

Barton Deakin Brief: NSW Government's 2017-18 Pre-Budget Announcements No.2

16 June 2017

The New South Wales (**NSW**) Treasurer, the Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, will hand down the Coalition's third State Budget in its second term on Tuesday, 20 June 2017.

Since the 2015 election to May 2017, more than 179,300 jobs have been created in NSW according to the latest ABS data. This is a growth in jobs of approximately 4.9 per cent with NSW contributing 40 per cent of new jobs across the country. The NSW unemployment rate has remained the lowest in Australia at 4.8 per cent.

This Barton Deakin Brief outlines the pre-Budget announcements for the 2017-18 NSW State Budget.

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Transport

\$1.5 billion bus budget

13 June 2017

The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon Andrew Constance MP, announced more than 170 new buses will be purchased in the NSW Budget. This investment will replace 134 of the existing bus fleet in NSW and will add 42 additional buses which will deliver 3300 more services per week in NSW. This funding is part of the state's \$1.5 billion bus budget.

The additional buses and services forms part of the 2017/18 [Growth Services](#) programme and delivers on priorities highlighted in the Sydney's Bus Future Plan.

Ministers' media release, [here](#).

\$1 billion boost for transport access program

10 June 2017

The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon Andrew Constance MP confirmed that a further \$200 million would be spent on improving access to public transport. This takes NSW's investment in public transport to \$1 billion since 2011.

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#).

Roads Maritime and Freight

\$1 billion for Western Sydney roads

13 June 2017

The Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, and the Minister for Western Sydney and Minister for WestConnex, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP announced \$1 billion will be included in the 2017-18 budget for improving roads in Western Sydney.

The projects aim to help position NSW for the expected spike in employment and housing in 20 years.

Ministers' media release, [here](#).

\$50 million for the Barton Highway

16 June 2017

Minister Pavey together with the Member for Goulburn, the Hon Pru Goward MP and the Parliamentary Secretary for the Deputy Premier and Southern NSW, the Hon Bronwyn Taylor MLC has announced an additional \$50 million investment toward Barton highway to provide a new two-lane carriageway.

Ministers' media release, [here](#).

Barton Highway Improvement Strategy, [here](#).

\$300 million for new bridges over Clyde River

Minister Pavey together with the Member for Bega, the Hon Andrew Constance MP has announced \$300 million will be invested in new bridges at Batemans Bay and Nelligen to open the Clyde River region to tourism and to easy road congestion around Batemans Bay.

\$15.9 million will be used for planning, investigation and design work to replace both bridges.

Ministers' media release not yet available.



Counter Terrorism

\$47 million to tackle radicalisation in prisons

11 June 2017

The Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections, the Hon David Elliott MP announced that the NSW Government will invest \$47 million over 3 years to increase capacity of Supermax from 45 to 75, and create a new high-security unit at Goulburn gaol.

The operational capacity of Supermax will allow convicted terrorists to be separated from other prisoners, reducing the risk of radicalisation in the prison system.

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#).

Health

\$100 million for palliative care funding

The Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon Brad Hazzard announced that the upcoming budget will have an additional \$100million in palliative care services over the next 4 years.

The 2017-18 State Budget includes funding for:

- \$900,000 allocated for palliative care training for 300 nurses and allied health staff
- \$300,000 allocated for 300 scholarships for rural and regional staff to enhance palliative care skills
- \$2.4 million to fund an additional six palliative care specialists in rural and regional areas
- \$795,000 committed to fund two specialist positions to provide relief to other specialists in rural and regional areas
- \$5 million for an additional 30 palliative care nurses providing care in hospitals, homes and nursing homes
- \$6.9 million directed towards community-based palliative care services in Western Sydney, including a 24 hour, seven days a week on-call specialist palliative care service at home
- \$1 million in 2017-18 as part of \$22 million over four years for the development of comprehensive and integrated palliative care services, in line with community expectations and need
- \$200,000 for community pharmacy initiatives to improve medication management for palliative care patients

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#).

\$534 million for new hospital in Tweed Heads

13 June 2017

The Deputy Premier, the Hon John Barilaro MP, the Minister for Health, the Hon Brad Hazzard MP and the Member for Tweed, Mr Geoff Provest MP announced in the 2017-18 budget that there would be up to \$534 million for a new hospital in the Tweed region.

The new hospital will greatly improve health services for the region, which is forecast to grow by more than 40 per cent to 128,000 people by 2031.

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#).



Family and Community Services

\$63 million to increase the number of child protection caseworkers

13 June 2017

The Minister for Family and Community Services, the Hon Pru Goward announced that the NSW Government will invest an extra \$63 million over four years to boost the number of caseworkers for both front line and support services.

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#)

Sport

\$4 million for life saving defibrillators for sporting clubs

13 June 2017

The Minister for Sport, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP announced that \$4 million would be allocated in the budget to help sports clubs to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators(AED).

This funding will help roll out more than 2,500 AEDs to sporting clubs.

Ministers' Media Release, [here](#).

Further Information

Barton Deakin Brief on the NSW 2017-18 Pre-Budget Announcements No.1, [here](#).

Barton Deakin Brief on the NSW State Budget 2016-17, [here](#).

Barton Deakin Brief on the NSW State Budget Half-Yearly Review, [here](#).

NSW Government's Half-Yearly Budget Review, [here](#).

NSW Government's 2016-17 Half-Yearly Review Fact Sheet, [here](#).

NSW Government's 2016-17 Budget Papers Budget Speech, [here](#).

NSW Government's 2016-17 Budget Papers Budget Overview, [here](#).

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