Budget Overview

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Acknowledgements

The photos in this publication are reproduced with the kind permission of the Department of the Chief Minister, Department of Education, Department of Infrastructure, Department of Treasury and Finance, Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Taminmin College and Top End Health Service.
The 2016-17 Budget focuses on stimulating the Territory economy with substantial investment in infrastructure. The $1.7 billion infrastructure spend is aimed at creating job opportunities while improving public facilities across the Territory. The 2016-17 Budget also provides additional resources for frontline services, diversification of the economy and encourages private investment in the Territory.

The updated financial projections contained in the 2016-17 Budget were significantly influenced by recent reductions in revenue estimates, mainly a reduced GST revenue share, together with lower stamp duty and mining royalty collections reflecting moderation in the property market and the mining sector.

The effect of these reductions, combined with spending decisions aimed at stimulating the Territory economy, results in a delay in the return to a surplus position until 2019-20. It also results in the projected outcomes in the Budget and forward estimates worsening from those projected at the time of the April 2015 Budget and December 2015-16 Mid-Year Report.

For 2016-17, the fiscal balance deficit is projected to be $794 million, with net debt of $2.7 billion. Net debt has been influenced by the projected fiscal deficits and the long-term lease of the Port of Darwin. This is evident in 2015-16 as net debt improved by $670 million to $1.97 billion, when compared to the April 2015 Budget. However, from 2016-17 net debt is anticipated to increase across the forward years before reducing marginally in 2019-20, consistent with the projected surplus in that year.

### Key Fiscal Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net operating balance – GGS</strong></td>
<td>$242</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>$56</td>
<td>$23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fiscal balance – NFPS</strong></td>
<td>$-153</td>
<td>$-794</td>
<td>$-413</td>
<td>$-148</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net debt – NFPS</strong></td>
<td>$1971</td>
<td>$2707</td>
<td>$3048</td>
<td>$3137</td>
<td>$3101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net debt to revenue – NFPS (%)</strong></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GGS: general government sector; NFPS: non-financial public sector

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance

The following table demonstrates the cumulative effect of revenue reductions since the 2015-16 Budget.

### Cumulative Revenue Reduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tax and mining revenue</strong></td>
<td>$-67</td>
<td>$-72</td>
<td>$-72</td>
<td>$-72</td>
<td>$-282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GST revenue</strong></td>
<td>$-145</td>
<td>$-237</td>
<td>$-211</td>
<td>$-161</td>
<td>$-754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$-212</td>
<td>$-309</td>
<td>$-283</td>
<td>$-233</td>
<td>$-1036</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance
**Government’s Fiscal Strategy**

**Key fiscal target:** by 2017-18 the fiscal imbalance in the Territory’s non financial public sector is to be eliminated.

**Assessment:** Return to surplus delayed by two years until 2019-20.

**Associated fiscal outcome:** by 2016-17 the Territory’s general government sector to achieve a net operating surplus.

**Assessment:** this element was achieved in 2013-14, three years ahead of the fiscal strategy target.

**Associated fiscal outcome:** by 2016-17, taxation effort in the Territory’s general government sector is more on par with the average effort of the states.

**Assessment:** the Territory’s revenue raising effort has improved from 88% to 104% in 2014-15.

**Associated fiscal outcome:** by 2016-17, the Territory’s government owned corporations are moving towards commercial rates of return on capital employed.

**Assessment:** In the 2016-17 Budget the government owned corporations average a rate of return of around 4% across the forward estimate period.

**Associated fiscal outcome:** by 2020, the Territory’s non financial public sector net debt as a percentage of revenue is approaching 60%.

**Assessment:** net debt to revenue is projected to be 41% in 2016-17 and, while increasing over the forward estimates to 46% in 2019-20, remains well below the 60% target.

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**GST revenue**

GST revenue is the largest single fiscal transfer from the Commonwealth, representing about 50 per cent of the Territory’s total revenue. In 2016-17, the Territory is expected to receive $3263 million in GST revenue, an $11 million decrease from the 2015-16 estimate of $3274 million. The decrease is mostly driven by a reduction in the Territory’s GST relativity from 5.57053 to 5.28450, along with a reduction in the Territory’s share of the national population, partially offset by an increase in GST collections.

When compared to the 2015-16 Budget, the current estimate of GST revenue for 2016-17 is expected to be $145 million lower and on average $188 million lower per annum.

Overall, growth in GST revenue for the three years to 2017-18 is estimated to be minimal, increasing from $3274 million in 2015-16 to $3306 million in 2017-18, hindering the Territory’s capacity to meet its fiscal targets.

The following table sets out the relativity for all jurisdictions for 2015-16 and 2016-17 and demonstrates the substantial reduction to the Territory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>Vic</th>
<th>Qld</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>Tas</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>NT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-16 relativity</td>
<td>0.947</td>
<td>0.893</td>
<td>1.128</td>
<td>0.300</td>
<td>1.359</td>
<td>1.819</td>
<td>1.100</td>
<td>5.571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17 relativity</td>
<td>0.905</td>
<td>0.910</td>
<td>1.171</td>
<td>0.303</td>
<td>1.417</td>
<td>1.777</td>
<td>1.156</td>
<td>5.285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact ($M)</td>
<td>- 791</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>- 54</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>- 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact ($pc)</td>
<td>- 103</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>- 104</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>- 688</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Commonwealth Grants Commission, Department of Treasury and Finance

**Budget Highlights**

Key initiatives in the 2016-17 Budget include:

- $20 million for the Home Improvement Scheme for Territory home owner-occupiers to engage small Territory businesses to undertake minor improvements and repairs and maintenance on their homes in 2016-17;
- $5.5 million to assist first home buyers of established homes in the Territory by reducing the barrier of upfront transaction costs through a stamp duty discount of 50%, up to the value of $10,000, from 24 May 2016 to 30 June 2017;
- $3.02 million for a Knowledge Territory reform package to introduce new initiatives to promote innovation and realign current training and support programs. It includes the establishment of the independent Office of the Chief Scientist, a study voucher program to assist apprentices and trainees, higher education scholarships and a cadetship program;
- $185.9 million over five years to revolutionise health care delivery in the Territory through ICT modernisation including the introduction of real-time individual electronic health records as part of the Core Clinical Systems Renewal Program, the largest ICT reform in the Territory’s history; and
- $140.4 million over five years to support the revitalisation of social housing in urban centres across the Territory and the construction of new dwellings as part of the new Territory Government Housing Strategy.
Developing the Economy

Key Economic Indicators
Following a strong rate of growth of 10.5 per cent in 2014-15, economic growth in the Territory is expected to slow to 2.1 per cent in 2015-16, as the economy commences a period of transition from investment-led activity to growth driven by production and exports.

Growth in the Territory’s gross state product is expected to moderate to 1.5 per cent in 2016-17 before strengthening to around 5 per cent in 2017-18, reflecting an anticipated increase in Territory liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports. Labour market conditions and population growth are predicted to remain subdued as the Ichthys LNG project completes the construction phase and commences the operational phase.

The Darwin consumer price index is estimated to contract by 0.3 per cent in 2015-16, before returning to modest growth in 2016-17 and 2017-18. Wage growth in the Territory is expected to moderate to 2.2 per cent in 2015-16 and remain subdued over the medium term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory Key Economic Indicators (%)</th>
<th>2014-15</th>
<th>2015-16e</th>
<th>2016-17f</th>
<th>2017-18f</th>
<th>2018-19f</th>
<th>2019-20f</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross state product</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer price index</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage price index</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* e: estimate; f: forecast
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; Australia Bureau of Statistics

Port Package
The lease of the Port of Darwin in late 2015 generated proceeds of $506 million. The 2016-17 Budget re-invests $431 million of the proceeds into a range of projects designed to stimulate investment and diversify the Territory economy, including a further $100 million investment in the Northern Territory Infrastructure Development Fund and up to $100 million for a ship lift facility to support the development of a new marine services industry.

The proceeds from the lease will also be re-invested through:

- $100 million for the Boosting our Economy package;
- $20 million for the Home Improvement Scheme;
- $50 million for a contribution towards the expansion of the Owen Springs power station and upgrade of the Tennant Creek power station;
- $20 million to build skywalk adventure experiences in Territory parks to create world-class visitor attractions and increase employment for Indigenous people;
- $5 million to increase support for the Menzies School of Health Research to fund research that will deliver strong economic and health returns for the Territory;
- $16 million over two years for the Arnhem Link Road;
- $16.5 million over two years for the Maryvale Road;

Home Improvement Scheme
The 2016-17 Budget introduces a new $20 million grant program for Territory home owner-occupiers to undertake minor improvements and repairs and maintenance on their homes in 2016-17.

Under the scheme, a voucher of up to $2000 per home owner-occupier on a 50:50 co-contribution basis will be available from 1 July 2016 to assist with the cost of work undertaken.

Small businesses will be able to start registering from 24 May 2016. The program is capped at $20 million and will operate until expended or 30 June 2017.

First Home Owner Discount
The 2016-17 Budget provides additional assistance to first home buyers of established homes by reducing the barrier of upfront transaction costs.

From 24 May 2016 to 30 June 2017 a stamp duty discount of 50%, up to the value of $10,000, will be available for first home buyers purchasing established homes in the Territory.

The First Home Owner Discount is designed to complement the First Home Owner Grant, which applies to newly constructed homes, while ensuring housing affordability without placing upward pressure on housing prices.
• $2 million to establish a vapour heat treatment plant for the Territory mango industry;
• $0.5 million for a bush tucker industry research and development study to establish a national industry hub based in Alice Springs; and
• $1 million for a planning study for Aboriginal cultural centres.

Supporting Industry and Local Business
The 2016-17 Budget supports the Buy Local Plan, which includes a range of procurement reforms designed to assist local businesses in earning a greater percentage of government spending. The 2016-17 Budget also provides:
• $5.25 million over two years, in partnership with the Commonwealth, to establish bakery cafés in remote communities;
• $2 million to grow opportunities for Indigenous Territorians and support Indigenous business and organisations; and
• $0.4 million to continue the Business Engagement Strategy and promote significant events in the Territory’s business calendar.

The 2016-17 Budget encourages investment in the Territory by providing $4.9 million to progress the Marine Industry Park, Katherine Business Park and development projects on the Tiwi Islands.

In addition, the 2016-17 Budget invests in the following initiatives that will help grow the Territory’s key industries:
• $1.2 million to support research farms and develop a strategic plan for the future operation of the farms;
• $5.95 million to continue the Creating Opportunities for Resourcing Exploration (CORE) initiative to stimulate resource exploration;
• $1 million to support air services between Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs;
• $0.68 million to support a building reform agenda to provide broader protection for the Territory’s building and construction supply chain; and
• $0.5 million for research into substituting imported diesel and fuel with domestic production of diesel from natural gas.

Boosting our Economy
The $100 million Boosting our Economy package will provide an immediate cash injection into the Territory economy, stimulating direct and indirect job opportunities for local small to medium businesses while improving public facilities and services across the Territory. The package includes:
• $68.5 million for upgrades and repairs and maintenance to Territory schools;
• $10 million towards the Carpentaria Disability Services hub development;
• $8 million additional funding to construct a tennis centre at Marrara, bringing the total Territory Government contribution to $16 million for the $16.7 million project;
• $4 million for sports infrastructure grants;
• $5 million for the Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund;
• $3 million for upgrades at Freds Pass Reserve; and
• $2 million for flood mitigation works for phase 2 of Ludmilla Creek.

Reducing Cost of Living
The 2016-17 Budget is also putting downward pressure on the cost of living through:
• a 5% reduction in household electricity tariffs from 1 January 2016;
• $7.6 million to continue the Sport Voucher scheme;
• $6.7 million to continue the Back to School payments scheme; and
• $6 million to continue the early childhood services subsidy.
Tourism

Tourism Roads
The 2016-17 Budget supports the development of the Territory’s tourism industry through investment in key tourism roads infrastructure including:

- $23 million to continue works to complete the sealing of the Mereenie Inner Loop of the Red Centre Way tourist drive;
- $14.2 million to continue works to complete the sealing of Litchfield Park Road;
- $10.4 million to construct a high-level bridge over the Lower Finniss River on Litchfield Park Road;
- $28.8 million, including Commonwealth funding, to continue to upgrade and seal sections of the Plenty Highway and Tjukururu Road as part of the Improve Outback Way Roads Program; and
- $2.9 million to continue upgrades to Kambolgie Creek crossing in Kakadu.

Developing and Upgrading Tourist Attractions
The 2016-17 Budget invests in tourism facilities including:

- $20 million to build skywalk adventure experiences in Territory parks to create world-class visitor attractions and increase employment for Indigenous people;
- $3.97 million to upgrade the Alcoota Fossil Beds Field Station;
- $1.33 million over two years to develop and maintain mountain biking trails; and
- $5.3 million to continue works to upgrade facilities at Casuarina Coastal Reserve and Litchfield National Park.

Tourism
The 2016-17 Budget promotes the continued development of the tourism industry through:

- $5 million to continue the Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund established to assist tourism operators to continue making improvements to existing products and provide new or expanded accommodation facilities;
- $2 million to Regional Tourist Organisations and Visitor Information Centres to provide regional marketing and visitor information services across the Territory;
- $2 million for business events with a focus on conferences, corporate incentive marketing and a branding campaign for Darwin and Alice Springs;
- $1 million for strategic product initiatives that build on the Territory’s destinalional strengths;
- $0.78 million as part of the Commonwealth Government’s Tourism Demand-Driver Infrastructure program;
- $0.5 million towards expanding a tourism Wi-Fi network across key locations utilised by visitors, building on sites established in 2014-15 and 2015-16; and
- $0.15 million to develop and implement an Indigenous internship program within Tourism NT.

Promoting the Territory
The 2016-17 Budget includes $29 million to market the Territory as a holiday destination internationally and interstate including cooperative activity with airlines, travel trade and other partners, public relations, trade training, and consumer activity. Initiatives include:

- $1.5 million for ongoing sponsorships with key sporting and consumer brands;
- $1 million for marketing activity targeting youth and working holiday makers;
- $0.5 million for a new whole-of-destination website, northernterritory.com; and
- $0.25 million to take tourism operators to key trade events domestically and overseas.
Tourism and Lifestyle

Lifestyle

Motorsports
The 2016-17 Budget enhances motorsports events and infrastructure including:
• $0.1 million for the Australian National Drag Racing Association Drag Racing Series at Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex;
• $3.4 million for the V8 Supercars Championship and Red CentreNATS;
• $8.99 million to upgrade infrastructure at the Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex; and
• $2 million grant to MotorSports NT to upgrade various facilities across the Territory.

Fishing
The 2016-17 Budget continues to deliver for Territory fishers including:
• $0.5 million for the second season of the Million Dollar Fish competition;
• $15 million over two years to upgrade Gunn Point Road;
• $1 million to upgrade the Corroboree Billabong access road;
• $0.25 million ongoing to upgrade the Point Stuart Road;
• $0.25 million to continue the fisheries enhancement program including the production and release of fingerlings; and
• $0.51 million to support the sustainable management of the Territory’s recreational fishing sector.

Sporting Facilities
The 2016-17 Budget delivers enhanced sporting infrastructure to benefit Territorians including:
• $5 million to support the redevelopment of the pool at Parap Leisure and Sports Centre;
• $8 million to construct a tennis centre at Marrara, bringing the Territory Government’s total contribution to $16 million for the $16.7 million project;
• $2.3 million for upgrades at TIO stadium;
• $4.2 million for the redevelopment of netball facilities in Alice Springs, a $6.25 million project including external funding;
• $2 million for a grant program to upgrade sporting facilities in regional and remote areas of the Territory;
• $3 million for utilities, roads and lighting upgrades at Freds Pass Reserve; and
• $4 million for sports infrastructure grants.

Supporting Sports Development
The 2016-17 Budget provides:
• $1.2 million over four years to support the Darwin Golf Club;
• $1 million for grants to AFL clubs across the Territory to develop community football competitions; and
• $10.2 million for grants to sport and recreation organisations.

Territory Events
The 2016-17 Budget delivers entertainment and sporting events for all Territorians including:
• $7 million to support various events across the Territory through operational support to the NT Major Events Company;
• $1.6 million to support FestivalsNT;
• $0.4 million for BASSINTHEGRASS;
• $2.8 million to support Territory show societies;
• $1 million to continue to hold a National Rugby League premiership game in Darwin and preseason game in Alice Springs; and
• $1.5 million for The Territory Remembers program for the 75th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin.

Arts and Culture
The 2016-17 Budget supports art and cultural activities through:
• $1.25 million for arts grants and to support the delivery of the Northern Territory Arts and Cultural Policy, and grow a sustainable arts sector;
• $1 million for a planning study for Aboriginal cultural centres; and
• $0.8 million to continue an initiative targeted at screen industry development and growth in the Territory.
**Aboriginal Affairs**

**Remote Housing**
The 2016-17 Budget continues to deliver remote and regional housing initiatives across the Territory including:

- $210.9 million to continue to construct new, and upgrade existing, housing in remote Indigenous communities across the Territory under the National Partnership agreements on Remote Housing and Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment;
- $2 million to construct new dwellings in Elliott and Kalkarindji;
- $25.3 million to construct additional housing and associated works in Arlparra;
- $81.7 million to provide property and tenancy management for remote Indigenous public housing, including $62.1 million under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing;
- $2.37 million to provide accommodation options for visitors to Alice Springs; and
- $1 million to establish a Northern Territory Remote Housing Development Authority to provide improved housing services in remote communities.

In addition, the 2016-17 Budget continues the Homelands Program, providing $21.3 million to support the delivery of housing and maintenance services for people living on homelands.

The 2016-17 Budget also provides $1.5 million to continue the Remote Home Ownership program and $5.35 million to continue the Homelands Extra Allowance program.

**Economic Development**
The 2016-17 Budget continues to strengthen locally-led economic development projects in remote communities with $2 million for the Remote Aboriginal Economic Development Fund that allows local people to focus on creating local solutions to gain economic independence. In addition, $7.2 million is provided for the Community Champions program, which involves senior government officials being assigned to one of 13 Indigenous communities across the Territory whose interests and projects they will champion.

The 2016-17 Budget also provides $5.25 million over two years, including Commonwealth funding, to establish bakeries in remote areas of the Territory. The bakeries will provide employment opportunities and deliver diversity of choice and increased access to quality food for those living in remote communities.

The 2016-17 Budget further provides:

- $0.4 million to establish crocodile farming enterprises in East Arnhem;
- $0.5 million for a bush tucker industry research and development study to establish a national industry-based hub in Alice Springs; and
- $1 million for a planning study for Aboriginal cultural centres.

The 2016-17 Budget includes $2 million to continue to support Indigenous business start-ups, improve the sustainability of Indigenous businesses and increase Indigenous employment participation. The initiative targets Indigenous business development outside of urban areas to support self-sustaining Indigenous wealth creation initiatives.

**Essential Services and Community Connections**
The 2016-17 Budget provides $36.2 million over two years for capital projects to deliver and upgrade essential services in remote communities across the Territory, with a focus on water and sewerage projects including:

- $5 million for water storage replacement at Numbulwar;
- $4.8 million for water mains upgrades at Wadeye, Robinson River and Laramba;
- $5.48 million for grid connections from Nganamarriyanga and Peppimenarti to Wadeye;
- $8.07 million for new water sources at Ngukurr, Barunga, Yuendumu, Imanpa and Wadeye Manthape;
- $12 million for sewerage upgrades at Angurugu and Ali Curung; and
- $0.85 million for the Galiwin’ku chlorination plant.
The 2016-17 Budget continues to support regional economic development and community connections through investment in the development and upgrade of various strategic roads and transport assets including:

- $5.9 million to continue to upgrade priority sections of Lajamanu Road;
- $6 million over two years to upgrade the Sandover Highway;
- $4.25 million, including Commonwealth funding, for priority works at aerodromes;
- $0.36 million to continue the Regional Bus Program; and
- $0.4 million to trial new intra-town passenger services in priority regional and remote areas.

The 2016-17 Budget also supports remote information and communications technology infrastructure through:

- $0.47 million to continue to provide free internet access WiFi hotspots in 34 remote communities and allow services to be extended to a further 12 remote communities to continue to foster remote community development and connectivity; and
- $5 million to continue the $15 million three-year joint Telstra and Territory Government co-investment program to further expand telecommunications services across remote Territory communities.

**Employment**

The 2016-17 Budget provides $0.9 million to continue to deliver initiatives under the Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) Indigenous Employment and Career Development Strategy 2015-2020. The strategy underpins the Government’s aim to increase Indigenous representation in the public service to 16 per cent by 2020, giving Indigenous people an opportunity to drive government policy to improve economic outcomes for Indigenous Territorians.

The strategy has achieved the 2015 target of 9.3 per cent Indigenous employment in the NTPS and is on track to achieve the 16 per cent target by 2020.

**Remote Health**

The 2016-17 Budget continues to support remote health services with:

- $0.33 million for two Top End remote-based clinician positions and Aboriginal mental health workers in Maningrida and on the Tiwi Islands;
- $0.89 million for the Back on Track program, which aims to increase the number of Indigenous health practitioners in the workforce by 10 per cent per annum; and
- $0.58 million for the Pathways to Community Control program to create a framework that supports Indigenous community control in the planning, development and management of primary health care and community care services.

**Remote Education**

The 2016-17 Budget continues to strengthen Indigenous education through:

- $43.7 million, including Commonwealth funding, to improve Indigenous student outcomes as part of the Government’s Indigenous Education Strategy;
- $5.4 million to operate the Northern Territory Open Education Centre in new facilities at the Bullocky Point Education Precinct;
- $4.5 million to replace fire-damaged buildings at Angurugu School;
- $1.4 million to operate the new 40-place regional boarding facility at Nhulunbuy High School from January 2017; and
- $3.5 million for Indigenous Territorians to access training and increase workforce participation.
**Top End Rural**
- $62.7M for better schools and training
- $53.59M for better health
- $17.51M to provide public bus transport services
- $16M for a tennis centre at Marrara
- $10M towards the Barneson Boulevard link
- $8.99M for the Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex
- $8.3M to provide cardiothoracic and neurosurgical services
- $8M to dredge the Cullen Bay navigational channel
- $5M for the redevelopment of the pool at Parap Leisure and Sports Centre
- $2.7M for the V8 Supercars
- $2.4M for the Leanyer Recreation Park
- $2M to support FestivalsNT and BASSINTHEGRASS

**Darwin**
- $546.22M for better health
- $400.95M for better schools and training
- $254.06M for safer communities
- $20.74M to upgrade Royal Darwin Hospital
- $17.51M to provide public bus transport services
- $16M for a tennis centre at Marrara
- $10M towards the Barneson Boulevard link
- $8.99M for the Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex
- $8.3M to provide cardiothoracic and neurosurgical services
- $8M to dredge the Cullen Bay navigational channel
- $5M for the redevelopment of the pool at Parap Leisure and Sports Centre
- $2.7M for the V8 Supercars
- $2.4M for the Leanyer Recreation Park
- $2M to support FestivalsNT and BASSINTHEGRASS

**Palmerston and Litchfield**
- $280.85M for better schools and training
- $175.78M for safer communities
- $78.4M in joint funding to continue work on the Palmerston Regional Hospital
- $34.94M for better health
- $9.95M for the Palmerston special school
- $6.4M for the Territory Wildlife Park
- $6.27M to provide public bus services
- $6M for intersection upgrades at McKinnon Road and Stuart Highway to provide better heavy vehicle access to Pinelands
- $3M for upgrades at Freds Pass Reserve
- $2.3M for the Palmerston Water Park

**Katherine**
- $123.13M for better schools and training
- $98.35M for better health
- $82.9M under National Partnership agreements for new housing, upgrades, and property and tenancy management
- $37.27M for safer communities
- $10.66M for residential land release
- $7.9M to upgrade and seal selected sections of the Roper Highway
- $6.13M to support economic development
- $5.9M to seal priority sections of Lajamanu Road
- $4.05M for essential services upgrades
- $0.5M to support the Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre

**Central Australia**
- $314.41M for better health
- $195.34M for better schools and training
- $116.25M for safer communities
- $60.9M under National Partnership agreements for new housing, upgrades and property and tenancy management
- $16.5M over two years to upgrade and seal selected sections of the Roper Highway
- $10M in Commonwealth funding for the environmental management of the former Rum Jungle mine site
- $6.22M for essential services upgrades
- $6.05M to support economic development
- $3.98M to continue upgrades to the Dundee Beach and Shady Camp boat ramps
- $3.51M to provide public transport including the regional bus service on the Tiwi islands
- $2.7M to facilitate the release of industrial and residential land
- $5.45M to continue to upgrade and seal selected sections of Tanami Road
- $5.34M to support economic development
- $3.97M to improve facilities for scientists, volunteers and visitors at the Alcoota Fossil Beds Field Station
- $2.62M under the National Partnership for renal facilities including family-centric accommodation, infrastructure and dialysis facilities
- $1.5M to deliver the 2016 Alice Springs Masters Games
- $0.69M for the Red Centre NATS
### Regional Highlights

**Budget 2016-17**

**East Arnhem**
- $137.75M for better schools and training
- $77.32M for better health
- $69.9M under National Partnership agreements for new housing, upgrades and property and tenancy management
- $29.48M for safer communities
- $16M over two years to upgrade the road between Ramingining and Central Arnhem

**Barkly**
- $59.95M for better schools and training
- $36.23M for better health
- $27.6M under National Partnership agreements for new housing, upgrades and property and tenancy management
- $25.3M for housing construction in Arlparra, including land servicing and water and sewerage upgrades
- $19.95M for safer communities
- $7M to continue strengthening six bridges on the Tablelands Highway

**Territory Wide**
- $589.6M for roads and transport
- $258.7M for better health
- $185.9M over five years to revolutionise healthcare delivery through the Core Clinical Systems Renewal Program
- $140.4M over five years for the Northern Territory Housing Strategy
- $111.94M for essential services
- $49.4M for cyclone assistance
- $42.95M to support economic development
- $38.02M for safer communities
- $48.5M to support tourism
- $31M in grant funding to councils from the Northern Territory Operational Subsidy grants pool
- $29.53M for the Northern Territory Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme
- $26.65M to support homelands
- $25.58M for better schools and training

### Additional Highlights

- $9.85M for cyclone rectification works
- $4.5M for the Ramingining School multipurpose hall/cyclone shelter
- $2.14M to support economic development
- $0.85M for the Galiwin’ku gas chlorination plant
- $0.39M to continue to support the Indigenous Community Ranger Program including training based in Nhulunbuy
- $6M over two years for upgrades to Sandover Highway
- $3M for housing renovations in Elliott town camps
- $1.25M to support economic development
- $1M for road upgrades to support open speed limits
- $0.35M for mining remediation works
- $0.24M under the National Partnership for renal facilities including family-centric accommodation, infrastructure and dialysis facilities
- $5.45M to continue to upgrade and seal selected sections of Tanami Road
- $5.34M to support economic development
- $3.97M to improve facilities for scientists, volunteers and visitors at the Alcoota Fossil Beds Field Station
- $2.62M under the National Partnership for renal facilities including family-centric accommodation, infrastructure and dialysis facilities
- $1.5M to deliver the 2016 Alice Springs Masters Games
- $0.69M for the Red CentreNATS
- $20M for the Home Improvement Scheme to support home owners and provide opportunities for small businesses
- $20M to build skywalk adventure experiences in Territory parks
- $17.6M for grants to support sports in the Territory, including the sports voucher scheme
- $7M for the NT Major Events Company to support various community events
- $5M to expand mobile phone and broadband services across remote Territory communities
- $4M to support community organisations through multicultural, youth, seniors and community support grant programs
- $3M for the Knowledge Territory initiatives
- $2M to upgrade sporting facilities in regional and remote areas of the Territory
- $1M in grants to local AFL clubs for community football competition development
Community Safety

Community safety is a core responsibility for Government. The 2016-17 Budget delivers on this responsibility by providing $767.9 million to strengthen law and order through better delivery of police and emergency services, and improvements to the justice system.

Improving Police Resources

The 2016-17 Budget invests additional resources to support policing across the Territory including:

- $4.1 million over three years, incorporating Commonwealth funding, to expand the police presence on Groote Eylandt including an Aboriginal Community Police Officer, an Aboriginal Liaison Officer and a Community Engagement Police Officer. The additional personnel will service the Angurugu area and the funding will enable the establishment of a dog unit to service Angurugu, Alyangula and Umbakumba;
- $1.5 million for an additional six police officers in Wadeye;
- $0.16 million, including Commonwealth funding, to counter violent extremism;
- $1.64 million towards improving frontline policing through the replacement of current police information and communications technology (ICT) systems, including the speed camera and infringement system (POLCAM) and the firearm licensing and registration system (SaFER);
- $2 million for new body-worn video systems for frontline police;
- $0.36 million to implement a Territory-wide random drug driver testing regime;
- $0.57 million for phase 2 of the facial recognition trial; and
- $0.2 million for a review into streamlining law enforcement functions and capability.

Enhanced Emergency Services

The 2016-17 Budget continues to support the provision of improved ambulance services for Territorians through a new $149 million, five-year agreement between the Territory Government and St John Ambulance. The agreement will see St John Ambulance deliver:

- around 55 additional staff, including emergency paramedics, non-emergency patient transport officers, and communications and station staff;
- new ambulances and new station vehicles;
- continued high quality ambulance services in Alice Springs, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek;
- expanded ambulance services to meet growing demand in Darwin and Palmerston; and
- improvements in the communications centre with 24/7 supervision to enhance safety and efficiency.

The 2016-17 Budget also includes:

- $1.9 million over two years to upgrade high-rise aerial fire and rescue service appliances to mitigate risk associated with high-rise or industrial structure incidents; and
- $12.6 million, over three years, to replace ultra-high frequency (UHF) radio equipment and infrastructure across government.

Police Infrastructure

The 2016-17 Budget provides $47.6 million to upgrade police facilities including:

- $10 million in Commonwealth funding to upgrade police facilities at Alyangula and Angurugu;
- $0.7 million for upgrades to the forensic laboratory at the Peter McAulay Centre to facilitate in-house analysis of driver samples related to random drug tests;
- $2 million for a multipurpose conference and training centre at the Peter McAulay Centre; and
- $12.1 million for minor new works, repairs and maintenance.

The 2016-17 Budget also provides $20.3 million in Commonwealth funding to continue the construction of the new $28.3 million police precinct in Wadeye, comprising a police station, court and police housing. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-2017.

Rejuvenating Public Housing

The 2016-17 Budget delivers additional funding to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through $1.5 million towards the rejuvenation of public housing complexes in Karama, Larapinta and Moulden.

The initiative will be delivered under the Government’s Buy Local Plan, with works to include improvements to security and lighting, fencing upgrades and general beautification.
Supporting the Justice System

The 2016-17 Budget provides additional support for court services including:

- $2.5 million for the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal to continue providing contemporary administrative review services;
- $1 million to meet growing demand for court support services; and
- $0.8 million for the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission to meet increasing demand pressures.

The 2016-17 Budget expands the electronic monitoring program through $4.2 million over two years, to improve the ability to monitor the movements and whereabouts of adult and youth offenders. Additional funding is also provided for the Territory’s correctional services system including:

- $4.5 million to support increased prisoner numbers;
- $2.3 million for medical escorts and home detention;
- $2.5 million to meet demand growth at the Don Dale Youth Detention Centre;
- $1.5 million for security for the Darwin Magistrates Court and the new Youth Court; and
- $2.2 million for upgrades at the Alice Springs Correctional Centre.

Cyclone Recovery

The recovery of communities devastated by cyclones Lam and Nathan is well progressed, including the completion of immediate and critical repairs to housing, restoration of essential and community services, and finalisation of disaster relief payments for affected families and individuals. With urgent housing requirements nearing completion, the remaining houses will be constructed under a slow-build model that provides a pipeline of works to support training and employment outcomes.

The 2016-17 Budget also continues to progress cyclone rectification works through:

- $2.9 million to rebuild the Ramingining School;
- $4.5 million to construct a multipurpose hall/ cyclone shelter on the Ramingining school grounds;
- $3.2 million for transportable dwellings at Galiwin’ku;
- $3.7 million to rebuild the Milingimbi School; and
- $48.6 million for housing cyclone rectification works.

In addition, the 2016-17 Budget provides a further $5 million in joint funding with the Commonwealth to establish a community recovery fund to assist the rebuilding of community infrastructure and development activities.

Child Protection

The 2016-17 Budget commits an additional $10 million ongoing to address increased demand for children receiving out of home care services.

Domestic Violence

The 2016-17 Budget provides additional funding to continue and expand a range of domestic violence prevention and reduction initiatives including:

- $6.77 million to continue the whole of government Domestic and Family Violence Reduction Strategy;
- $0.6 million over four years to fulfil the Indigenous Male Advisory Council recommendations on family violence prevention initiatives; and
- $0.1 million to upgrade the Alice Springs Women’s Shelter.
The 2016-17 Budget continues to deliver better education outcomes through new and enhanced services; training and innovative employment pathways; and extensive upgrades to educational infrastructure across the Territory.

Shaping the Territory’s Future

The 2016-17 Budget invests in the future prosperity of Territorians by supporting education reform to create improved learning outcomes for Territory students. Initiatives include:

- $388 million in 2016 for government schools in the global schools budget pool, with a further $59 million to meet centralised school costs;
- $242 million in operational and capital subsidies for non-government schools across the Territory, including $167 million in Commonwealth Students First funding;
- $2.1 million additional funding to establish and operate the new Palmerston special school for preschool and primary school high support special needs students;
- $5.7 million in 2016 to operate the new Henbury School for secondary students with high support special needs;
- $5.4 million to continue to provide universal access to 15 hours a week of preschool education in schools; and
- $2 million to continue to support independent public schools to develop and trial innovative programs that enhance educational outcomes.

Building Better Educational Facilities

The 2016-17 Budget provides new, and upgrades existing, school infrastructure across the Territory. New infrastructure projects include the construction of schools, additional classrooms and educational facilities, and extensive upgrades to educational infrastructure across the Territory as part of the Boosting our Economy stimulus package.

The 2016-17 Budget invests $164.1 million in education infrastructure including $33.1 million for repairs and maintenance and $11.6 million for minor new works across Territory schools. Key projects include:

- $21.2 million to support the construction of a Catholic primary school in Zuccoli;
- $4.5 million for a multipurpose hall at Ramingining school that can also operate as a cyclone shelter;
- $2 million to construct a synthetic athletics track at Centralian Middle School;
- $10 million to construct a new science centre at Taminmin College with eight laboratories and eight additional learning spaces;
- $4.5 million to replace fire-damaged buildings at Angurugu School;
- $3.13 million as part of the $7.16 million Braitling Primary School redevelopment and to complete the new early childhood precinct; and
- $2 million for cooling upgrades to the assembly areas at Wulagi and Wagaman primary schools.
As part of the Boosting our Economy stimulus package the 2016–17 Budget provides $68.5 million for upgrades at schools across the Territory including:

- $32.5 million for various upgrades at government schools including new playgrounds, drop-off areas, refurbishment of classrooms and carparks;
- $11 million for water upgrades at government schools including fire and potable water pipes, and irrigation;
- $5 million for repairs and maintenance at government schools;
- $10 million for mechanical upgrades at government schools including replacement of airconditioning units and various mechanical repairs; and
- $10 million for infrastructure works in non-government schools.

Remote Education
The 2016-17 Budget provides $43.7 million, including Commonwealth funding, to improve Indigenous student outcomes as part of the Government’s Indigenous Education Strategy. The strategy includes:

- $4.9 million to support remote Indigenous students to determine their secondary school pathways; and
- $11.1 million to continue and expand the Families as First Teachers program. By December 2017, the Families as First Teachers program will be expanded to 32 remote and very remote communities.

Remote students will also be supported through $5.4 million to operate the Northern Territory Open Education Centre in new facilities at the Bullocky Point Education Precinct. The centre will provide a world-class facility and technology to meet the specialist education needs of senior secondary students accessing distance learning, as well as supporting remote skills training packages.

The 2016-17 Budget also provides $1.4 million to operate the new 40-place regional boarding facility at Nhulunbuy High School from January 2017.

Capable Workforce
The 2016-17 Budget provides $99.7 million for training and employment opportunities to develop a capable workforce that meets the Territory’s current and future needs.

The 2016-17 Budget includes:

- $53.4 million of Territory and Commonwealth funding for registered training organisations to deliver skills training;
- $7 million to provide vocational education and training, and employment pathways in schools;
- $22.4 million to registered training organisations to support training for apprentices and trainees; and
- $6.2 million for support services to apprentices, trainees and employers.

Great Start, Great Future
Budget 2016-17 provides $19 million, including Commonwealth funding, for the Great Start Great Future – Northern Territory Early Years Strategic Plan 2016-2020 to enhance the health, wellbeing and learning outcomes of Territory children, from birth to eight years of age, and their families.

Key initiatives as part of the strategy include:

- $2.2 million to operate six child and family centres including $0.3 million for the new Larapinta centre;
- $0.2 million to support the Young Mothers are Strong Mothers program to provide young mothers the opportunity to obtain further education qualifications including the completion of Year 12; and
- $1 million to expand the Families as First Teachers program into urban centres.
The 2016-17 Budget provides $1.52 billion in health-related expenditure to support innovative health care through an expansion of the health services provided in the Territory and an overhaul of the Territory’s major health ICT systems.

Cardiothoracic and Neurosurgical Services
The 2016-17 Budget includes $8.3 million to establish cardiothoracic and neurosurgical services in the Territory.

The investment, which includes establishment costs associated with infrastructure, equipment and staffing, will identify and train local medical officers, nurses and allied health professionals to support the delivery of cardiothoracic and neurosurgical services in the Territory.

The services are intended to address rehabilitation and the initial surgical intervention to enable around 600 patients to receive treatment close to home and avoid the burden and clinical risk of travelling interstate.

Strengthening Health Infrastructure
The 2016-17 Budget invests in hospital facilities to improve patient outcomes through:

- $16.2 million to continue remediation and upgrades at Alice Springs Hospital;
- $13.1 million to develop remote health centres in Ngukurr, Robinson River, Galiwin’ku and Numbulwar;
- $14 million to continue the refurbishment of outpatient and public areas at Royal Darwin Hospital;
- $4.9 million for remediation and upgrades to fire safety systems at Gove District Hospital;
- $3.7 million, including Commonwealth funding, to continue upgrades to the paediatrics wards at Royal Darwin Hospital;
- $5.1 million to continue constructing a multipurpose facility at Alice Springs Hospital;
- $2 million, including Commonwealth funding, to construct and upgrade renal clinics around Alice Springs;
- $9.6 million, including Commonwealth funding, to continue upgrades to the Gove District Hospital emergency department; and
- $3 million to construct an area for a second CT scanner at Royal Darwin Hospital.

Enhancing Mental Health Services
The 2016-17 Budget supports mental health services across the Territory through a suite of initiatives and investment including:

- $0.33 million for two Top End remote-based clinician positions and Aboriginal mental health workers in Maningrida and on the Tiwi Islands;
- $0.9 million to maintain additional capacity in crisis assessment teams for short-term case management and mobile assessments;
- $0.9 million for continued operation of the five-bed Youth Inpatient Program, offering specialist youth mental health assessment and treatment; and
- $0.5 million for continuing the Mental Health Court Liaison Service.
Smarter Health Care
The 2016-17 Budget invests $185.9 million over five years to revolutionise health care delivery in the Territory through ICT modernisation including the introduction of real-time individual electronic health records.

The Core Clinical Systems Renewal Program (CCSRP) will be the largest ICT reform in the Territory’s history and will result in the Territory being the first jurisdiction to provide end-to-end clinical information to all healthcare providers at the point of care.

The CCSR P will replace four core clinical information systems currently supporting health services in the Territory and implement an integrated, client-centric electronic health record. This will transform the way public health services operate in the Territory by allowing clinicians to access a single patient record from any hospital, clinic or primary care centre in real time.

As a consequence, clinicians will no longer need to reassess a patient’s history at every visit resulting in improved health outcomes, reduced re-admissions, lower emergency department waiting times and improved patient safety.

The project will continue to be progressed through the government’s comprehensive ICT Governance Framework to ensure appropriate risk management and resource utilisation, and the successful delivery of the project.

Improving Suicide Prevention
The 2016-17 Budget provides $1.44 million for suicide prevention to support activities aligned with the Suicide Prevention Strategic Action Plan 2015-18. The action plan is a whole of government approach to increase awareness and promote early intervention strategies to increase resilience across the Territory.

Strengthening Disability Services
The transition to the full rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme is progressing through a bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth for transitional arrangements. The 2016-17 Budget provides $0.92 million over four years to support the transition to full implementation across the Territory. The 2016-17 Budget also provides quality care to Territorians living with disabilities through:

- $10 million to support the construction of the Carpentaria Disability Services community hub development; and
- $0.47 million to assist with the completion of the third and final stage of the Somerville Centre in Palmerston.

Supporting Health Research
The 2016-17 Budget invests $5 million to increase support for the Menzies School of Health Research to fund research into delivering strong economic and health returns for the Territory.
Essential Infrastructure
The 2016-17 Budget invests around $322 million to upgrade, deliver and maintain power, water and sewerage infrastructure through Power and Water Corporation and Territory Generation.

The 2016-17 Budget also provides $47.5 million for capital projects and repairs and maintenance work for Indigenous Essential Services.

2016-17 Capital Works Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functional Category</th>
<th>2015-16 $M</th>
<th>2016-17 $M</th>
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<td>Housing and related works</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Budget Sector</td>
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Northern Territory Infrastructure Development Fund
The 2016-17 Budget strategically invests $200 million from the proceeds of the TIO sale and $100 million from the Port of Darwin lease into the Northern Territory Infrastructure Development Fund.

The Territory’s contribution will be the foundation in attracting a further $1.2 billion from external investors, creating a $1.5 billion fund, which is expected to generate up to $4.5 billion in infrastructure investment.

The fund will invest in infrastructure assets that will achieve positive economic outcomes for Territorians while producing a commercial rate of return to the fund’s investors.

Infrastructure payments have increased by $198 million to $1.680 billion in 2016-17, compared to $1.482 billion in 2015-16, influenced by Government’s re-investment of the proceeds from the long-term lease of the Port of Darwin into strategic priorities aimed at stimulating, developing and diversifying the Territory’s economy.

The 2016-17 infrastructure program also includes the continuation of a number of projects that commenced as part of the Boosting our Economy stimulus package announced in March 2016, as well as continuing projects that were funded by the proceeds of the TIO sale.

Infrastructure Payments

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015-16 Program</th>
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<td>BUDGET SECTOR</td>
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<tr>
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<th>GOVERNMENT OWNED CORPORATIONS</th>
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<th>2015-16 Cash</th>
<th>2016-17 Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs and maintenance</td>
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<td>TOTAL GOVERNMENT OWNED CORPORATIONS</td>
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The Capital Works Program for 2016-17 is $1.36 billion, supported by a cash allocation of $962 million. Infrastructure payments for 2016-17, which include payments by government owned corporations, are estimated to be $1.68 billion comprising $1.31 billion for capital projects, $360 million for repairs and maintenance and $6 million for infrastructure-related expenses. The level of cash allocated to the program has also increased significantly in 2016-17.
Housing
The 2016-17 Budget provides a substantial investment to improve remote housing infrastructure supported by the Territory and Commonwealth governments and their shared investment of $210.9 million under National Partnership agreements on Remote Housing and Remote Aboriginal Investment.

A further $140.4 million over five years, including an annual $20.2 million capital program, is provided to support the revitalisation of social housing in urban centres across the Territory and the construction of new dwellings as part of the new Territory Government Housing Strategy.

Education
The 2016-17 Budget continues to invest in education facilities across the Territory with:

- $10 million for Taminmin College to construct a new science centre with eight laboratories and eight additional learning spaces;
- $3.13 million for Braitling Primary School to complete its $7.16 million development;
- $4.5 million for a multipurpose hall at Ramingining school that can also operate as a cyclone shelter; and
- $1 million each for assembly areas at Wulagi and Wagaman primary schools to undergo cooling upgrades.

Health
The 2016-17 Budget continues to support the construction of the $170 million Palmerston Regional Hospital. Other projects to improve health facilities include:

- $29.4 million for continued upgrades to Royal Darwin Hospital including a new area for a second CT scanner;
- $21.8 million to continue upgrades and remediation works at Alice Springs Hospital;
- $14.5 million to continue the refurbishment of Gove District Hospital, including the emergency department; and
- $13.1 million for continued works to deliver new remote health centres at Galiwin’ku, Ngukurr, Numbulwar and Robinson River.

Repairs and Maintenance
Repairs and maintenance has increased across the budget sector. In 2016-17, a total of $216 million is provided for repairs and maintenance, compared to $213 million in 2015-16.

Repairs and maintenance grants of $57.9 million in 2016-17 are also provided for Indigenous housing ($39.1 million), Indigenous Essential Services ($16.6 million), and a local government streetlight subsidy ($2.2 million).

<table>
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<td><strong>Total Budget Sector</strong></td>
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Transport Assets
The 2016-17 Budget maintains Government’s investment in strategic transport assets, including:

- $8 million for the dredging of Cullen Bay to improve safety for vessels; and
- $4.25 million for priority aerodrome works to improve the safety of remote aerodromes across the Territory.
Roads

The 2016-17 Capital Works Program continues the significant investment in road infrastructure through $465.1 million, including $148 million for new projects and $317.1 million for revoted works. The substantial investment assists the Government’s aim to improve reliability, access and safety, and to support economic development opportunities in regional and remote communities.

The Territory Government continues to advocate strongly for further Commonwealth investment in strategic Territory roads through the Northern Australia Road Program, Beef Roads Program and Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program. If Commonwealth funding is secured, it will provide the Territory with the capacity to progress projects such as the access road to support the Sea Dragon project and Ord Development stage 3, as well as extending the seal of the Tanami Road.

Supporting Jobs and Opportunities

The Territory Government recognises the important role our transport network plays in supporting industry to get their products to market, projects include:

- $6 million to provide better heavy vehicle access into the Pinelands Industrial Precinct;
- $27 million to seal the road to Port Melville;
- $16.5 million over two years to upgrade and seal 20 kilometres of the Maryvale Road; and
- $7.9 million to continue upgrades to Roper Highway.

Upgrading Major Centres

The 2016-17 Budget continues to improve and upgrade urban roads to benefit those living in and visiting our major centres including:

- ongoing works as part of the $57 million package to upgrade Palmerston roads, including:
  - duplication of Temple Terrace between Roystonea Avenue and Stuart Highway;
  - upgrades to Roystonea Avenue including a major upgrade of the Temple Terrace intersection; and
  - $4 million to continue construction of the Roystonea Avenue extension from Lambrick Avenue to Owston Avenue.
- $10 million, including $5 million from the City of Darwin, for stage 1 of the Barneson Boulevard link; and
- $3.8 million, including Commonwealth funding, to continue works on the duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive.

Tourism and Fishing

The 2016-17 Budget supports tourism and fishing by improving access to the Territory’s natural assets including:

- $15 million over two years for Gunn Point Road upgrades;
- $14.2 million to continue works to complete the sealing of Litchfield Park Road;
- $10.4 million to construct a high-level bridge over the Lower Finniss River on Litchfield Park Road; and
- $1 million to upgrade the Corroboree Billabong access road.

Connecting Communities

Budget 2016-17 continues the strong investment in roads across our vast landscape to improve access and ensure communities stay connected including:

- $16 million over two years to upgrade and seal sections of road between Ramingining and Central Arnhem Land and construct a high-level bridge;
- $34.5 million, including Commonwealth funding, to upgrade the Little Horse Creek and Big Horse Creek crossings on the Victoria Highway;
- $28.8 million, including Commonwealth funding, to continue to upgrade and seal sections of the Plenty Highway and Tjukurru Road as part of the Improve Outback Way Roads Program;
- $5.8 million to complete the seal of Fog Bay Road, including continuing works to upgrade Leviathan Creek crossing and construction of the Rocky Creek bridge;
- $6 million over two years to upgrade the Sandover Highway to provide sealed access between the Utopia health clinic and the airstrip; and
- $20.6 million to continue works to improve the flood immunity of Port Keats Road at Saddle Rail and Yellow Creek crossing.