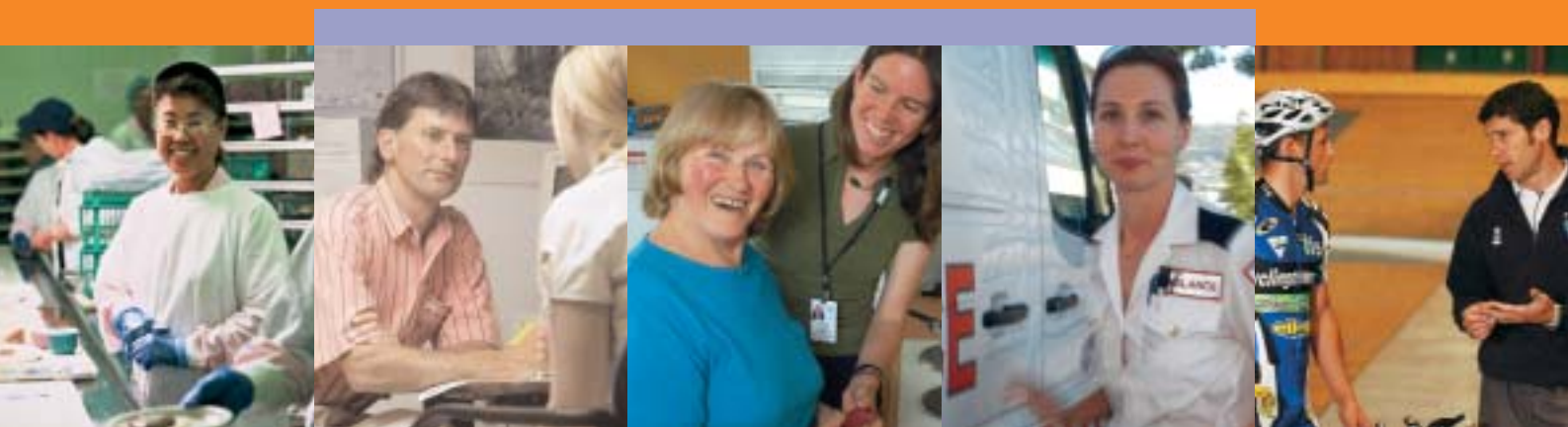


# 2004-05

## TASMANIAN BUDGET

*Presented by the Honourable Paul Lennon MHA, Premier and Treasurer*



*Investing in people*

WITH THE COMMUNITY



Tasmania

# Looking AFTER KIDS

*Providing better services and opportunities for young Tasmanians*

**Spending on health, law and order and education will be progressively increased over the next four years. This Budget commits the Government to spending \$445 million of new money to these key areas:**

- **Health and Human Services \$152 million**
- **Education \$92 million**
- **Police and Public Safety \$55 million**
- **Justice \$20 million**
- **Capital Investment Program \$382 million**

## **Investing in People 2004/05 Concessions Booklet.**

The Government provides concessions and subsidies worth over \$200 million a year. An updated booklet containing a comprehensive list of all concessions is available by phoning 6233 6577 or email [Faye.Verrell@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Faye.Verrell@dpac.tas.gov.au).

Housing Tasmania tenants will receive a copy in the post.



Photography by Chris Crerar.

- **\$18 million** each year to increase teachers' salaries.
- **\$15.3 million** to encourage young people to continue education and training beyond compulsory schooling.
- **\$7.8 million** over four years to provide better classroom support for students with disabilities and training for staff working with these students.
- **\$7 million** over four years to continue to reduce class sizes in Prep and Year One.
- **\$1.2 million** to extend start@TAFE to provide training opportunities for early school leavers and support youth at risk.
- **\$1 million** to improve literacy and numeracy for Year 7 students.
- **\$610,000** for a support program to help disadvantaged young people continue their education or training.
- **\$8.6 million** in State funding for capital projects including \$3.5 million extra to upgrade the Springvale Hostel at New Town, Latrobe High, and the Port Dalrymple District High School.

## **Protecting PEOPLE**

*Strengthening protection for all Tasmanians*

- **\$78 million** over four years to improve salaries for police officers.
- **\$17.7 million** over four years for Safe at Home, a program to tackle family violence.
- **\$2.86 million** over four years for the State Emergency Service for additional staffing, equipment and training needs.
- **\$950,000** over four years to provide an intensive pre-release treatment program for serious sex offenders.
- **\$8 million** additional funding over four years for improved prison services.
- **\$810,000** additional funding over three years for the Director of Public Prosecutions to help bring criminals to justice.
- **\$420,000** over four years to improve security at the law courts.
- **\$1.8 million** additional funding over four years for Tasmania Police.
- **\$490,000** this year to buy state-of-the-art ballistic vests and protective equipment for operational police.
- **\$1.47 million** to extend until 2007 the pilot U-turn program, which aims to break the cycle of motor vehicle theft.
- **\$524,000** for additional support and counselling for victims of crime.

# Healthy LIVING

A \$1 billion budget – improving health services  
and encouraging healthy living



Tasmania



- **\$16 million** over four years for the Mersey Community Hospital, and to increase ambulance services on the North-West Coast by 42%.
- **\$100 million** extra over four years for increased nurses' salaries.
- **\$7 million** for new medical equipment and new ambulances.
- **\$8.5 million** extra over four years for oral health, including the third instalment on the Dental Health Package and new funding for more dentists, more dental assistants, and a new scholarship scheme for dental students.
- **\$5 million** to double funding for forensic mental health as part of the development of the new **\$12 million** Secure Mental Health Unit.
- **\$3.8 million** extra for an Intensive Support Unit as part of a program to provide more accommodation and day support for people with severe and profound disabilities, taking disability funding to **\$96 million**.
- **\$1.9 million** to increase funding for mental health services to **\$63.8 million**.
- **\$400,000** for the expansion of cardiology services at the Launceston General Hospital.
- **\$1.25 million** as the third instalment of the four-year Elective Surgery Priority Program.
- **\$3.2 million** to increase funding for child protection services, lifting child and family services funding to more than **\$30 million**.
- **\$800,000** more for carers, including the development of a kinship care program, assistance with fixed costs of approved children's homes, and additional support for children leaving care.
- **\$2.6 million** for funding indexation for non-government organisations across the State, lifting total NGO payments to **\$100 million**.
- **\$4.4 million** for new or improved health facilities at Smithton, George Town, Queenstown, Scottsdale and Swansea.
- **\$800,000** to upgrade air monitoring in Hobart, Launceston and Devonport.

**First home buyers will receive up to \$4,000 stamp duty relief for homes purchased for less than \$350,000.**

## Helping PEOPLE

*Extending the benefits of a growing economy to Tasmanians who need a helping hand*

- **\$45 million** for affordable housing.
- **\$2.6 million** to meet increased usage of the subsidised taxi scheme for Tasmanians with permanent and severe disabilities.
- **\$712,000** to support transport subsidies for pensioners, the aged, the unemployed and the blind.

# Building REGIONAL COMMUNITIES



- An **extra \$18 million** over three years for roads and bridges.
- **\$11 million** over three years for community infrastructure projects, to improve services such as water, sewerage and facilities to meet increased demand from tourism.
- **\$4.2 million** over four years to progress the State's conservation obligations under the Regional Forest Agreement, including implementation of a Threatened Species Strategy for Tasmania.
- **\$3 million** for heritage and cultural initiatives, including the development of a world-class cultural precinct in Hobart, the protection of historic heritage assets, and promoting the conservation of Aboriginal heritage.
- **\$6 million** extra over three years for tourism infrastructure.
- **\$2.7 million** to extend the coordinated campaign to eradicate foxes until June 2007.
- **\$5.8 million** over four years to support community-based regional committees established under the Natural Resource Management framework.
- **\$1.2 million** to help the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra cope with reduced Commonwealth funding.
- **\$1.48 million** to support a review over four years of all passenger transport services to ensure that Tasmanians continue to have access to appropriate, safe and affordable transport into the future.
- **\$1.2 million** to mount and maintain a permanent Antarctic Southern Oceans exhibition at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.
- **\$1.2 million** over four years for the Tasmanian Institute of Sport to provide first-class coaching for young Tasmanians.
- **\$400,000** to increase the State's contribution to the projected budget for the *Ten Days on the Island* arts festival to **\$2 million**.
- **\$232,000** over four years to increase opening hours at online access centres in disadvantaged areas.

