

Barton Deakin Brief: 2015-16 NSW Budget Half-Yearly Review

17 December 2015

The New South Wales (**NSW**) Treasurer, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, today released the <u>2015-16</u> <u>Half-Yearly Review</u>. The Review provides an update to the State's economic and fiscal position since the 2015-16 State Budget was handed down in June.

The Half-Yearly Review now forecasts a surplus of \$3.4 billion for 2015-16, \$875.7 million higher than originally estimated at the 2015-16 Budget.

The improved 2015-16 surplus is attributable to an increase in transfer duty, which is forecast to be \$863 million higher than predicted in the 2015-16 Budget. The increase in transfer duty is primarily because of a one-off \$438 million transfer duty payment from the long-term lease of TransGrid as well as commercial and industry property transfers.

Premier Baird's media release regarding the NSW Government's lease of TransGrid can be read here.

Net debt is now projected to be \$1.8 billion at 30 June 2016, a reduction of \$8.1 billion since the release of the June Budget.

The Half-Yearly Review forecasts surpluses averaging \$2.6 billion across the forward estimates. A \$2.5 billion surplus is forecast for 2016-17, a \$2.6 million surplus for 2017-18 and a \$1.8 million surplus for 2018-19.

According to the Half-Yearly Review, NSW will experience medium term budget pressures from 2017 due to a reduction in the growth of Commonwealth Government health and education grants.

Barton Deakin's Brief on the NSW Government's June 2015 State Budget can be read here.

Further information

Treasurer Berejiklian's media release on the 2015-16 Half-Yearly Review is available here.

The NSW Government's fact sheet on the 2015-16 Half-Yearly Review can be accessed here.

To view previous NSW Budget Papers, click <u>here</u>.

Barton Deakin's Budget Briefs webpage can be accessed <u>here</u>.

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