



RACHEL NOLAN MP

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Schools and health services big winners in Budget for Ipswich: Nolan

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan has revealed the electorate's schools and health services will receive a huge boost after the release today of the Beattie Government's 2006-07 State Budget.

Ms Nolan said the Budget crucially delivered almost \$4 million to replace the Ipswich Police Station, allocated a multi-million dollar package for the area's roads and transport networks and did not overlook the region's important community organisations.

Ms Nolan said \$17.6 million had been allocated in ongoing funding for an additional 66 hospital beds opened in 2005-06 including six public beds at Ipswich Hospital.

"The Budget is terrific news for health services and for schools in the Ipswich region – key priority areas for the government," Ms Nolan said.

"Beside the funding for the Hospital, there is a raft of additional funding for health services throughout the district.

"And I'm delighted the Budget was clearly focussed on our schools because it's our priority to equip our school children with the best possible amenities. The kids in those classrooms today will be the community leaders of tomorrow."

The Health funding for Ipswich outlined in the Budget includes:

- \$130,000 for enhanced cardiac services in the West Moreton Health Service District, including employing a cardiologist, nurse and sonographer
- \$627,000 from a statewide commitment of \$18 Million to support community mental health services in the West Moreton Health Service District through the employment of additional specialist mental health staff
- \$72,000 in additional funding for Indigenous health programs in the West Moreton Health Service District in the areas of nutrition and child health
- \$96,000 for a Mental Health Intervention Team in the West Moreton Health Service District, to work with police and ambulance officers to de-escalate situations involving people with a mental illness and avert the development of crisis situations

Ms Nolan said the Budget education funding for Ipswich included:

- \$40,000 to Churchill State School to continue works on additional amenities with a total cost of \$297,000
- \$185,000 to Ipswich East State School to continue upgrading the administration area with a total cost of \$760,000
- \$26,000 to Raceview State School to continue installation of an irrigation system
- \$85,000 to Ipswich Central State School to continue a major resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives with a total cost of \$603,000
- \$31,000 through the Triple R Maintenance Program for repainting at Ipswich East State School and Silkstone State School and reticulation at Ipswich East State School
- \$15,000 for high priority maintenance on flooring at Claremont Special School
- \$57,000 for targeted maintenance of buildings at Bremer State High School and Ipswich East State School

Ms Nolan said the Budget also focussed on Queensland's skilled worker shortage by creating 10 new Skilling Solutions Queensland customer service centres – one to be established in the Ipswich area in 2006-07 under the recently launched *Queensland Skills Plan*.

The Ipswich Region will share in the \$10.66 million allocated in this year's budget to establish Skilling Solutions Queensland in ten further locations across the State.

"The Ipswich Region Skilling Solutions Queensland customer service centre will provide face-to-face advice, information and assistance on training and career opportunities to people in Ipswich," she said.

Under the Government's *Queensland Skills Plan*, Ipswich will also share in \$7.59 million allocated to the Greater Brisbane Region in 2006/07 to increase the number of trades apprenticeship training places and the number of Certificate IV and above training places.

A total of 6,630 additional trades apprenticeship training places and 6,320 additional Certificate IV and above training places will be created in the Greater Brisbane Region by 2010.

The total Government contribution to this initiative for the Greater Brisbane Region is \$52.9 million over four years.

Ipswich will also share in:

- \$26.4 million in recurrent funding to create an estimated 5,523 jobs through the Government's *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* initiative throughout 06/07; and
- \$326.6 million in 06/07 for more than 21 million hours of vocational education and training in the Greater Brisbane Region.



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Ms Nolan said more than \$17,000 in funding to local sport and recreation clubs throughout Ipswich, to help increase physical activity opportunities through a wide range of planning, participation and education and training initiatives.

“And community groups have also had a windfall,” she said. “They play a huge role in the Ipswich area and providing them funding is critical.”

The funding includes:

- \$7,500 to the We Care Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service for the Aged and Disabled to Association to conduct a recreation camp for traditional games and sports program
- More than \$197,000 to the Ipswich City Council to improve various facilities and increase the number of people participating in physical activities

Ms Nolan said the Budget delivered \$3.9 million to replace the Ipswich Police Station with a total cost of \$15.84 million.

In other law and order funding, \$13,000 in continued funding is allocated for the purchase of LiveScan fingerprinting technology at the Ipswich Watchhouse at a total cost of \$166,000. This technology allows immediate processing and cross checking of a national database to assist in identifying offenders.

The Budget also details \$123,000 in continued funding for the Ipswich Tactical Crime Squad which targets known crime hotspots with a strong emphasis on investigating property crime and drug offences.

Ipswich will share in 20 new paramedics for the Greater Brisbane Region as part of the 2004-05 commitment to recruit 240 extra paramedics across the State over three years at a total cost of \$35.9 million.

In addition, the Queensland Government will be recruiting 144 new ambulance officers across Queensland at a cost of \$35.3 million over three years and 35 new communications officers at a cost of \$12.4 million over four years.

Ms Nolan outlined important funding across other key areas including:

Transport and Main Roads

- \$11.75 million towards constructing the South West Arterial between Springfield and Yamanto to a new sealed two-lane standard, at a total cost of \$270 million
- \$7.46 million to continue replacement of timber rail bridges with concrete structures in the Brisbane suburban area with a total cost of \$30 million
- \$4.3 million to improve facilities for cyclists under the Queensland Cycle Strategy and SEQ Integrated Regional Cycle Network Plan
- \$694,000 for asphalt resurfacing between Bundamba Creek and South Station Road, on the Ipswich - Cunningham Highway Connection
- \$671,000 to complete bridge repairs at Bremer River, on the Ipswich - Warrego Highway Connection, at a total cost of \$1.63 million
- \$343,000 for intersection improvements at Brisbane Road and Stafford Street
- \$319,000 to complete traffic management devices between East Street and the Warrego Highway, on the Ipswich - Warrego Highway Connection, at a total cost of \$419,000
- \$200,000 to complete route lighting between Brisbane Street and the Warrego Highway, on the Ipswich - Warrego Highway Connection, at a total cost of \$387,000
- \$130,000 for bus set-down and parking improvements at Raceview State School in Ipswich

Communities

- \$1.18 Million to continue the fitout of the Ipswich South Child Safety Service Centre
- \$1.06 Million to continue the fitout of the Ipswich North Child Safety Service Centre
- \$943,000 to continue to provide intensive levels of care within foster carers' homes to children/young people with mainly complex and some extreme support needs at a total cost of \$1.18 million
- \$816,000 to continue to provide residential foster care for 4 young people aged 12-17 years with complex, and in 1 case extreme needs, in the Goodna and Ipswich Child Safety Service Centre catchment area, at a total cost of \$2.45 million
- \$680,000 to continue providing an interim child safety service and one-off funds to assist the organisation to build capacity and meet critical needs in relation to the service at a total cost of \$2.04 million
- \$492,000 to continue to provide residential foster care with a capacity of 3 places at any one time for children/young people aged 12-17 years with complex support needs at a total cost of \$1.48 million



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- \$316,000 to continue to provide residential foster care by house-parents on a roster basis to 3 young people with complex to extreme support needs in the Ipswich area at a total cost of \$949,000
- \$110 Million towards the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme, a priority project to collect wastewater in Ipswich and Western Brisbane and recycle it for applications to power stations and industrial users and, possibly, to households and/or irrigators
- \$23.26 Million to upgrade public housing dwellings in the Greater Brisbane region, for example upgrading kitchens and bathrooms as well as disability modifications
- \$7.68 Million to support people with disabilities and their families, including \$3.15 Million in general funding to non-government organisations for various services, \$1.76 Million to support adults in the community and \$1.34 Million to support people finishing school with the transition to adult life
- \$997,000 to upgrade Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing dwellings, such as upgrading kitchens and bathrooms or making disability modifications, in the Greater Brisbane region
- \$673,000 in ongoing funding to Ipswich Women's Centre Against Domestic Violence to provide counselling, referral and support for women and children affected by domestic violence with a total cost of \$2.02 Million
- \$600,000 to commence construction of 2 detached houses with a total cost of \$618,000.
- \$481,000 in continued funding to Ipswich City Council to provide services under the Home Assist Secure Program, which is a service to provide free information and advice about home maintenance and security
- \$477,000 in ongoing funding to the following organisations for community support services: Ipswich - Public Intoxication Program, Lifeline - Ipswich and West Moreton and Relationships Australia - Gambling Help Ipswich.
- \$414,000 to continue work at the Jefferis Turner Centre in Ipswich, which provides respite services for the carers of people with a disability, at a total cost of \$450,000
- \$400,000 to commence construction of 1 detached house with a total cost of \$413,000

- \$180,000 in continued funding to Ipswich City Council under the Home and Community Care Modifications Program which provides information and financial assistance with larger home modifications, such as ramps and bathroom adaptations, for people who are eligible.
- \$165,000 to the Ipswich Tenancy Advocacy Services to continue providing a tenant advocacy and advice service with a total cost of \$471,000
- \$122,000 in ongoing funding to South West Ipswich Community Housing under the Community Rent Scheme to provide short and medium-term accommodation to public housing applicants in need of immediate housing at a total cost of \$594,000
- \$65,000 to Ipswich City Council to construct a walkway/cycleway at Fail Park in North Booval
- \$65,000 to Ipswich City Council to construct a walk/cycleway including boardwalks at Ash Street Reserve in Flinders View