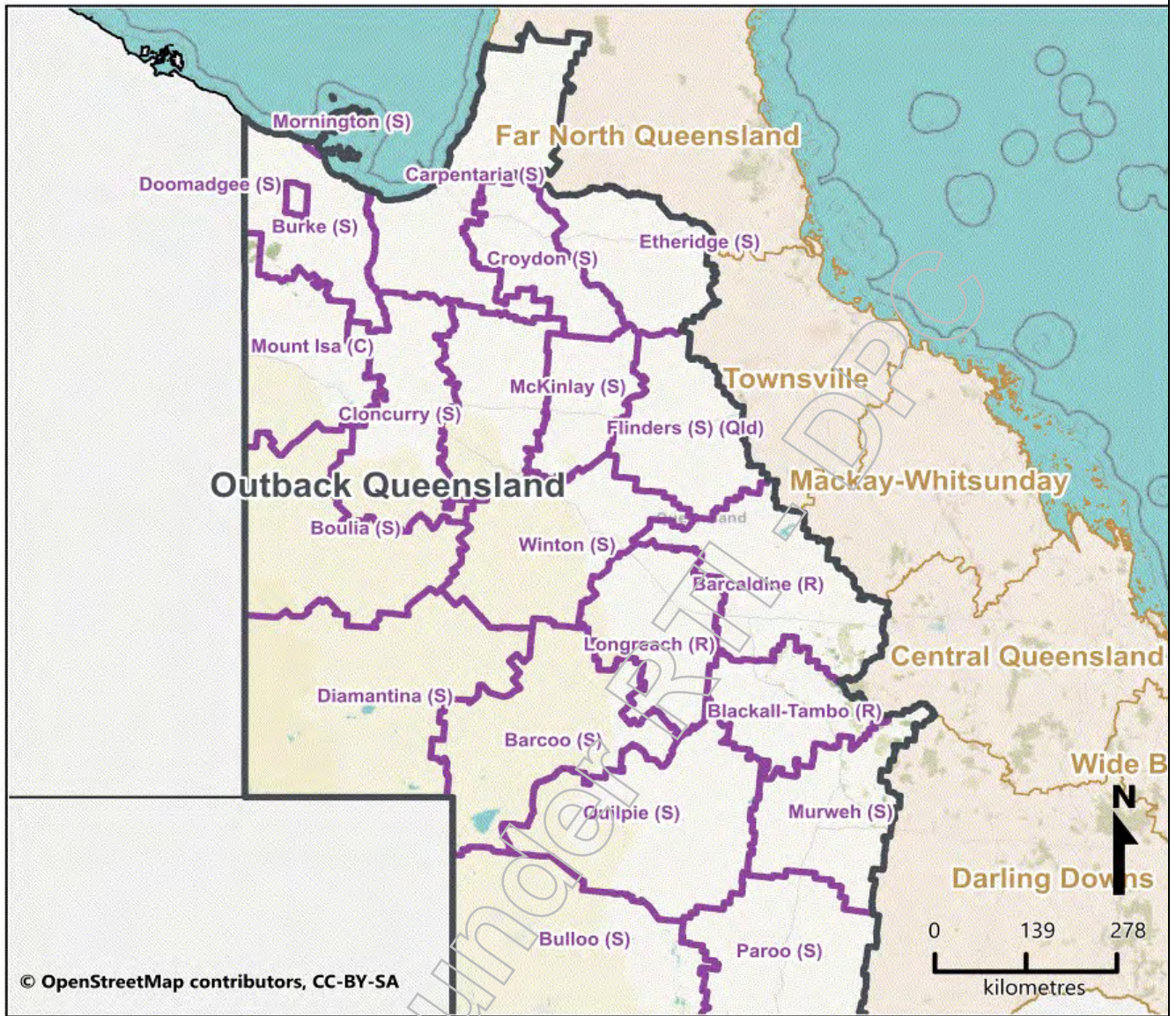
DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
2 – 4 May 2021	Barcaldine / Longreach	<p>Regional Visit and Off-site Cabinet meeting</p> <p>Barcaldine – attended Labour Day march and activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Australian Workers Heritage Centre extension <p>Longreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off site Cabinet meeting at Qantas Founder Museum • host Qld Government Community Reception at Australian Stockmans Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre • visit Longreach saleyards • visit ABC Western Qld • attend Thomson River sunset cruise and Smithy's Outback Dinner and Show. Western Queensland

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
23 – 24 June 2020	Longreach / Barcaldine	Regional Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting and media conference, Outback Tourism Support Package • meeting with RAPAD Mayors, Economic Recovery • meeting Stockman’s Hall of Fame, Outback Tourism Support package • visit Longreach Library, Works for Queensland program • meet with Editor, The Longreach Leader • visit QANTAS Founders Museum • dinner meeting with local councillors and QANTAS representative • meeting and media conference, Grants for Cluster Fencing • visit Works for Queensland projects = Barcaldine Recreation Park and Oak Street upgrades • teleconference with Cabinet ministers, local government mayors, and Chief Health Officer re coronavirus • lunch meeting with Mayor Barcaldine Regional Council and other council representatives • visit Australian Workers Heritage Centre, Outback Tourism • visit Tree of Knowledge, Outback Tourism
18-19 November 2019	Mount Isa	Off-site Cabinet meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visit Mt Isa Train Station • meet with local MP and representative from Mona Horsemanship Program • host Qld Government Community Reception • attend North West Mineral Province Summit
20 February 2019	Julia Creek	Regional Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • morning tea with Queensland Country Women’s Association members • meet with Mayors of McKinlay and Richmond shire councils • inspect flood damage
7 February 2019	Cloncurry	Regional Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet with Mayor and councillors, Cloncurry Shire Council • inspect flood damage
10 October 2018	Blackall	Regional Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visit saleyards • inspect Wild Cluster Dog Fencing • meet with Mayor, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council and Country Women’s Association Blackall branch members
20 April 2018	Winton	Regional Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attend opening of Waltzing Matilda Centre • attend Waltzing Matilda Luncheon • attend Winton Way Out West Festival

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
24 January 2018	Longreach, Ilfracombe	<p>Regional Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with Mayor of Longreach Regional Council (LRC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – visit Longreach Weir – visit Ilfracombe Bore and Dam – visit Wellshot Hotel
11 August 2017	Mount Isa	<p>Regional Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attend Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo official opening ceremony with state and federal members of parliament, US Consul-General and President of Mount Isa Mines Rodeo Organising Committee • helipad sod turn and site tour of Children and Maternity Wards of Mount Isa hospital • visit the Desert Border Aboriginal Art Exhibition • attend community afternoon tea • attend Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo • attend Thoroughbred Day event
16 January 2017	Longreach	<p>Regional Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet with Mayor and councillors, LRC • inspect Wild Dog Fence Construction Site • meet with Advance Queensland Community Digital Champion, Mayor LRC and Outback Queensland regional tourism operators
30 April – 2 May 2016	Barcaldine	<p>Regional visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with Executive Chair, Eromanga Natural History Museum and Mayor, Quilpie Shire Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – view Knotosaurus art installation and participate in sod turning of the new park – visit Eromanga Natural History Museum and view new facility for tourists • with Mayor, Barcaldine Regional Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – attend the Tree of Knowledge Cup horse races – attend Barcaldine goat races • attend Australian Workers' Union dinner to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Shearers' Strike with former Prime Minister the Hon Bob Hawke AC • visit the Australian Workers' Heritage Centre • visit Dunblane Station • attend the Shearers Stands Memorial unveiling • attend the dedication ceremony for "Mr Kevin O'Leary – A True Believer" • attend Under the Tree meet and greet • attend the 125th anniversary dinner of the 1891 Shearers' Strike

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attend the shearers' re-enactment, "The Torchlight March" 125 years official ceremony attend the Labor Day march
21-22 March 2016	Mount Isa	<p>Working Queensland Cabinet Committee meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community meet and greet with Member for Mt Isa visit Laura Johnson Home
21-22 January 2016	Windorah, Longreach	<p>Regional visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> visit Rotherfield Station meet with Mayor and councillors, LRC meet with Mayor and Councillors, Barcoo Shire Council meet with Windorah business owners
7-8 August 2015	Mount Isa	<p>Regional visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meet with Mayor, Mount Isa City Council and Mr Robbie Katter MP, Member for Mount Isa meet with Gulf Savannah Development Inc with regional mayors and local member meet with local Department of Communities staff meet with CEO Glencore-Mount Isa Mines along with local mayor and local MP open and attend Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo events meet with Tennant Creek Mount Isa Alliance representatives
26 -27 May 2015	Winton	<p>Regional visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meet with the Outback Queensland Tourism Association Board hold Regional Mayors roundtable meeting attend Outback Tourism Brand Launch
21-22 April 2015	Charleville, Longreach and Murweh	<p>Regional visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meet with Wallal Station, Arundal Station and Dunblane Station owners regarding drought and agricultural related issues meet with Mayors Murweh and Paroo shire councils meet with Mayor, Murweh Shire Council to announce construction of Angellala Creek bridge visit local Charleville and District Healthy Ageing Program visit Charleville State High School meet with teachers and students from the School of Distance Education meet with Deputy Mayor, Barcaldine Regional Council attend community event regarding 125 year anniversary of the shearers strike

MAP – Outback Queensland region



LEGEND

-  Selected RAP
-  Component LGAs
-  Neighbouring RAPs

Map features

-  City/Town
-  Main road
-  Railway
-  Park
-  Waterway

Achievements – Western Queensland

HEALTH

- **\$7.9M** - Longreach Hospital's medical imaging and mechanical services upgrade, included a new medical imaging unit for new CT scanner equipment, a new maternity unit and a new day surgery unit and upgrades to the emergency department, nurse call, medical gas and air-conditioning systems, completed November 2018.
- **\$20.1M** – Blackall Hospital Redevelopment – generated 60 jobs during construction, construction of the new Blackall Hospital and General Practice to support the delivery of contemporary, flexible models of care, completed 20 October 2020, officially opened 20 November 2020.
- **\$7.43M** – Boulia Refurbishment and Mechanical upgrade – generated 21 jobs during construction, completed 6 July 2020.
- **\$4.2M** – Aramac Primary Healthcare Centre – generated 13 jobs during construction, replaced the Aramac Hospital with a Primary Healthcare Centre, completed 14 March 2018.
- **\$1.8M** – Longreach Hospital – replacement of generator and switchboard, completed 12 November 2021, generated 5 jobs during construction.
- **\$0.8M** – Barcaldine Hospital – replace and refurbish the water treatment plant and equipment at the multi-purpose health service. Generated 2 jobs during construction and was completed on 30 March 2021.
- **\$0.6M** – Longreach Hospital – install new water tanks and install a water treatment plant. Generated 2 jobs during construction and was completed on 30 March 2021.
- **\$0.4M** – Barcaldine Hospital – replace fire indication panel and emergency warning and intercom system that services the hospital, staff accommodation and private practice. Generated one job during construction and completed on 28 March 2019.

EDUCATION / TAFE

- **\$661,507** – Alpha State School includes covered learning area, completed in 2017; replacement of amenities on the oval and Block B external stairs – both completed by June 2018

- **\$393,306** – Barcaldine Prep-12 State School – refurbish special education rooms, completed 2020
- **\$20,293** – Jericho State School – disability access upgrade, completed November 2021
- **\$318,102** – Ilfracombe State School - replace amenities, completed 2018
- **\$1.22M** – Longreach State High School – includes refurbishment of science rooms, completed 2019, and learning centre (library), completed June 2019
- **\$457,354** – Longreach State School – replace the amenities block, completed August 2021

ROADS

- **\$416.2M** of transport and roads infrastructure investment in the **Central West** district, including:
 - **\$15.487M** Barcaldine – Aramac Road – rehabilitate and widen pavement – about 20km of the Barcaldine-Aramac Road has been gradually widened to improve travelling conditions – completed in three stages:
 - \$5.5M (fully funded QG) Pavement Rehabilitation Project widened about 6.5km of the road 42km north of Barcaldine - started in January 2021, completed in November 2021.
 - \$4.572M (80 AG : 20 QG) rehabilitate and widen – widening 6.4km of the road 36km north of Barcaldine – started in February 2021, completed June 2021; and
 - \$5.25M (80 AG : 20 QG) widen and rehabilitate – almost 7km of the road about 30 km north of Barcaldine – started in September 2021, completed in December 2021.
 - **\$3.01M** (80 AG : 20 QG) Clermont – Alpha Road, progressive sealing – almost 5km of Clermont – Alpha Road has been sealed to a width of 8m, improving safety, efficiency and wet weather access for all road users – construction started November 2020 and was completed in August 2021.
 - Clermont – Alpha Road, 2018–19 pave and seal (Package 2), completed in 2019 (jointly funded by the Federal and State governments)

- Landsborough Highway (Blackall – Barcaldine), Barcaldine south rehabilitation and widening, completed in 2018 (jointly funded by the Federal and State governments)
- Landsborough Highway (Longreach – Winton), Dingo Creek to Darr River, completed in 2020 (jointly funded by the Federal and State governments).
- \$4.5M Birdsville Developmental Road (Morney-Birdsville), pave and seal (\$3.6M AG; \$900,000 QG) – completed November 2021
- \$4M Blackall-Jericho Road, pave and seal - Stage 2 (\$3.2M AG; \$800,000 QG) completed March 2022
- \$6M Landsborough Highway (Winton – Kynuna) (Section 2) – (\$4.8M AG; \$1.2M QG) - completed December 2021
- \$5.39M Richmond-Winton Road (\$4.312M AG; \$1.078M QG) – completed September 2021

TOURISM

- \$2.2M – Australian Worker's Heritage Centre Grant – for an extension to the centre with a new entrance building and facilities including a café/restaurant, retail and a children's activity area. Opened on 2 May 2021.
- \$10M Outback Tourism Infrastructure Fund projects:
 - \$871,317 in the Barcaldine Regional Council area
 - \$471,217 – Freedom Parks in Aramac, Jericho and Muttaburra
 - \$400,000 – Murra Kumbee Yambangku – Hands Sharing On Country Together
 - \$1.846M in the Longreach Regional Council area
 - \$336,000 – Super Constellation Interior Construction and Display Area
 - \$510,000 – 5-star Eco lodges
 - \$1M – Outback Rail Adventure

WORKS FOR QLD

- Summary of funding for projects within the Outback Queensland region

Funding round	Outback Queensland Region	
	No of projects	Funding
WFQ 2016-17	142	\$27.96M
WFQ 2017-19	132	\$27.63M
WFQ 2019-21	109	\$27.80M
2020-21 COVID-19	122	\$26.33M
WFQ 2021-24	90	\$27.03M
Total	595	\$136.75M

Funding round	Barcaldine Regional Council		
	No of projects	Act Jobs	Funding
WFQ 2016-17	7	61.0	\$1.15M
WFQ 2017-19	6	52.0	\$1.13M
WFQ 2019-21	7	27.0	\$1.14M
2020-21 COVID-19	4	16.0	\$1.11M
WFQ 2021-24	12	15.0	\$1.12M
Total	36	171.0	\$5.65M

Funding round	Longreach Regional Council		
	No of projects	Act Jobs	No of projects
WFQ 2016-17	8	103.0	\$1.22M
WFQ 2017-19	8	149.0	\$1.20M
WFQ 2019-21	11	146.0	\$1.19M
2020-21 COVID-19	8	41.0	\$1.12M
WFQ 2021-24	2	16.0	\$1.12M
Total	37	455.0	\$5.85M

Election Commitments – Western Queensland

2020 Election Commitments

- The implementation status of 19 commitments, within Western Queensland, as at 30 September 2021, is:

Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet

Electorate	2020 Election Commitments	Status as at 30 Sep 2021	Commitment also delivered in other regions
ROADS			
Traeger Gregory	\$9.994 million for routine maintenance of the Kennedy Developmental Road between Hughenden and Winton	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	
EDUCATION			
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	\$12 million over four years to expand the remote kindy program to include an extra 20 state schools at least 40km from the nearest approved Kindergarten Program Provider	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓
Gregory	\$500,000 to replace the existing amenities block at Longreach State School		
Gregory	\$2.6M for an automotive training facility kitted with necessary equipment to deliver both practical and theoretical learning at Longreach State High School		
HEALTH			
Gregory Traeger	\$27.8M for 33 renal dialysis treatment spaces in regional Queensland at Proserpine, Clermont, Charters Towers, Ingham and Longreach hospitals, and at the Cooktown Multipurpose Health Service and Kowanyama Primary Health Care Centre	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓

Electorate	2020 Election Commitments	Status as at 30 Sep 2021	Commitment also delivered in other regions	
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	\$490,000 over four years to extend the HIV self-testing project for people living in regional Queensland	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓	
Cook Gregory Traeger	Work with the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and other stakeholders to design and implement a trial of pharmacists practising to their full scope in North Queensland			✓
COMMUNITY and RECREATION				
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	COUNTRY RACING \$35.2 million for Country Racing over 2 years from July 2021 to June 2023 which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – \$15 million per year for prize money – \$2.6 million per year for maintenance of racetracks 	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓	
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	Establish a new ten year partnership agreement with the Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) and a \$20 million capital grant to the RFDS towards a new base and hangar in Townsville			✓
Gregory	Determine the future of the Longreach Agricultural Training College in consultation with the Remote Area Planning and Development Board Mayors.			
Cook Gregory Traeger	Review the final Australian Competition and Consumer Commission report on insurance in northern Australia, and consult with northern Queensland businesses and the community on an appropriate response			✓
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	Work with the LGAQ on finalising an agreed Bush Councils Compact			✓

Electorate	2020 Election Commitments	Status as at 30 Sep 2021	Commitment also delivered in other regions
ENVIRONMENT			
Gregory Traeger Warrego	Establish a Lake Eyre Basin (Qld) Stakeholder Advisory Group including Traditional Owners, industry bodies, environment groups, local government, scientific experts and government departments to inform the development of a consultation Regulatory Impact Statement for the proposed Lake Eyre Basin Framework	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	
Gregory Traeger Warrego	Following the establishment of the Lake Eyre Basin (Qld) Stakeholder Advisory Group, release the Independent Expert Scientific Panel report and CSIRO's Assessment of scientific knowledge of shale gas and shale oil potential impacts report		
FUNDING			
Cook Gregory Traeger	Conduct a review of funding arrangements for Indigenous Councils including the State Government Financial Aid rate of funding and the Revenue Replacement Program and Indigenous Economic Development Grant	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓
TOURISM / INDUSTRY			
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	Promote and support businesses in regional Queensland providing side-by-side vehicle recreation opportunities on private land	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	REBUILDING QUEENSLAND TOURISM \$15 million for a Regional Tourism Organisation Recovery fund to provide a special one-off funding injection to regional tourism organisations		

Electorate	2020 Election Commitments	Status as at 30 Sep 2021	Commitment also delivered in other regions
AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT			
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	Identify Queensland agricultural seasonal workforce needs and immediately implement local solutions that connect agribusinesses with relevant and appropriate workforce solutions	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓
WORKS FOR QUEENSLAND			
Cook Gregory Traeger Warrego	Keeping Queensland Working \$400 million over six years to continue Works for Queensland in 65 council areas with each eligible regional council to receive two rounds of \$1 million, with the rest of the money to be allocated according to population and unemployment	Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(a) Submitted to Cabinet	✓

Released under RTI
DPC

Building our Regions and Works for Queensland

Building our Regions – Western Queensland region

- As at 30 September 2021, under Rounds 1-5, the Western Queensland region received \$12.9M for 24 projects with a total project cost of \$24.8M.
- Applications for Round 6 Planning projects have closed. Announcements are expected mid-2022.
- Shortlisted construction project applications close 17 May 2022.
- Funding received by the regional councils (RC) and shire councils (SC) in the region, which all fall in the electorate of Gregory, include:

Building our Regions (Rounds 1-5)		
(12 January 2021)	Jobs	Funding
Barcaldine RC (BRC)	14.5	\$3.010M
Barcoo SC (Barcoo)	5.5	\$499,000
Blackall-Tambo RC (BTRC)	9.6	\$1.857M
Boulia SC (Boulia)	9.0	\$2.429M
Diamantina SC (DSC)	8.8	\$1.690M
Longreach RC (LRC)	20.8	\$2.942M
Winton SC (WSC)	9.3	\$500,000
TOTAL	77.5	\$12.927M

Building our Regions projects (Rounds 1-5) within BRC

Rd	Project	Approved Funding	Total Cost	Jobs (Est)	Project Stage
02	Aramac aquatic centre	\$987,312	\$1,999,623	6.2	completed 3/5/2019
03	Barcaldine recreation park – stage 2	\$250,000	\$500,000	1.5	completed 12/3/2021
03	Barcaldine racecourse upgrade	\$273,000	\$546,289	1.6	completed 20/4/2018
05	The Globe Precinct tourist lookout - Barcaldine	\$1,500,000	\$1,580,000	5.2	Exp completion TBC
		\$3,010,312	\$4,625,912	14.5	

Works for Queensland – Western Queensland region

- Since 2016, through Works for Queensland the Outback Queensland region has received **\$136.75M for 595 projects** supporting around **4686 jobs**; to date **494 projects are now complete**.
- For the same period:
 - Western Queensland received **\$37.6M for 204 projects** supporting around **1473 jobs** – to date **167 projects are complete**; and specifically
 - **Barcaldine Regional Council** has received **\$5.65M for 36 projects** supporting, to date, **171 jobs** with **25 projects completed**.

Summary of W4Q Council Projects (as at 28 Feb 2022)

Council	2019-21 Rnd		2020-21 COVID Rnd		2021-24 Rnd	
	Jobs	Funding	Jobs	Funding	Jobs	Funding
BRC	27.0	\$1.14M	16.0	\$1.11M	15.0	\$1.12M
Barcoo	50.0	\$1.02M	5.0	\$1.02M	6.0	\$1.03M
BTRC	50.0	\$1.09M	56.0	\$1.07M		\$1.08M
Boulia	58.0	\$1.03M	52.0	\$1.02M	24.0	\$1.03M
DSC	14.0	\$1.02M	16.0	\$1.02M	5.0	\$1.03M
LRC	146.0	\$1.19M	41.0	\$1.12M	16.0	\$1.12M
WSC	11.0	\$1.08M	13.0	\$1.04M	4.0	\$1.04M
TOTAL	356.0	\$7.57M	199.0	\$7.40M	70.0	\$7.44M

Works for Queensland Projects

Barcaldine Regional Council (all in Gregory electorate)

2019-21 Works for Queensland Projects – all complete	Budget	jobs created /supported		Project Status
		Est	Act	
Alpha Dip Yards	\$50,000		2.0	completed 25/6/2020
Aramac Showground Amenities	\$350,000		1.0	completed 24/5/2021
Bullock Dray Shed	\$80,000		6.0	completed 3/6/2021
Community Streetscapes	\$85,000		4.0	completed 11/9/2019
Jericho Skate Park	\$100,000		5.0	completed 29/4/2020

2019-21 Works for Queensland Projects – all complete	Budget	jobs created /supported		Project Status
		Est	Act	
Muttaborrasaurus Interpretation Centre - Internal Fitout	\$300,000		5.0	completed 17/6/2021
Oak Street Footpath	\$125,000		4.0	completed 17/12/2020
TOTALS	\$1.14M		27.0	

2020-21 COVID Works for Queensland Projects	Budget	jobs created/ supported		Project Status
		Est	Act	
Barcaldine sewerage treatment plant	\$600,000	13.0	6.0	exp completion Mar-2022
Barcaldine waste landfill stage 2	\$300,000		4.0	completed 3/12/2021
Barcy Red - motorbike tourism project	\$100,000		2.0	completed 17/8/2021
Disability access	\$110,000		4.0	completed 3/6/2021
TOTALS	\$1.11M		16.0	

2021-24 Works for Queensland Projects	Budget	jobs created /supported		Project Status
		Est	Act	
Aramac caravan park and showground upgrade	\$50,000	4.0	1.0	exp completion May-2022
Cemetery fence - Alpha Cemetery	\$20,000	2.0	1.0	exp completion TBC
Cemetery fence - Jericho Cemetery	\$20,000	2.0	1.0	exp completion TBC
Entrance gates	\$70,000	4.0	1.0	exp completion TBC
Memorial hall air conditioning	\$50,000	2.0	2.0	exp completion TBC
Men's shed awning	\$20,000	2.0		Yet to commence
Recreation ground camping	\$40,000	2.0	0.0	exp completion Apr-2022
Splash pad & shade	\$100,000	4.0		Yet to commence
Swimming pool upgrade - Barcaldine	\$500,000	10.0		Yet to commence
Swimming pool upgrade - Muttaborra	\$60,000		2.0	completed 1/9/2021

2021-24 Works for Queensland Projects	Budget	jobs created /supported		Project Status
		Est	Act	
The Globe Tower	\$165,000		6.0	completed 13/12/2021
Village green lighting	\$25,000	2.0	1.0	exp completion Dec-2021
TOTALS	\$1.15M		15.0	

Released under RTI - Draft



REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

CREATING JOBS FOR OUTBACK QUEENSLAND

The Queensland Budget will directly support job creation in the Outback Queensland region with significant expenditure including:

Infrastructure

\$611M

for productivity-enhancing infrastructure and capital works, estimated to support around **2,200 jobs** in this region in 2020-21.

Health

\$452M

for the North West, Central West and South West Hospital and Health Services.

Education

\$29.9M

to maintain, improve and upgrade schools in Outback Queensland.

The Outback Queensland region will also benefit from:

Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction

\$251M

in 2020-21 to local governments for recovery and reconstruction projects relating to natural disaster events which occurred between 2018 and 2020 in Outback Queensland.

COVID Works for Queensland

\$26.3M

to support the delivery of job-creating new infrastructure, maintenance or minor works as part of the Queensland Government's Economic Recovery Plan.

Homelessness services

\$5.6M

in 2020-21 to deliver specialist homelessness services.

Delivering for the Outback Queensland region

Building our Regions

\$51.0 million allocated to 74 projects in Outback Queensland to assist local councils to deliver critical infrastructure and support **283 jobs** during construction.

(March 2015 to October 2020)

Drought Relief Assistance Scheme Funding

\$39.0 million in financial assistance provided to 1,367 farms to help manage the adverse impacts of drought.

(March 2015 to October 2020)

Recovery and resilience against natural disasters

An estimated \$252.6 million for the provision of financial assistance for capital and resilience works to disaster affected communities in 2020-21.

(March 2020 to October 2020)

Works for Queensland

\$83.4 million provided to regional councils to undertake 383 job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects in Outback Queensland.

(February 2017 to November 2020)

Restoring frontline services for Outback Queensland

(March 2015 to September 2020)



88 extra nurses, up 14.8%



27 extra doctors, up 40.4%



40 extra teachers, up 5.7%



43 extra police officers, up 14.6%



CREATING JOBS FOR Outback Queensland

1 Morningside Shire Civic Centre Project

\$1.8 million in 2020-21 out of a \$5.3 million total spend to deliver a new council administration building and chambers in the town centre consolidating all Council operations into one facility.

2 Lelka Murrin Restaurant and Kiosk Development

\$500,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$1 million total spend to renovate the Lelka Murrin building, the site of the old Gununa Tavern, to provide a food service hub comprising a restaurant, café and kiosk.

3 Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program

\$720,000 in 2020-21 to protect environmental and Indigenous cultural heritage values in Normanton.

4 John Henry Memorial Oval

\$339,027 in 2020-21 out of a \$1 million total spend for Carpentaria Shire Council to construct new change rooms and amenities, storage shed and shade structure at John Henry Memorial Oval, Normanton.

5 Glenore Weir Stabilisation

\$777,028 in 2020-21 out of a \$2.4 million total spend to provide permanent stabilisation of Glenore Weir to improve water storage and secure surrounding embankments.

6 Boodjamulla National Park - remote area power systems upgrade

\$650,000 in 2020-21 to upgrade park infrastructure at Boodjamulla National Park.

7 Kennedy Developmental Road (The Lynd - Hughenden), progressive sealing

\$11.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$50 million total spend to continue progressive sealing of various sections of the Kennedy Developmental Road. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

8 Flinders Highway (Julia Creek - Cloncurry), Scrubby Creek

\$5.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$32.1 million total spend to strengthen pavement and widen floodway on Flinders Highway at Scrubby Creek. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

9 Julia Creek Smart Hub

\$261,875 in 2020-21 out of a \$523,750 total spend to stimulate economic development in Julia Creek by establishing a digital innovation hub.

10 Unmanned Aerial Systems flight test range

\$7.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$14.5 million total spend for the Autonomous Systems (drone testing facility).

11 Cloncurry State School

\$500,000 over three years to upgrade senior school facilities to provide a space for welding and metal work training.

12 Cloncurry River Main Well Project

\$197,530 in 2020-21 out of a \$597,489 total spend to repair the damaged main well to improve the source of raw water for the township's treated water supply.

13 Spinifex State College - Mount Isa

\$1 million in 2020-21 to construct a security fence and refurbish amenities.

14 Mount Isa Queensland Fire and Emergency Services complex upgrade

\$1.3 million in 2020-21 out of a \$3.7 million total spend to complete upgrade of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services complex at Mount Isa.

15 Hughenden Water Reservoir Project

\$948,062 in 2020-21 out of a \$2.9 million total spend to construct a new 4.3ML capacity welded steel high level reservoir to improve potable water storage and provide priority water security.

18 Winton water supply and sewerage automation

\$102,552 in 2020-21 out of a \$310,200 total spend to install new control system, telemetry and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system for an improved water reticulation and sewerage network.

19 Longreach State High School

\$2.6 million over three years for an automotive training facility with necessary equipment to deliver practical and theoretical learning.

20 Longreach replacement auxiliary fire and rescue station

\$2.7 million in 2020-21 out of a \$4.4 million total spend to continue replacement of the auxiliary fire and rescue station at Longreach.

21 Longreach State School

\$500,000 in 2020-21 to replace the existing amenities block.

22 Connemara Road - bridge replacement

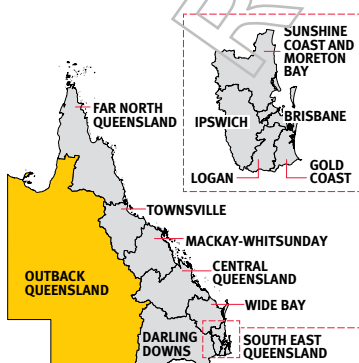
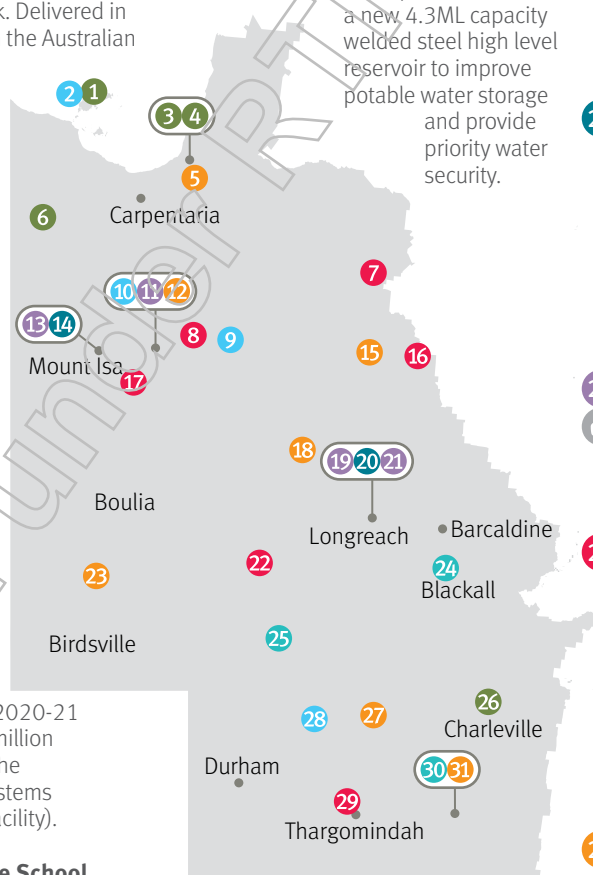
\$91,246 in 2020-21 out of a \$276,000 total spend to replace single lane steel bridge with two lanes and reinforced concrete floodway and batters to increase flood immunity.

23 Bedourie Town bore upgrade

\$123,252 in 2020-21 out of a \$372,814 total spend to upgrade Bedourie Town bore to improve water supply to the town.

24 Blackall Hospital

\$9.9 million in 2020-21 out of a \$20.2 million total spend for construction projects to improve facilities at the Blackall Hospital site, including the redevelopment of the Hospital.



Barcaldine to get renewable energy boost

The Queensland Government is providing \$380,000 for a feasibility study into the second stage of a groundbreaking solar, wind and hydrogen project. Should the project proceed, Barcaldine will be home to Queensland's new Renewable Energy Hub and Australia's first commercial-scale use of hydrogen.

The feasibility study will look at producing zero-carbon hydrogen from renewables to produce ammonia and urea for domestic and global markets. This builds on the \$300,000 Stage One feasibility study into a 30-megawatt solar farm with intensive horticulture.

The new Hub has the potential to turbo-charge economic growth in the region, creating 350 local jobs and 600 construction jobs as well as attracting up to \$500 million new investment.



Mount Isa Mines copper smelter backs local jobs

The Queensland Government is securing more than 1,000 resource and manufacturing jobs associated with the Mount Isa Mines copper smelter. 830 jobs in Mount Isa depend on the smelter, with a further 250 jobs in Townsville across Mount Isa Mines' and Incitec Pivot's operations. The smelter supports indirect employment for many hundreds more in those regions who either supply other goods and services to the smelter or refinery, or rely on the outputs.

The initiative is part of the Queensland Government's economic recovery plan that includes maintaining the State's mineral processing capability and supply chains. There will be growing global demand for copper and other new economic minerals needed for wind turbines, generators and batteries and copper for electric cars.

KEY

-  Community wellbeing
-  Utilities
-  Health
-  Education
-  Transport and roads
-  Justice and safety
-  Government services
-  Recreation and culture
-  Statewide/region-wide
-  Relates to election commitment

- 33 North West Minerals Province**
 S/R \$300,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$975,000 total spend supporting economic diversification and job creating initiatives through the development of robust business cases to increase tourism.

- 34 Outback Tourism Infrastructure Fund**
 S/R \$6 million in 2020-21 out of a \$10.4 million total spend to develop new attractions and help transform the region into a destination of choice. Delivered in partnership with local government and the private sector.

- 35 Social housing**
 S/R \$23.3 million in 2020-21 to expand and improve social housing.

Please note: Not all Government expenditure for the region is shown. Dollar amounts may include capital and operating expenditure, though may not represent the entire funding allocated.

To see more Palaszczuk Government initiatives visit budget.qld.gov.au

25 Windorah Primary Health Care Centre

\$1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$4.2 million total spend for the construction of a modular Primary Health Care Centre to improve patient flow, model of care, security, storage and service delivery.

26 Murweh and Quilpie Tyre Recycling Project

\$150,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$250,000 total spend to support Murweh Shire Council to address stockpiles of problematic waste tyres.

27 Quilpie water supply upgrade

\$247,652 in 2020-21 out of a \$749,100 total spend to construct a new bore to improve future potable water requirements and to refurbish the existing bore to provide a backup supply in an emergency.

28 Eromanga Natural History Museum

\$960,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$2.4 million total spend to construct a museum for one of Australia's most significant and internationally recognised dinosaur and megafauna collections.

29 Thargomindah Airport runway reseal

\$94,306 in 2020-21 out of a \$285,257 total spend to upgrade the existing runway, taxiway, apron and aircraft parking area of the airport with a new seal.

30 Cunnamulla Hospital

\$2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$2.3 million total spend for the decommissioning of the operating theatre and provision of single ward rooms complete with Persons With Disabilities ensuite and an activities room.

31 Paroo Shire Council upgrade to critical sewerage infrastructure

\$2.8 million in 2020-21 out of a \$9.1 million total spend to replace Paroo Shire Council's sewage treatment plant and sewer relining.

32 Copperstring 2.0

S/R \$9.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$16.0 million total spend to continue works on a high-voltage transmission line connecting the region to the National Electricity Grid.

BUDGET 2020–21 AT A GLANCE

Jobs supported by infrastructure investment in 2020–21	46,000
Total infrastructure program over four years	\$56B
Percentage of capital spend outside Greater Brisbane	58%
Total spend on road and transport infrastructure in 2020–21	\$6.3B
COVID-19 economic stimulus measures to date	\$7B
Education and training in 2020–21	\$17.5B
Health in 2020–21	\$21.8B
Concessions and lowering the cost of living	\$6.3B
Building trains in Queensland over 10 years	\$1B
Social housing improvements in 2020–21	\$526.2M

Tax Relief Package

The Government provided significant tax relief to support Queensland businesses, landlords, tenants, pubs and clubs, including:

- Payroll tax refunds, waivers and deferrals for eligible businesses, targeted at small to medium businesses
- A payroll tax exemption for wages subsidised by the JobKeeper payment
- Land tax rebates, waivers and deferrals for eligible taxpayers.

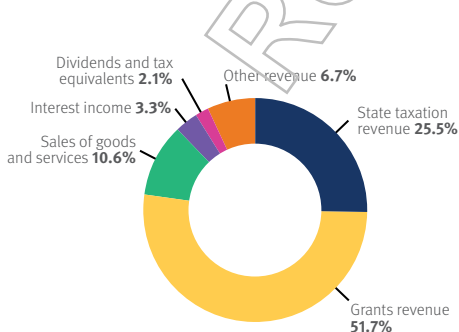
An estimated 80 businesses in Outback Queensland will also benefit in 2020-21 from the higher payroll tax threshold.

STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS

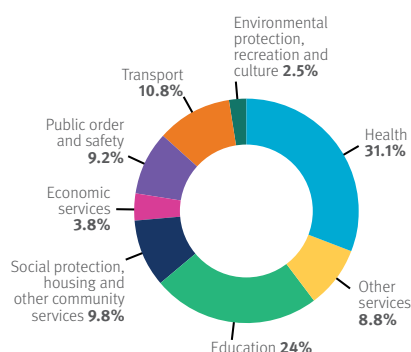
This Budget is focused on creating jobs and getting our economy moving sooner. Initiatives include:

- Driving the largest infrastructure program in over a decade - \$14.8 billion in 2020–21, directly supporting 46,000 jobs. Around 58% of the capital program and 28,700 of the jobs supported will be outside the Greater Brisbane area.
- Growing our regions and supporting key industries such as tourism, agriculture and mining. An additional \$200 million will be provided to the Works for Queensland program to support local governments outside South East Queensland.
- Enhancing frontline services. The Budget will support funding for additional frontline health staff including 5,800 nurses, 1,500 doctors and 1,700 allied health professionals through to 2024
- Providing more Queenslanders with access to the skills and training they need for rewarding careers. \$100 million has been provided over three years to upgrade TAFE campuses.
- Backing small businesses to support jobs and communities. More than \$7 billion in COVID-19 stimulus measures have been provided so far, including reducing business costs through payroll tax relief and other tax relief measures, and accelerating projects to unlock development and increase economic activity.
- Providing concessions and easing the cost of living, with an estimated \$6.3 billion in 2020–21 in targeted discounts, fee waivers, rebates, and subsidies.
- Increasing investment in manufacturing including \$1 billion to make trains again in Queensland.
- Protecting the environment. The Great Barrier Reef will benefit from an additional \$40 million worth of support. This includes \$10 million for a Reef Assist Program and \$6 million over four years for the GBR Island Arks project to deliver ecotourism in the region.
- Delivering lower debt than New South Wales and Victoria.

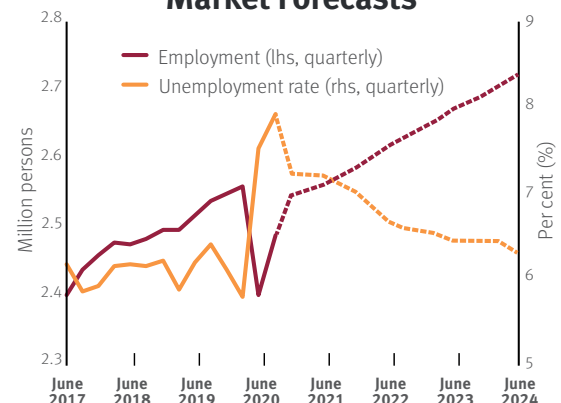
2020–21 Revenue



2020–21 Expenses



Queensland's Labour Market Forecasts



Australian Worker's Heritage Centre

Recommended response

- The Queensland Government has supported the upgrade of the Australian Worker's Heritage Centre (AWHC) to enhance the visitor experience and support Outback Queensland tourism.
- The Centre, along with other key Outback Queensland attractions, offer a real point of difference for visitors travelling from urban areas.
- Attractions such as the AWHC go a long way in drawing more visitors out west and boosting the local economy post COVID-19.

Key Facts

- The AWHC in Barcaldine is one of Outback Queensland's premier tourist destinations and is a National Monument that honours the heritage, history and traditions of all working Australians.
- It is the only national attraction dedicated to celebrating the extraordinary legacy of working Australians and plays a key role in defining our national character.
- The AWHC is the largest tourism attraction within the Barcaldine Regional Council boundary.
- In July 2018, AWHC was awarded \$2.2 million (GST exclusive) as part of the Queensland Government's \$12.2 million investment in the Outback to increase infrastructure to drive tourist visitation.
- The project involved the construction of a new building featuring a themed entry to draw guests inside, along with a café/restaurant, high end retail/gift outlet, children's activity area, rest room facilities, covered and easy access for disability parking, and environmental utilities such as solar power and water efficient devices.
- On 2 May 2021, during the Labour Day long weekend, the Premier officially opened the AWHC.
- The AWHC also received \$125,000 under the Queensland Tourism Icons Program (QTIP) to assist with COVID-Safe training and purchases, wages and superannuation, commercial stock purchases, and general maintenance.

- It is understood the AWHC has had difficulties securing enough staff to reopen the café and that some forward bookings have been cancelled due to limited numbers.

Achievements

- Construction of the AWHC supported 75 jobs, with 14 operational jobs created upon completion.
- Approximately 12,500 additional visitors are expected to visit the AWHC each year following the Queensland Government's funding investment. This is projected to inject up to \$7 million into the local economy annually.

Released under RTI/OPIC

Barcaldine Renewable Energy Zone

Recommended response

- The Barcaldine Renewable Energy Zone (BREZ) has the potential to turbo-charge economic growth in the Barcaldine area, creating over 300 ongoing jobs and attracting over \$700M of new investments to the central-west region.
- The Government understands that the pilot project is aiming for the efficient use of Great Artesian Basin water.

Key Facts

- The partners in the BREZ energy hub have acknowledged the need to source sustainable water supplies in their planning.
- They have applied to the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW) for a water licence for a Great Artesian Basin (GAB) bore that will see another currently inefficient water bore being capped and piped and a portion of the water saved provided as a licence for the project.
- DRDMW assisted with locating landholders willing to participate in the licence allocation resulting from making a bore watertight.
- This application for the licence is currently being reviewed.
- The partners in the BREZ are also in discussions with Ergon Energy to utilise a portion of an underutilised GAB water licence and are also ensuring that the onsite water is used optimally by internal recycling and other water efficiency programs.

Achievements

- The BREZ features a large-scale solar farm and will use biochar to power a steam turbine generator as a pilot for a larger range of industrial programs.

Background

- The BREZ began in early 2017 when the seven mayors of the Central West Remote Area Development and Planning Board (RAPAD) approached Sunshot Industries for advice on the potential for new industries to expand employment and incomes using the region's renewable resources.
- Following a Stage 1 feasibility study, the Government is providing a further \$380,000 for Stage 2 to establish commercial feasibility.
- Sunshot Energy is working in partnership with the Central West Queensland RAPAD, with support from BRC who provided \$1M funding to the project in December 2021.

- Positioned in one of Queensland's renewable energy zones, the BREZ will feature a large-scale solar farm and biosteam turbine generator. This renewable energy will be used to produce fresh fruit and vegetables in glasshouses, green ammonia, hydrogen, and urea for stock feed.
- The project will become Australia's first commercial-scale use of hydrogen and is a key step in making Queensland a leader in global green industrial development.

Released under RTI - DPC

Drought Assistance and Water Supply

Recommended response

Drought

- Barcaldine has been fully drought declared since 1 January 2014.
- Local Drought Committees hold regular meetings and provide recommendations to the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities on drought status and whether to revoke or retain drought declarations.
- Over the past three months, parts of Barcaldine have received below average rainfall.
- The current forecast for April to June 2022 is above average rainfall for most of Queensland, including Barcaldine.

Water Supply

- Limitations are currently in place for new entitlements from the Great Artesian Basin in the Barcaldine area to protect Great Artesian Basin Springs.
- The Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW) will continue to investigate options for additional water needed, such as relocating existing entitlements or creating water savings by capping and piping uncontrolled artesian bores in the area.

Key facts

Drought

- As at 19 April 2022, 67.7 per cent of Queensland is currently drought declared.
- Since 1 January 2014, Barcaldine and Longreach regional council areas have been fully drought declared.
- The Queensland Government has committed to maintaining existing drought assistance programs for the duration of the current drought, while transitioning to new programs to better support primary producer drought preparedness.
- Primary producers in the Barcaldine region have received just over \$8.56M through 1,702 claims under the Drought Relief Assistance Scheme (DRAS). DRAS provides a rebate on the movement of fodder

and water in the grazing industry and a rebate on Emergency Water Infrastructure.

Water Supply

- BRC is one of the seven member Councils of the Remote Area Planning and Development (RAPAD) Water and Sewage Alliance, which receive funding via the Queensland Regional Alliances Program (QWRAP).
- Past decisions by BRC resulting in projects with inefficient water use (such as the recreational lake), has placed some pressure on water supply for the town.
- BRC is in the process of upgrading its sewage treatment plant in Barcaldine to provide treated water to parks, gardens and sporting facilities.
- Proposed developments in the area such as the Barcaldine Renewal Energy Zone, which features a large-scale solar farm and biosteam turbine generator, and associated population increase will require additional water in the future.
- New entitlements in the Barcaldine area from the Great Artesian Basin are severely limited by the proximity of the vulnerable Great Artesian Basin Springs.
- BRC and proponents of nearby developments have been in discussion with DRDMW about future water supply options.
- DRDMW has advised BRC and other project proponents to seek opportunities to relocate existing water entitlements, or to gain entitlements through saving water by capping and piping uncontrolled artesian bores in the area.

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Achievements

- The Government has commenced a new drought and drought preparedness package to better support being prepared for future droughts. This package includes:
 - Drought Preparedness Grants of up to \$50,000 to support on-farm capital infrastructure for drought preparedness;
 - Farm Management Grants of up to \$2,500 for professional advice to support the development of individual farm resilience plans; and
 - three concessional loan products to support primary producers during drought or to support their recovery from drought.
- These products are being administered by the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority.

Background

Water Supply

- Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) provides drinking water for a population of 2,259, across its five drinking water schemes: Aramac, Alpha, Barcaldine, Muttaborra and Jericho.
- Muttaborra, Aramac and Barcaldine drinking water is sourced from deep, artesian bores, and do not receive any form of treatment or disinfection; Alpha and Jericho drinking water is sourced from shallow bores and has conventional treatment and disinfection. This removes aesthetic (taste) issues, with chlorine providing a barrier against pathogens.
- These supplies are drought-resilient and there are no specific water quality concerns.
- Outback Queensland areas share similar challenges: staff turnover and difficulty filling vacancies; historically poor record keeping; and ageing infrastructure, particularly pipes.

Housing – Outback Queensland

Key facts

- In the **Outback Queensland Region**, under the **QuickStarts Qld** program, we will commence **98 new social homes** by 30 June 2025, with a planned investment of **\$45.3M** over four years, **supporting more than 141 jobs**.
- More broadly, the Queensland Government is increasing Queensland's supply of social and affordable housing by almost 10,000 over the life of the Housing Strategy, including:
 - 6,365 social housing commencements over the next four years;
 - in addition to the 2,480 commencements under the first four years of the Housing Strategy; and
 - 1,034 affordable housing commencements over the life of the Housing Strategy.
- Between 2015-16 to 31 December 2021 in the Outback Queensland region, 47 dwellings have been constructed. None are in the Barcaldine Regional Council area.

Housing Investment

- This budget's \$2.9 billion total housing investment is the largest concentrated investment in social housing in Queensland's history.
- The Queensland Government launched a bold new housing action plan backed by a \$1.9 billion investment over four years and the establishment of a \$1 billion *Housing Investment Fund* (HIF) to boost housing supply and increase housing and homelessness support across Queensland.
- This investment, through the Palaszczuk Government's *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025* (the Action Plan) strengthens the momentum created since the 10-year *Queensland Housing Strategy* was launched in 2017 and responds to the current housing market conditions we are now facing.

Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative

- The *Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative* (QHIGI) procurement process launched on 28 October 2021 to invite interest in any one of three initiatives and will deliver accelerated social housing supply of **6,365 social housing commencements** through:

- **HIF – a \$1 billion investment** which will generate an **estimated \$40M to deliver 3,600 new social housing dwelling commencements** and additional affordable housing between 2021-2025:
 - the EOI for the HIF remains open for proposals to be submitted
 - regional allocation of the 3,600 commencements under the HIF will be determined by demand and opportunities;
- **QuickStarts Qld** – a capital investment program to commence **2,765 new social housing dwellings over four years**, primarily through partnerships with Community Housing Providers (CHPs), for social housing eligible clients;
 - **727 new social housing homes are targeted to commence** under QuickStarts Qld by the end of June 2022
 - the Request for Detailed Proposal process for QuickStarts Qld closed on 21 January 2022 and evaluation of proposals are underway, with priority given to spot purchases and 2021-22 commencements;
- **Help to Home (H2H)** – a **\$40M dollar investment to deliver private market outcomes for 1,000 households** and additional spot purchase for two years with the first stage being to engage Registered Community Housing Providers to manage the properties and deliver services to eligible social housing customers
 - the EOI for H2H closed on 3 December 2021
 - the program is progressing through two stages
 - the first stage involved procuring the registered housing providers to manage tenancies and is currently being finalised
 - the next stage will focus on sourcing suitable properties from the market, and this will commence in the coming months.
 - most of these homes will be newly built properties that are yet to come onto the rental market, or existing homes that haven't been on the rental market before.

Delivering essential housing and homelessness services to Queenslanders

- The Action Plan supports the Queensland Government's continued commitment to deliver essential frontline services and provide enhanced housing and support options for vulnerable people, moving towards ending homelessness.
- The Action Plan:
 - establishes the QHIGI
 - accelerates the construction, redevelopment and spot purchase of social housing homes
 - tailors housing responses for First Nations peoples and communities, to continue to close the gap
 - provides **\$20M for homelessness initiatives**, improving services and support to provide accommodation to people in crisis
 - provides **\$20M to enhance frontline responses to domestic violence**, through a specialist response team and flexible assistance packages
 - provides **\$54.9M to fund essential housing and homelessness services** established under the *Queensland Housing Strategy Action Plan 2017-2020*
 - puts in place measures and protections to ensure fairer private rental and retirement living systems
 - supports the creation of new construction jobs in the regions.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan

- The *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan 2019-2023* (ATSiH Action Plan) funding of \$67.1M over four years from 2019-2023 is focussed on improving housing outcomes for First Nations peoples, including an investment of \$24.1M in 2021-22.
- The Government is committed to reframing our relationship with First Nations peoples and will deliver improved housing outcomes through genuine partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

- Key actions under the Action Plans include commitments to:
 - develop place-based, community led, local housing plans with communities to identify and respond to local housing challenges and priorities
 - establish the new peak body, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland, to strengthen housing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, supporting the sustainability of Indigenous housing providers and the community housing sector
 - increase home ownership opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
 - provide culturally responsive housing support through a service offer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- In 2021-22, \$1.6M has been provided towards the recently established Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Housing Body as part of a \$5.5M investment over five years – funding will support sector development of Indigenous Community Housing Organisations and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils.
- The ATSIH Action Plan also provides for the ongoing delivery of the **\$75M commitment to home ownership in remote and discrete communities** – this allocation **enabled the transfer of 167 social housing dwellings** entitlements into the private ownership of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
- Increased home ownership and access to safe, appropriate and sustainable housing not only provides a foundation to close the gap but reflects our commitment to listening to First Nations Peoples in Queensland about their housing concerns and committing to a better future.

Specialist Homelessness Services

- In 2021-22, the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy allocated \$1.4M in homelessness funding to Anglicare Central Queensland Limited to deliver its Homelessness Service to adults and families in several geographical catchment areas across central Queensland, including Barcaldine.

COVID-19 – Economic Support and Recovery

Recommended response

- The Government has been quick to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- To support business and families, the Government has invested **\$8 billion in a range of assistance initiatives and job creating projects.**
- In the Queensland – Outback SA4 area we assisted businesses with **\$6.62M in payroll tax relief.**
- In the Barcaldine Regional Council area, we have assisted businesses through more than:
 - **\$131,787 in grants to small businesses;** and
 - **\$5.6M with projects under our Works for Qld program** supporting more than 170 local jobs since 2016.
- We will also continue to work with the Federal Government, so business and industry get the necessary support.

Key facts

Government commitment	Progress <i>Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) and Queensland Outback SA4 area (QO SA4)</i>																		
<p>\$200M for <u>Small Business Adaption grants</u> of up to \$10,000 (Rounds 1 and 2)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final payments October 2021: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">No of Grants Approved</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Funding</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Rnd 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">QLD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9,161</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$81.8M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BRC</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$8,514</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Rnd 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">QLD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11,344</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$100.6M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BRC</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$123,273</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 			No of Grants Approved	Funding	Rnd 1	QLD	9,161	\$81.8M	BRC	1	\$8,514	Rnd 2	QLD	11,344	\$100.6M	BRC	14	\$123,273
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Rnd 2	QLD	11,344	\$100.6M																
	BRC	14	\$123,273																
<p>\$1 billion concessional <u>Jobs Support Loan scheme</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loan scheme was finalised as at 31 October 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – State-wide – 6,928 applications approved receiving \$996M and supporting 86,464 jobs – BRC – did not have any applications approved 																		

Government commitment	Progress <i>Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) and Queensland Outback SA4 area (QO SA4)</i>						
\$950M in <u>payroll tax relief</u> measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at June 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-wide – 17,566 businesses receiving \$501.88M QO SA4 area – 132 businesses receiving \$6.6M 						
\$400M in <u>land tax relief</u> and payment deferrals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at June 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-wide – 21,949 businesses receiving \$165.5M QO SA4 area – 131 parcels of land had \$2.4M waived Land Tax relief was extended to 31 October 2020 						
\$7M for a domestic tourism campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4M for the State's 13 regional tourism organisations for regional focused domestic marketing activity in 2020-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outback Queensland Tourism (OQT) received \$207,591 \$3M for the <i>Queensland you're 'Good to Go'</i> advertising campaign launched in June 2020 						
\$15M Queensland Domestic Aviation Route Restart Program (estimated to support approximately 3,000 jobs per year over three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being delivered in two phases <table border="1" data-bbox="494 1249 654 1473"> <thead> <tr> <th>Phase</th> <th>Statewide</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>\$5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>\$10M</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial in confidence Exempt Sch 3(8)(1) Breach of Confidence <i>Phase 1</i> – \$5M to support Brisbane and 15 regional airports negotiate with airlines to establish new or reopen <u>intrastate</u> routes; and <i>Phase 2</i> – \$10M for key airports to negotiate with carriers to secure <u>interstate</u> aviation routes. 	Phase	Statewide	1	\$5M	2	\$10M
Phase	Statewide						
1	\$5M						
2	\$10M						

Government commitment	Progress <i>Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) and Queensland Outback SA4 area (QO SA4)</i>			
Works for Queensland funding (as at 28 Feb 2022)	• Summary of funding to BRC for projects			
	Funding round	No of projects	Act Jobs	Funding
	WFQ 2016-17	7	61.0	\$1.15M
	WFQ 2017-19	6	52.0	\$1.13M
	WFQ 2019-21	7	27.0	\$1.14M
	2020-21 COVID-19	4	16.0	\$1.11M
	WFQ 2021-24	12	15.0	\$1.12M
	Total	36	171.0	\$5.65M

Released under RTI - Docs

COVID-19 – Tourism Support and Recovery

Recommended response

- The tourism industry was one of the first industries to be impacted by COVID-19 with devastating impacts in Outback Queensland.
- This is an industry that supported **one in 10 Queensland jobs** before the Coronavirus pandemic.

Key facts

Government commitment	Progress <i>Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) and Queensland Outback SA4 area (QO SA4)</i>						
<p>\$15M Queensland Domestic Aviation Route Restart Program (estimated to support approximately 3,000 jobs per year over three years)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being delivered in two phases <table border="1" data-bbox="507 846 663 1070"> <thead> <tr> <th>Phase</th> <th>Statewide</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>\$5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>\$10M</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Commercial in confidence Exempt Sch 3(8)(1) Breach of Confidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Phase 1 – \$5M to support Brisbane and 15 regional airports negotiate with airlines to establish new or reopen <u>intrastate</u> routes; and – Phase 2 – \$10M for key airports to negotiate with carriers to secure <u>interstate</u> aviation routes. • In the week commencing 4 April 2022, 600 inbound seats operated into Longreach Airport, representing 100% of 2019 (pre-COVID) levels. 	Phase	Statewide	1	\$5M	2	\$10M
Phase	Statewide						
1	\$5M						
2	\$10M						
<p>\$7M for a domestic tourism campaign</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$4M for the State’s 13 regional tourism organisations for regional focused domestic marketing activity in 2020-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Outback Queensland Tourism (OQT) received \$207,591 • \$3M for the <i>Queensland you’re ‘Good to Go’</i> advertising campaign launched in June 2020 						

Tourism industry sentiment

- The Outback performed strongly in 2021, benefiting from huge domestic interest from long haul travellers already in Queensland and Queenslanders unable to travel interstate and overseas.

- While visitation typically slowed across the 2021/22 summer with cancellations over the Christmas and New Year period due to declining traveller confidence around borders and the new Omicron variant, interest in the outback remains high into 2022 and 2023 from consumers and the travel trade.
- Although spirits are high and bookings are progressing well in 2022, tourism operators are reporting business is not as strong as last year. Reports from travellers indicate matters such as the Brisbane and Northern New South Wales floods and the Bali reopening may have contributed to performance in early 2022.
- There is a noticeable preference for short breaks and packages. Booking lead times are short.
- Experience and product development, with a focus on bundling and packaging has been a focus across the region to extend length of stay, dispersal and spend:
 - Barcoo and Longreach Councils are in the early stages of a project to promote the 'Channel Country Way', targeting coach, drive and touring groups.
 - AAT Kings is touring for the first time to Longreach, Quilpie and Roma ex-Brisbane.

Total Visitation and Expenditure in the Outback

Year ending	Expenditure	Annual change	Visitors (000)	Annual change
Dec-2019	\$799.4M	13.7%	1,178	7.3%
Dec-2020	\$499.5M	-9.0%	858	-6.6%
Dec-2021	\$596.3M	-2.6%	934	-0.2%

Queensland's Fossil Emblem

- Public consultation on the state fossil emblem will run from 11 April to 10 July 2022.
- Twelve fossils have been nominated, following consultation with regional tourism organisations, councils and museum palaeontology experts.
- The government is investing almost \$500,000 in a dinosaur tourism roadmap to bring together Queensland's best prehistoric visitor experiences, which will help tourism operators promote the best Outback dinosaur destinations to visitors to Queensland.

\$10M Outback Tourism Infrastructure Fund

- 3 projects supported in the Barcaldine Regional Council area:
 - \$471,317 to Barcaldine Regional Council for Freedom Parks in Aramac, Jericho and Muttaborra to develop a trail of freedom parks catering for self-sufficient campers and provide water points, waste points, BBQs, shelter, lights and common fire-pit together with solar-powered Wi-Fi – project opened mid-June 2020;
 - \$400,000 to Yambangku Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Tourism Development Aboriginal Corporation for Murra Kumbee Yambangku - Hands Sharing On Country Together by installing and upgrading tourism access, support and safety facilities – project opened October 2020; and
 - Dinosaur Dreaming Trail – where visitors can tour through dinosaur sites in Outback Queensland and engage with Australian Aboriginal culture. Winton's North Gregory Hotel and Barcaldine's Desert Dreaming Centre has a host of new facilities to complement the trail.

\$25M Outback Tourism Icons Fund

- The Australian Workers Heritage Centre/Tree of Knowledge received \$125,000 to assist with COVID-Safe training and purchase, wages and superannuation, commercial stock purchase, and general maintenance. Completed February 2021.

Australian Worker's Heritage Centre Grant

- \$2.2M to the Tree of Knowledge Development Committee Inc – for an extension to the Australian Workers Heritage Centre (AWHC) in Barcaldine with a new entrance building to the AWHC and facilities such as a cafe/restaurant; retail and a children's activity area. The project was opened on 2 May 2021. Construction supported 75 jobs, with 14 operational jobs created upon completion.

Growing Indigenous Tourism Fund

- \$1M provided for The Fringe Camp @ The Dolly (a Category 2 project) in Barcaldine. Stage 1 includes delivering an accessible, cultural and immersive “Desert Mob” experience with site infrastructure, 64 non-powered caravan and camp sites, caretaker/staff residence, amenities block, camp kitchen, pool, art studio, and site landscaping and signage. The project is due to be completed mid-October 2022.

LNP

- The last LNP Government
 - took their eye off tourism and conceded market share to the southern states;
 - attracted only six new or increased airline services bringing in just 557,000 seats; (since 2015, my Government has assisted 29 new or additional services bringing in 3.3 million seats); and
 - cut \$188M from the tourism industry funding support and severely limited Tourism and Events Queensland's (TEQ) ability to plan for the long term with no funding certainty to enter into multi-year event partnerships or to secure long-term marketing contracts.
- The LNP's short-sighted vision for tourism put thousands of Queensland jobs at risk.

Released under RTI/50103

Health Overview – Central West Hospital and Health Services

Recommended response

- All data as at 12 April 2022.

Covid-19 cases

- Across **Queensland, 880,572 recorded cases** of Covid-19, of which **54,535** were active cases and **791 people had died**.
- Across the **Central West Hospital and Health Service (HHS)**, there were **204 recorded cases** of Covid-19, of which there were **0 active cases**. **No deaths** have been recorded in the Central West HHS area.
- Central West HHS was managing:
 - one in-patient with Covid-19 – (not in ICU); and
 - 0 people with Covid-19 at home.
- There have been 29 recorded cases of Covid-19 within the Barcaldine Regional Council area, all of which were recorded since 13 December 2021.

Vaccinations – Percentage of Queensland population vaccinated

	At least 1 dose	2 doses	booster
16 yrs & over	93.48%	91.86%	62.50%
12-15 yrs	92.45%	90.62%	
5-11 yrs	43.71%	26.95%	

- Central West HHS has **administered a total of 20,073 vaccine doses**.

Staff impacts

- Central West HHS had:
 - 4 staff registered as being Covid-19 positive;
 - 2 staff were quarantined; and
 - no staff were in the workplace under Critically Essential Worker Provision.

Key facts

- The 2021-22 Central West Hospital and Health Service (HHS) budget is nearly **\$90M in operational funding**. They have a budget of **\$2.9M**

for COVID-19 operational expenditure. As at 28 February 2022, Darling Downs HHS has spent **\$2.4M** in vaccination costs.

- Currently Central West HHS has a staff head count of approximately 458.
- Since 2015, within Central West HHS, my Government has hired:
 - 5.11 FTEs more doctors;
 - 5.26 FTEs more Nurses and Midwives; and
 - 14.66 FTEs more Allied Health Professionals.

Central West HHS Infrastructure projects

- The Queensland Government is working hard to provide infrastructure that facilitates high level healthcare services in the Central West region.
- Since 2017, **\$35.37M** has been expended on major infrastructure work completed at 5 facilities within Central West HHS, including **\$4.22M** for **Aramac Primary Healthcare Centre, delivered in March 2018**, and **\$0.83M** for the **Barcaldine Hospital Multi-purpose Health Service Water Treatment, completed on 30 March 2021**.
- Central West HHS also has **8 projects worth \$22.57M** in the delivery phase including four projects in the Barcaldine Regional Council area:

Facility	Budget	Project	Exp delivery date	Jobs
Barcaldine Hospital	\$2.4M	Replacing corridor flooring	Jun-2023	7
Aramac Hospital	\$0.6M	Demolition of old hospital	Jun-2022	2
Alpha Hospital	\$0.6M	Demolition of old hospital	Jun-2022	2
Alpha Multi-Purpose Health Service	\$0.1M	Solar project – install a 50kw system	Jun-2022	-

- There is also one planned \$0.35M project at Longreach Hospital, one of the locations across regional and rural Queensland, to establish renal dialysis treatment spaces. The funding is for schematic design, detail design and to prepare tender documentation, which is due to be released 1 July 2022. Project construction will likely start late September 2022 and be finalised in the first half of 2023.

Waiting Lists

- *Elective Surgery Waiting Lists* – between 1 June 2020 and 28 February 2022, 489 patients were added to the elective surgery wait list, with:
 - the ready for surgery wait list increasing from 67 to 113 – an increase of 46; and
 - the ready for surgery long wait list decreasing from 4 to 3.
- *GIE Procedures Waiting Lists* – between 1 June 2020 and 28 February 2021, 554 patients were added to the GIE wait list, with:
 - the ready for GIE care wait list increasing from 51 to 79; and
 - the ready for GIE care long wait list increasing from 2 to 18.
- Central West HHS is not in scope for specialist outpatients department key performance indicators.

Achievements

- The State Government funded \$7.9M for Longreach Hospital's medical imaging and mechanical services upgrade. The project which included a new medical imaging unit for new CT scanner equipment, a new maternity unit and a new day surgery unit and upgrades to the emergency department, nurse call, medical gas and air-conditioning systems with the project completed in November 2018.

LNP

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Policing and Youth Crime

POLICE NUMBERS

- **Capricornia Police District has 606 permanent positions, up 75 since 2015.**
- It was fantastic to announce in September 2020, an additional 2,025 police personnel across the state.
- **This is a \$624M investment over five years for 2,025 new police personnel. Of those 1,450 will be deployed to the frontline which means at least 150 positions will be located per key region across the state.**
- We're also investing in 25 mobile police vans that will take police into the heart of the community.
- There are more than 12,000 police officers in Queensland – a record number. **Under Labor, there are more police in Queensland than ever before with more on the way.**
- **And we back police 100% in what they do best – keeping communities safe,** providing them with the necessary equipment, like body worn cameras, new vehicles and tasers.

CRIME STATS

- From 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022, the overall rate of Total Reported Crime for the Capricornia Police District **increased by 3,423 offences or 16 per cent** compared with the same time period the previous year.
- From 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022, compared with the previous year, the rate of:
 - Offences Against the Person **increased by 1,328 or 65 per cent;**
 - Offences Against Property **increased by 1,636 or 24 per cent;** and
 - Other Offences **increased by 459 offences or 3 per cent.**

YOUTH CRIME

- In response to community concerns, I announced a **\$15.8M Five-Point Action Plan:**
 - offenders posing a risk to the community should not get bail;
 - a police blitz on bail, appealing court decisions where appropriate;
 - a 24/7 Police Strike Team;

- culture-based rehabilitation for Indigenous offenders through new On Country initiatives; and
- empowering local communities in the war on crime with \$2M for community-based organisations for local solutions.
- For noting, compared to 2019-20, data for 2020-21 indicates increases in the number of proven offences and distinct young people with a proven offence. This is due to the COVID-19 pandemic response, which resulted in delayed court processes and delays in finalising charges (with finalisations occurring in 2020-21).
- For the year ending 30 September 2021 compared to the year ending 30 September 2019, there has been:
 - a **34 per cent decrease** in the **number of proven offences** committed in Barcaldine by 10-17-year-olds; and
 - a **150 per cent increase** in the number of distinct 10-17-year old offenders, with at least one proven offence committed in Barcaldine.
- *Caution should be exercised with these numbers, as small numbers are involved which exaggerates the percentage difference.*
- **For the year ending 30 September 2021, there were 2 restorative justice conferences held in Barcaldine.**

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Negotiations continue with Barcaldine Regional Council to purchase the existing Council chambers for use as a replacement police facility in Barcaldine.

LNP

- A total police budget increase of 2.8%. Given the rate of inflation, that's a cut to police funding in real terms.
- Sacked 110 senior police and cut a further 212 police positions.
- Cut police training, reduced firearms training, forced police to pay for their own body worn video cameras.
- Slashed the auto theft squad from 18 to 3.
- Axed funding to the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council – we reinstated it.

- Wasted millions of dollars on a failed boot camp experiment to breed fitter, faster criminals.
 - Failed to fund the roll out of automatic number plate recognition technology that helps police track stolen vehicles.
- The LNP had its chance to stamp out youth crime. It didn't work.
- The LNP voted **against our amendments to get tough on bail.**

Background

- As of 1 July 2021, the Capricornia Police District had the following increase due to the Service Realignment Program:
 - The Longreach Patrol Group comprises of the Divisions of; Longreach, Winton, Muttaborra, Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Isisford, Ilfracombe, Yarka, Jundah, Alpha, Jericho and Windorah inclusive of Tambo Division from Charleville Patrol Group and was realigned into Capricornia District from South West District.

Released under RTI-DPS

Major Road Upgrades

Recommended response

- Queensland's economic recovery plan is about building the infrastructure we need to create jobs.
- **That's why we have committed to \$52.2 billion over 4 years towards job creating infrastructure across the state.**
- That plan includes a **jointly-funded \$13 billion of works over 15 years on the Bruce Highway** to improve flood resilience and safety and increase capacity.
- My Government is delivering **\$324 million to upgrade Central West District** roads and transport.

Key facts

Major road upgrades in Barcaldine Regional Council area

- Recent projects completed include:
 - **\$5.665M** for the Barcaldine-Aramac Road, rehabilitate pavement – fully funded by the QG – completed in November 2021; and
 - **\$5.25M** for the Barcaldine-Aramac Road widening - jointly funded as part of the Road Safety Program Tranche 2 (\$4.2M AG; \$1.05M QG) – completed December 2021.
 - **\$4.572M** to widen 6.4 kms of Barcaldine-Aramac Road - jointly funded (\$3.658M AG; \$914,000 QG).
- Road projects underway or about to commence:
 - **\$5.1M Barcaldine-Aramac Road widen narrow seal** – jointly funded by AG (\$4.08M) and QG (\$1.02M) under Tranche 3 of the Road Safety Program. Construction started late April 2022 with completion expected by end June 2022;
 - **\$1.255M to widen 2.5 kilometres of the Barcaldine-Aramac Road** – fully funded by QG under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS). Currently in development with construction expected to begin mid-2022;
 - **\$9.65M Capricorn Highway (Emerald – Alpha) widening works** – fully funded by the Queensland Government – construction expected to be completed late-2022;
- In addition to these projects, the 2022-23 Federal Budget (delivered March 2022) committed a further \$112.5M to the 'Outback Way –

Queensland Future Priorities'. This funding is in addition to the \$33.5M identified in the current *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program*.

Capricorn Highway (Emerald – Alpha) – widening works

- The 2022-23 Federal Budget committed \$111.7M AG funding for three projects to strengthen and widen various sections of the Capricorn Highway between Emerald and Alpha:
 - Mount Isa to Rockhampton Corridor Upgrade – Capricorn Highway – Pavement Strengthening and Widening (Package 1) – \$60M;
 - Mount Isa to Rockhampton Corridor Upgrade – Capricorn Highway – Pavement Strengthening and Widening (Package 2) – \$36M;
 - Mount Isa to Rockhampton Corridor Upgrade – Capricorn Highway – Pavement Strengthening and Widening (Package 3) – \$15.7M.
- The projects will improve the safety and efficiency of this key freight route, connecting agricultural and mining regions to ports, airports and other transport hubs while better connecting regional communities.
- The Department of Transport and Main Roads is progressing planning and scoping works to deliver these projects.
- Construction continues on a \$9.65M project to widen high priority sections of the Capricorn Highway 25-kilometres east of Alpha – this project is fully funded by the Queensland Government as part of *Queensland's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan*.
- Works commenced in May 2021, with local road crews from BRC delivering the project. Completion is expected late 2022.

Achievements

- The completion of works to fully seal the 120-kilometre-long Blackall–Jericho Road was reached in March 2022. This transformation is providing surrounding communities with safer, all-weather access along this road for the first time, improving delivery to health and education services via the Capricorn Highway to Emerald and Rockhampton.

LNP

- The LNP cut \$600M from Queensland's road budget.
- Sacked 20 per cent Main Roads staff, including 700 RoadTek road builders and cut long-term planning for roads.

Background

Capricorn Highway (Emerald – Alpha) – widening works

- The Capricorn Highway is 575-kilometres long and the principal east-west freight corridor connecting the Bruce Highway in the east with the Landsborough Highway in the west.
- The highway links Rockhampton with Barcaldine, traversing three local government areas including Rockhampton Regional Council, Central Highlands Regional Council and BRC.
- The recent funding announcement to strengthen and widen sections of the Capricorn Highway between Emerald and Alpha is funded under the Roads of Strategic Importance initiative on an 80:20 federal:state basis (\$111.7M Australian Government; anticipated \$22.34M Queensland Government). The funding is provided over a five-year period from 2022–2026.
- Councillor Sean Dillon, Mayor of Barcaldine Regional Council has shown considerable interest in related employment opportunities.
- Of the three projects, it is expected one will be located in the BRC area.

Released under RTI - DRG

Proposed Deviation to Rockhampton to Longreach Long-Distance Coach Route

Recommended response

- The Blackall–Tambo Regional Council has requested the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to investigate a proposed deviation to the Rockhampton to Longreach long-distance coach route to include the township of Blackall.
- This proposal is being investigated by TMR, who will continue to liaise with the Blackall–Tambo Regional Council.

Key Facts

- On 30 March 2022, Councillor Andrew Martin, Mayor of Blackall–Tambo Regional Council met with Mr Neil Scales, Director-General, TMR and raised the possibility of a deviation to the Rockhampton to Longreach long-distance coach route utilising the newly sealed Blackall–Jericho Road to access Blackall.
- Senior representatives from TMR will meet with Councillor Martin to discuss the proposal further.
- A deviation would connect the communities of Blackall and Barcaldine on this route but would affect travel times for passengers.

Achievements

- TMR have completed a project to pave and seal Blackall–Jericho Road in Central Queensland.
- The project has upgraded approximately 120 kilometres of road, joining the townships of Blackall and Jericho.

Background

- The current Rockhampton to Longreach long-distance coach contract was awarded to Greyhound Australia in 2021, for a base term of five years.
- The route currently services the townships of Longreach, Ilfracombe, Barcaldine, Jericho, Alpha, Bogantungan, Anakie, Emerald, Comet, Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo, Duinga, Gogango, Westwood, Gracemere and Rockhampton.
- The current route provides two return services per week, carries an average of 174 passengers per month (based on 2021 data) and takes approximately nine hours and 15 minutes to reach Longreach from Rockhampton.
- Residents of southern communities such as Charleville, Augathella, Tambo and Blackall can currently access Barcaldine, Ilfracombe and Longreach on the state-subsidised Brisbane to Mt Isa return service (five days per week) provided by Greyhound Australia.

Schools – Overview

Recommended response

- Since 2017, more than **\$28M** has been invested in the Outback Queensland region to maintain, improve and upgrade schools.
- We are investing **\$1.4 billion in 2021-22 to build, maintain and improve schools across the state.**
- Since coming to Government in 2015, we have opened **29 new schools including 3 new schools in 2022.**
- We are planning for a new school in Brisbane's inner west over the coming years and substantially expanding 13 existing schools during 2021-22.
- My Government is also investing \$20M for planning and land acquisitions for a further 16 new schools beyond 2023.
- Queensland is a growing state and we are delivering the infrastructure and educational facilities needed to support this growth.
- Of the 5 schools in the Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) area:
 - major infrastructure work carried out at 3 schools totalling almost **\$1.1M**;
 - all schools have air conditioning and solar panels.
- On 19 April 2022, the Government announced that all Queensland state school classrooms, libraries and staff rooms are now air conditioned, delivering more comfortable teaching and learning environments for our students, teachers and school communities.

Key facts

New Schools

- There are no new schools planned for this region.

Major infrastructure work

- Almost \$1.1M worth of major infrastructure work carried out at 3 schools in the Barcaldine Regional Council area over the past 4 years.

Schools	Budget (GST excl)	Project
Alpha State School	\$347,794	covered learning area – completed in 2017
	\$254,711	replace amenities on oval – completed June 2018
	\$59,002	replace Block B external stairs – completed June 2018
Barcaldine Prep-12 State School	\$393,306	SIE program refurbish special education rooms – completed 2020
Jericho State School	\$20,293	Disability access upgrade – completed November 2021

Note: SIE program – School Infrastructure Enhancement program

Air conditioning and solar panels

- All schools within BRC are air conditioned and have solar panels.
- On 27 February 2020, the Government announced the Cooler Cleaner Schools Program (CCSP) which will provide more than \$477M over 4 years to air condition state schools and expand the existing ACES program.
- On 19 April 2022, the Government announced the CCSP has been fully delivered, providing all Queensland state school classrooms, libraries and staff rooms with air conditioning. Installations were completed over two months ahead of schedule to ensure air-conditioned spaces were available from the start of Term 2, 2022.
- The CCSP replaced the Government's former CSP.

Air Conditioning and Solar Panels in Schools – Barcaldine Regional Council area

LGA	School Facility	<i>Air Conditioning</i>	Solar Panels
			ACES program
BRC	Alpha State School	installed – under CSP	installed
BRC	Aramac State School	installed – under CSP	installed
BRC	Barcaldine Prep-12 State School	installed – under CSP	completed phase 2: 119kW, 360 panels
BRC	Jericho State School	installed – under CSP	installed
BRC	Muttaburra State School	installed – under CSP	installed

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