

## **Barton Deakin Brief: 2014-15 NSW Budget Half-Yearly Review**

**18 December 2014**

The New South Wales Treasurer, the Hon Andrew Constance MP, today released the State's [Half-Yearly Review](#) for 2014-15.

The Review provides an update to NSW's economic and fiscal position since the 2014-15 State Budget was handed down in June.

The NSW economy is forecast to grow at a trend rate of 2.75% in 2014-15 before accelerating to 3% growth in 2015-16.

The Half-Yearly Review now forecasts a return to surplus in 2014-15 of \$272 million. This represents a turnaround of \$555 million (the 2014-15 Budget Estimates had forecast a deficit of \$283 million).

Treasurer Constance attributed the 2014-15 forecast surplus to higher than expected property transfer duties. The 2014-15 surplus forecast is partially offset by weaker payroll tax and mining royalties.

The Half-Yearly Review also forecasts surpluses across the forward estimates, with

- A \$402 million surplus forecast in 2015-16;
- A \$1.096 billion surplus in 2016-17; and
- A \$1.038 billion surplus in 2017-18.

The Half-Yearly Review reveals a projected reduction in net debt of \$2.1 billion in 2017-18, compared with the 2014-15 Budget Estimates. Net debt is projected to decline to \$9.3 billion in June 2015 and \$10.7 billion in June 2018.

The fiscal outlook will enable the Government to fund a portion of its infrastructure program through the recurrent budget.

As part of today's announcements, Treasurer Constance also released [details](#) of the long-term lease of the State's electricity network, following the Government's consideration of a Scoping Study into the proposal.

Barton Deakin's brief on the NSW Government's June 2014 State Budget can be read [here](#).

The next NSW State Election will be held on Saturday 28 March 2015.

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