WA LABOR

Plan for the Goldfields

A Fresh Approach for WA

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WA LABOR’S PLAN FOR THE GOLDFIELDS

Plan for the Goldfields

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STAY INFORMED:

markmcgowan.com.au/Goldfields

Mark McGowan MP

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I am proud to present to you WA Labor’s Plan for the Goldfields. It’s a plan that focuses on the things that really matter to local families – jobs, fixing dangerous country roads, health and education.

Over the past eight years, I’ve travelled all over Western Australia and met thousands of people. I’m always struck by the kindness and generosity of the people of this great State.

I live in Rockingham with my wife and three children. I know about the challenges facing hardworking, everyday families.

In Darren Forster, the people of the Goldfields have an outstanding local candidate with an infectious work ethic. He’s got a young family and a strong connection to Kalgoorlie.

Darren has made it clear that jobs and unemployment are big issues in the Goldfields. Our Plan will create jobs and opportunities for locals. We’ll make sure local businesses and workers get a bigger share of work on big government projects.

Darren is well aware of the some of the complex issues confronting the Goldfields community and he has the drive and ideas to do something about it. WA Labor is committed to a multi-systemic approach to addressing problems in dysfunctional family homes.

I’m delighted that we’ll right the wrongs of the Liberal-National Government by delivering a 10 bed sub-acute Step-Up, Step-Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie. We’ll continue to invest in health and education.

Let me be clear - Royalties for Regions will continue under a McGowan Labor Government.

WA Labor is determined to see Royalties for Regions spent wisely to maximise the benefits for the regions.

This is just a snapshot of WA Labor’s positive Plan for the Goldfields. I look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks to talk about my fresh approach for WA.

Mark McGowan
WA Labor Leader
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Plan for Jobs in the Goldfields

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Commence a feasibility study for a Major Energy Project in the Goldfields to secure the future energy generation to Kalgoorlie and the region.

- Invest $425 million over 5 years to promote WA and showcase our beautiful State including Rowles Lagoon, Gwalia Outdoor Museum, Lake Ballard and the Gormley Installation and the Outback Way.

- Invest $2 million to develop motorsports in the Goldfields.

- Contribute $600,000 over three years towards the establishment of an Arts and Culture Trail across the Goldfields.

- Invest $1.6 million in a new visitor centre for Norseman.

- Hold a parliamentary inquiry into airfares in regional Western Australia.

- Invest $20 million over five years into an Indigenous Ranger program to protect the environment and provide Aboriginal people with real jobs in remote and regional WA.

- Invest $100,000 to purchase a tram for the Golden Mile Loopline Railway.

- Allow accredited tour operators to sell and supply alcohol under prescribed circumstances.

- Introduce the Western Australian Industry Participation Plan (WAIPP) to ensure more local jobs on WA Government projects in the Goldfields.

- Close existing loopholes in government policies to ensure the Buy Local guidelines on the use of local businesses and workers are applied to regional projects and tender arrangements including to head contractors.

- Maximise the number of apprentices and trainees in the Goldfields employed on government projects.

- Continue its strong support for the Goldfields resources industry as a key part of the local economy and an important source of local jobs.

- Establish a New Industries Fund with a specific stream for regional WA and will invest $4.5m into regional communities.

- Ensure that Goldfields Esperance Development Commission takes a more proactive role in maximising the value of local content delivered on Royalties for Regions projects in the Goldfields.

- Invest $14 million to dual Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

- Allocate $8 million to upgrade priority sections of the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway to improve safety for motorists.

- Bring the development of industrial land in the regions under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority to develop serviced, ready to use industrial land such as the Mungari Industrial Park.
Putting Patients First in the Goldfields

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Develop a 10 bed sub-acute Step-Up, Step-Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie.

- Invest $3 million towards the purchase and installation of an MRI scanner for Kalgoorlie Health Campus.

- Allocate $250,000 to install facilities for dental care for elderly residents at the Southern Cross Care and Amana Living aged care facilities in Kalgoorlie.

- Build WA’s first Medihotel in Perth to make extended hospital stays more comfortable for patients from the regions who are required to travel for treatment.

- Work with local health care providers to introduce an Urgent Care Clinic in Kalgoorlie.

- Make it easier for aged care providers in the Goldfields to develop new facilities by identifying suitable land and removing existing planning and local government impediments.

- Review the provision of specialist services as part of the Sustainable Health Review to ensure that where possible services are delivered closer to where people live.

- Review regional and country ambulance services to ensure our volunteers and frontline paramedics have the support they need to continue to respond to emergency situations.

Investing in Education and Training

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Put Education Assistants back in the classroom by funding an additional 300 Education Assistants over 3 years.

- Employ an additional 120 teachers to provide more capacity for Level 3 teachers to mentor younger teachers, to oversee the delivery of mental health programs in schools and to support regional Year 11 and 12 students.

- Reinstate the 0.1FTE attached to Level 3 classroom teachers across half the schools of the state so that really great teachers can mentor, teach and share their knowledge with other teachers.

- Provide 300 schools with 0.1 FTE of a Level 3 teacher time per school to oversee the delivery of evidence based mental health programs.

- Put Aboriginal Islander Education Officers back in the classroom by funding an additional 50 AIEOs in regional WA.

- Appoint an Independent Learning Coordinator (ILC) in 10 regional schools to supervise and help students undertaking courses through SIDE.

- Establish a Regional Learning Specialists (RLS) team in each curriculum area of Science, Social Science, Mathematics and English to visit regional schools and run classes for students and support the work of the ILCs.

- Invest $12 million to roll out science programs in up to 200 public primary schools including funding to convert existing classrooms to science laboratories.
• Provide $5 million in grants of $25,000 to enable schools to buy resources to equip those labs.

• Invest $2 million to deliver professional development for teachers to support the integration of coding into their teaching.

• Introduce a direct-to-market (D2M) maintenance and minor capital works model that gives schools the authorisation and funding pool to directly engage their own contractors for works up to a value of $20,000.

• Work with local school communities at existing public schools to open up the opportunities for more childcare as well as before and after school and school holiday care facilities.

• Provide a site for childcare centre in the planning of every new public primary school and opportunities for before and after school care and school holiday care.

• Support working parents trying to balance work and family responsibilities.

• Rebuild TAFE and deliver an affordable training system to support jobs growth in Western Australia.

• Implement a VET Regional Partnerships Program to provide an opportunity for regional TAFEs to invest in new and innovative long term partnerships to create training and job opportunities in the community.

• Ensure that the State Priority Occupation List will be more responsive to the employment needs of the regions and ensure regional TAFEs are delivering training that aligns with future job growth in the regions.

Goldfields Community

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Introduce Target 120 to focus on the family homes of the worst 120 juvenile criminals in the State.

• Apply multi-systemic therapy to address problems in dysfunctional family homes of juvenile offenders as part of the Target 120 initiative.

• Not forcibly close remote Aboriginal communities.
Goldfields Major Solar Project

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is in a prime location for solar energy generation with large available space, industrial mining loads nearby and located at the end of the power network which is at capacity. Private investors have previously shown interest in developing a solar thermal plant in the Goldfields.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will commence a feasibility study for a major solar energy project in the Goldfields to secure the future energy generation to Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the region.**

The *Kalgoorlie Miner* reported Exergy Energy CEO Brian Reddy saying that a Prospector Solar Thermal Generation Facility would employ 1,500 people during a three-year construction period and up to 70 people once operational and had attracted the interest of four mining companies in the Goldfields.

A major solar project has the support of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission, Regional Development Australia Goldfields Esperance, the WA Government’s Department of Finance and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

WA Labor understands the importance of positioning ourselves in the renewable space to take advantage of the future innovation and opportunities to invest in WA jobs for the future. On average, more jobs are created for each unit of electricity generated from renewable sources than from fossil fuels.
Investment in Tourism

A McGowan Labor Government will inject $425 million over five years to establish WA as one of the world's great tourist destinations and support the tourism and hospitality sectors to create jobs and diversify the economy.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $425 million over 5 years to promote WA and showcase our beautiful state including Rowles Lagoon, Gwalia Outdoor Museum, Lake Ballard and the Gormley Installation and the Outback Way.**

Regional WA is as diverse as it is unique and offers tourists a distinctive experience and is an integral part of our plan to diversify the economy and grow our tourism sector across WA.

Tourism is a key focus of WA Labor’s plan to create jobs and broaden our economy beyond resources. Figures provided by Tourism Council WA show that the industry employs 94,000 people and inserts $9.3 billion in the WA economy.

This will be supported by the establishment of Brand WA.

Brand WA will provide a global toolkit of consistent concepts, packaging and messaging that will promote our wonderful State and its unique experiences to the rest of the world.

The economic benefits that come from a Brand WA have a broad contribution to the regional economy in terms of manufacturing, business investment, job creation, agriculture, hospitality and export opportunities.

There are many opportunities to enhance the visitor experience in the Goldfields and the surrounding areas by investing in infrastructure to support an expanding tourism market and marketing to attract more visitors.

Kalgoorlie Motorsports Precinct

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $2 million to develop motorsport in the Goldfields.**

There is a keen interest in motorsport in Kalgoorlie and surrounding areas with a strong speedway organisation and an active Street and Strip car club, along with other car enthusiasts located in the area.

In 2008 and again in 2013, the local Liberal candidate promised funding to establish a drag strip, but, despite a Liberal Government being elected in both elections, the promised funding has not been forthcoming.

WA Labor will fix the Liberal’s broken promise by investing $2 million to develop a Motorsport Precinct in the Goldfields.

Arts and Culture Trail

- **A McGowan Labor Government will contribute $600,000 over three years towards the establishment of an Arts and Culture Trail across the Goldfields.**

The Goldfields covers a huge land area with a diversity of landscapes and people and a range of artistic and cultural sites. The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission has been investigating the establishment of an online based resource guiding people through the many and varied arts and culture sites across the region.

WA Labor will support this endeavour with funding of $600,000 over three years to activate the Trail from concept to reality and provide more opportunities for visitors to interpret and enjoy the unique features of the region.
Norseman Visitor Centre Upgrade

• A McGowan Labor Government will invest $1.6 million in a new visitor centre for Norseman.

Norseman is the western gateway to the Nullarbor Plain and the entryway for visitors from the East to the Goldfields-Esperance region.

It is ideally located to provide an introduction to the region, its Indigenous culture and natural environment such as the Great Western Woodlands. A new visitor centre will also provide a display space to showcase local arts and crafts.

Indigenous Ranger Program

• A McGowan Labor Government will invest $20 million over five years into an Indigenous Ranger program to protect the environment and provide Aboriginal people with real jobs in remote and regional WA.

The social and environmental benefits of Indigenous Ranger programs have been far and wide reaching, providing an integral step towards improved community wellbeing and reduced poverty in regional and remote communities.

The program will be administered by the Department of Parks and Wildlife and focuses on jobs for rangers looking after WA State Parks, Indigenous Protected Areas, and other Indigenous tenures.

Indigenous ranger jobs are real jobs that require accredited conservation and land management qualifications. Rangers typically work on biodiversity monitoring and research, fire management, feral animal and weed management, cultural site management, and school education programs and monitoring.

Similar programs initiated by the Commonwealth Government have seen substantial benefits for Aboriginal people, including increased motivation, the creation of new community role models, and significant health and wellbeing benefits from being on and looking after country.

Parliamentary Inquiry into Regional Airfares

A major barrier to increasing regional tourism is the prohibitive cost of airfares to centres more than a convenient driving distance from Perth.

Major centres like Kalgoorlie could diversify their economy and create more local jobs through increased visitor numbers if airfares were more affordable.

It is clear that the price of airfares is a complex issue, especially airfares to regional centres in Western Australia. The issue is also of concern to many West Australians, which is why it is important to ensure a public inquiry is held.

• A McGowan Labor Government will hold a parliamentary inquiry into airfares in regional Western Australia.

A parliamentary inquiry will give those with concerns an opportunity to make their case to an official committee of Members of Parliament and is the best way to comprehensively examine the issue and develop a long term solution.
Golden Mile Loopline Railway

- A McGowan Labor Government will invest $100,000 to purchase a tram for the Golden Mile Loopline Railway.

The Golden Mile Loopline Railway Society is a hard working band of Goldfields volunteers, who have been running full time operations as a tourist train ride attraction since 1982. Although the Loopline is in temporary hiatus, the Society has developed a plan for future development and restoration of its heritage trains and tracks.

The purchase of a tram to add to the Society’s rolling stock will enhance the experience the Loopline offers to visitors to Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Hospitality in the Regions

Tourism WA estimates that about 1.1 million visitors took part in food and wine experiences in 2013, with local specialities a key attraction.

We need to encourage a more tourism-friendly hospitality culture by allowing simple measures such as making it easier for restaurants to sell alcohol without a meal and letting accredited tour operators offer an alcoholic drink on their tour like a beer at the end of a tough bushwalk or sparkling wine while watching the famed WA sunset.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allow accredited tour operators to sell and supply alcohol under prescribed circumstances.

Local Content to deliver local jobs in the Goldfields

WA Labor believes that more should be done to deliver skilled jobs in the Goldfields.

- A McGowan Labor Government will introduce the Western Australian Industry Participation Plan (WAIPP) to ensure more local jobs on WA Government projects in the Goldfields.

WAIPPs are supported by legislation and will increase the amount of local content delivered as a result of government contracts. All government agencies will be required to include local content and local jobs as a key criterion in tender evaluation and other relevant procurement processes.

Projects announced as part of WA Labor’s Plan for the Goldfields will provide the opportunity for local businesses to compete for Government contracts creating more local jobs.

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to expanding the Priority Start Policy to ensure that the opportunity to create apprenticeship and trainee positions is maximised.

The WAIPPS will be implemented in conjunction with an enhanced Buy Local Policy. Loopholes that exist in the current buy local policies means regional WA is not experiencing the full benefit of investment in the regions.

- A McGowan Labor Government will close existing loopholes in government policies to ensure the Buy Local guidelines on the use of local businesses and workers are applied to regional projects and tender arrangements including to head contractors.
Apprenticeships and Trainee opportunities

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to expanding the Priority Start Policy to ensure that the opportunity to create apprenticeship and trainee positions is maximised.

The success of the Priority Start policy will also be supported through the implementation of WA Labor’s Western Australian Industry Participation Plan (WAIPP). In regional WA this will result in more young people having access to training and skilled jobs.

- A McGowan Labor Government will maximise the number of apprentices and trainees in the Goldfields employed on government projects.

Support for the Resources Industry

Western Australia owns a rich and varied world class mineral endowment. The mining and energy industries developed around the extraction of these minerals are a major source of export earnings, direct and indirect employment.

WA Labor recognises that Australia’s minerals and energy industries are vital to the strength of our economy.

- A McGowan Labor Government will continue its strong support for the Goldfields resources industry as a key part of the local economy and an important source of local jobs.

WA Labor believes that there is further potential for development of these industries. The greatest economic and social benefits from further development will come from leveraging this development into high skills jobs.
Regional New Industries Fund

Innovation in regional WA will boost the local economy and create further opportunities for job growth.

- A McGowan Labor Government will establish a New Industries Fund with a specific stream for regional WA and will invest $4.5m into regional communities.

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission will identify locations to develop business incubators to foster and accelerate regional based Startup and innovation enterprises.

The resources sector has been a major driver of new technologies and research expertise in the regions for many years. As this sector transitions to an operational phase, it is important that we retain the technology and specialist skills to drive new industries in regional WA.

This will ensure there is a focus on innovation as a future driver of our regional economies.

Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

The role of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission is to lead and support sustainable development in regional WA.

- A McGowan Labor Government will ensure that Regional Development Commissions take a more proactive role in maximising the value of local content delivered on Royalties for Regions projects in the Goldfields.

All departments and head contractors carrying out government funded projects in the region will be required to advertise all tenders and job openings on the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission website.

This will allow local businesses and job seekers to have a single portal to access opportunities in their region.

Great Eastern Highway

- A McGowan Labor Government will invest $14 million to dual Great Eastern Highway between Anzac Drive and Gatacre Drive in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

The project is a vital and long overdue capital works program for the town and will ensure the safe movement of traffic, freight and access by heavy vehicles to commercial properties fronting Great Eastern Highway and the light industrial area.

Around 7500 vehicles a day pass along this stretch of the road with an estimated 2000 of them being heavy vehicles. This increases the safety issues of such a busy section of road.

WA Labor is committed to safer regional roads and so allocating $14 million to make this section of Great Eastern Highway safer will benefit the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community.

Coolgardie-Esperance Highway

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $8 million to upgrade priority sections of the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway to improve safety for motorists.

The 2013 Australian Road Assessment Program (AusRAP) rated most of the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway as only two or three-star rated (out of a possible five stars) with 7 per cent of the road assessed at the lowest one-star rating.

In recent years there have been a number of fatalities, including the death of a 10 year old boy earlier this year.

WA Labor will allocate $8 million to undertake safety upgrades to the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway south of the Kambalda turn off, and as a matter of priority seek the balance of the project costs under the Federal Government National Highway Upgrade Programme.
Development of Industrial Land

A McGowan Labor Government will drive the development of serviced industrial land under the auspices of the newly established Industrial Lands Authority (ILA).

- A McGowan Labor Government will bring the development of industrial land in the regions under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority to develop serviced, ready to use industrial land such as the Mungari Industrial Park.

The ILA will cut red tape, remove agency duplication and the barriers to future investment. This will drive future development of our industrial lands and technology parks and create local jobs for Western Australians.

The ILA will promote, assist or offer incentives to attract regional business investment, under the broad economic provisions of the Industry and Technology Development Act 1998.

Companies at last will have a single government body to deal with. This will improve relations with existing businesses and tenants in industrial parks and encourage meaningful investment in regional WA and create new job opportunities throughout WA.

For further information go to: http://www.markmcgowan.com.au/ourvision/jobs
A McGowan Labor Government is committed to delivering a quality health system to the people in the Goldfields.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will develop a 10 bed sub acute Step-Up, Step-Down mental health facility in Kalgoorlie**


The facility will help keep people out of hospital and help to break the cycle of deteriorating mental health requiring hospitalisation due to inadequate care in the community.

By providing care in a more home-like environment, Step-Up, Step-Down facilities give people short-term residential support after being discharged from hospital for mental illness, or for people who are at-risk of deteriorating mental health and possible hospitalisation.

In 2015, the Liberal-National Government promised to build a Step-Up, Step-Down facility in the Goldfields, only to rip the funding from the State budget.

A McGowan Labor Government will address this broken promise and will build the facility.

**MRI Machine for Kalgoorlie Health Campus**

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $3 million towards the purchase and installation of an MRI scanner for Kalgoorlie Health Campus.**

Kalgoorlie Hospital is a 130-bed inpatient facility and one of the largest regional public hospitals in WA. While the Hospital has medical imaging services such as X-Ray facility, it does not have a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine.

WA Labor will invest $3 million for the purchase and installation of an MRI machine and will initiate negotiations with the Federal Government for a Medicare licence as a matter of priority in government.
Dental facilities for aged care homes

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $250,000 to install facilities for dental care for elderly residents at the Southern Cross Care and Amana Living aged care facilities in Kalgoorlie.

Due to the lack of suitable facilities at aged care homes in Kalgoorlie, residents are currently forced to travel for dental appointments, which can be difficult, particularly for those in wheelchairs.

Local dentists have indicated their willingness to visit and treat patients at Kalgoorlie’s two aged care homes, managed by Southern Cross Care and Amana Living. Facilities such as dentist chairs and some other facilities are required to be installed in the two homes.

Both Southern Cross Care and Amana Living have also indicated their willingness to provide a room at their homes where the facilities can be installed.

WA Labor’s commitment will help Kalgoorlie’s senior residents in aged care avoid the stress of travelling to receive dental care.

Medihotels – An Innovation in Health Care

A McGowan Labor Government in committed to providing health services close to where people live. However, there is often a need for Goldfields people to travel for more complex health care treatment.

Medihotels are an innovative way of making the experience of travelling for treatment less stressful and without the problems of the PATS scheme which often leaves people out of pocket.

- A McGowan Labor Government will build WA’s first Medihotel in Perth to make extended hospital stays more comfortable for patients from the regions who are required to travel for treatment.

The Medihotel is a specialist hotel designed to support patients discharged from hospital but who are still recovering. Our new Medihotel will provide patients with a comfortable, innovative and family friendly environment in which to receive ongoing care. You will also be able to have your family members stay with you.

Medihotels will provide a stop-off point for patients traveling to Perth for hospital care. Guest rooms would be supported by specially trained staff to support patients as they transition to out-patients or community based care and safely begin their journey home.

It’s a simple solution that allows patients to recuperate in comfort and privacy while still having access to medical care. Medihotels are part of a McGowan Labor’s Government commitment to deliver a first class health system that puts patients first.

What is a Medihotel?

- A specialist hotel designed to support patients when they have been discharged from hospital but are still recuperating, being monitored or receiving outpatient services.

- Staff will provide assistance with everyday tasks, companionship, nourishment and transfers to and from hospitals.

- Medical staff such as nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists can visit the guests in the medihotel.

- Family members will be able to stay with patients.

- Medihotels will be especially beneficial to regional patients, the elderly and those who live alone.
Urgent Care Clinic in Kalgoorlie

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce an Urgent Care Clinic in Kalgoorlie to reduce the pressure on the hospital emergency department so you can get the care you need when you need it.

Rather than making people sit in a busy emergency department an Urgent Care Clinic will provide an alternative setting to access medical services and give patients more choice.

- A McGowan Labor Government will work with local health care providers to introduce an Urgent Care Clinic in Kalgoorlie.

The integration of Urgent Care Clinics into our emergency departments and community settings will reduce the pressure on our hospitals and deliver more responsive and appropriate care to WA patients.

Provision of Aged Care to Free up Hospital Beds

Regional Western Australia has a shortage of residential aged care beds and as a result, many elderly people are waiting for a place while occupying a public hospital bed.

Being in hospital is not the best place for our elderly – they would much prefer to be with friends and family in an aged care facility.

There are currently 3,500 aged care bed licences available from the Federal Government which are currently not being used in Western Australia.

- A McGowan Labor Government will make it easier for aged care providers in the Goldfields to develop new facilities by identifying suitable land and removing existing planning and local government impediments.

Under the plan, existing government buildings and assets will be assessed to determine their suitability to be converted into aged care facilities. A new aged care facility should include capacity for people convalescing from medical treatment and too unwell to go home but not needing to be in hospital.

Specialist Services in the Future

As part of a Sustainable Health Review, Patient First Dialogues will be convened around the State. These will bring together consumer advocates, front-line staff, health leaders and administrators to contribute to a new vision of patient centered care.

The provision of specialist services in the Goldfields will be considered as part of a WA Labor’s Sustainable Health Review.

- A McGowan Labor Government will review the provision of specialist services as part of the Sustainable Health Review to ensure that where possible services are delivered closer to where people live.

Review of Country Ambulance Services

A McGowan Labor Government recognises the vital role our regional frontline paramedics and volunteer ambulance officers have in rural and regional WA. Our volunteer ambulance officers are country people who contribute their personal time, effort and skill to enable ambulance services to reach those in need in some of the most isolated regional communities.

St John Ambulance WA covers the largest area of any single ambulance service in the world – 2,525,500 square kilometres or 33 per cent of the total landmass of Australia.
St John Country Ambulance Service

Country ambulance services are experiencing similar issues to many other health services in regional areas including difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff, an ageing workforce and working in a stressful environment.

• A McGowan Labor Government will review regional and country ambulance services to ensure our volunteers and frontline paramedics have the support they need to continue to respond to emergency situations.

A McGowan Labor Government will work with St John Ambulance Service and relevant stakeholders to ensure the issues facing our country ambulance services are identified and addressed.

For further information go: www.markmcgowan.com.au/health
More Support for Children in the Classroom

Education Assistants have an integral role in the education of students including preparation of resources, one on one coaching, extra support for students facing learning difficulties, students with English as a second language and students with disabilities.

Critically, Education Assistants (EAs) assist those students who need extra help to stay focused so that other students are not distracted and the classroom teacher can get on with teaching.

Teachers reported that with less Education Assistants they now had to spend more time with ‘high need’ students to the detriment of the rest of the class.

Feedback from the peak parent body the WA Council of State School Organisations (WACSSO) said the biggest concern of parents was not enough EAs to cover time that early childhood and lower year’s students are at school, meaning less support for students and more pressure on teachers.

- A McGowan Government will put Education Assistants back in the classroom by funding an additional 300 Education Assistants over 3 years.

An additional 100 EAs will be funded at the start of each new school year in 2018, 2019 and 2020 as a Targeted Initiative as part of the Student Centred Funding Model (SCFM). Schools will apply for funding under a Targeted Initiative for programs that are staffed by Education Assistants.

More Teachers in our Schools

A McGowan Labor Government will employ 120 additional teachers for the specific purpose of providing:

- Time for half of the level 3 teachers in the state to have 0.1 of their time dedicated to mentor, teach and share their knowledge with new teachers
- Time for 300 schools with 0.1 FTE of a Level 3 teacher time to oversee the delivery of mental health programs in schools
- Additional support for regional students studying remotely

These additional teacher resources will help improve teacher quality in our schools and support the delivery of evidence based mental health programs. It will also provide much needed dedicated support for children in regional WA studying through School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE).

- A McGowan Labor Government will employ an additional 120 teachers to provide more capacity for Level 3 teachers to mentor younger teachers, to oversee the delivery of mental health programs in schools and to support regional year 11 and 12 students.
Promoting Teacher Quality and Partnership on School Leadership

It is broadly recognised that teacher quality is critical for the education outcomes of students. High performing education systems around the world know that improving the effectiveness of teaching is how to lift school performance. These education systems know that teaching improves when teachers learn from each other.

- A McGowan Labor Government will reinstate the 0.1FTE attached to Level 3 classroom teachers across half the schools of the state so that really great teachers can mentor, teach and share their knowledge with other teachers.

WA Labor’s policy will tap into the high skill levels and expertise of our very best classroom teachers to be the teaching leaders in their schools. Teachers who have successfully completed the Level 3 qualification which recognises excellence in classroom teaching will have the resources to improve teaching quality in their schools by leading teacher improvement programs with their colleagues.

A McGowan Labor Government will establish Partnership on School Leadership working group of key education stakeholder organisations to develop a partnership to deliver high quality professional development. This working group will also identify ways to create incentives to encourage effective school leaders to stay in challenging schools for a reasonable period and will ensure really great teachers can share their knowledge with other teachers.
Resources for Mental Health in Schools

A McGowan Labor Government will tap into the high skill levels and expertise of our very best classroom teachers and provide additional support to enable them to drive the delivery of evidence based mental health programs in our schools.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will provide 300 schools with 0.1 FTE of a Level 3 teacher time per school to oversee the delivery of evidence based mental health programs.**

WA Labor will increase the amount mental health support available in public schools by providing additional staff resource time to oversee the framework or program that their school chooses from a list of evidence based mental health and resilience programs.

Putting AIEOs Back in Regional Schools

An additional 25 Aboriginal Islander Education Officers (AIEOs) will be funded at the start of each new school year in 2018 and 2019 as a Targeted Initiative as part of the Student Centred Funding Model (SCFM). Regional schools will apply for funding under a Targeted Initiatives for programs that are staffed by AIEOs.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will put Aboriginal Islander Education Officer back in the classroom by funding an additional 50 AIEOs in regional WA.**

These officers are critical to ensuring local Aboriginal children are given additional assistance and every opportunity to overcome any unique challenges they may experience.
Regional Year 11 and 12 Students

Regional Year 11 and 12 students should be offered a broad selection of courses as part of the school curriculum. In many regional centres however subject choices can be limited and students are required to study through Schools of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE).

To ensure that students are properly supported by SIDE, WA Labor is committed to providing students at key regional centres with dedicated support including guaranteed classroom time with a specialist teacher each term.

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- **Appoint an Independent Learning Coordinator (ILC)** in 10 regional schools to supervise and help students undertaking courses through SIDE.

- **Establish a Regional Learning Specialists (RLS) team** in each curriculum area of Science, Social Science, Mathematics and English to visit regional schools and run classes for students and support the work of the ILCs.

Independent Learning Coordinators (ILC) will be appointed to ten key regional high schools such as - Albany, Collie, Kalgoorlie, Geraldton, Carnarvon, Karratha, Newman, Port Hedland, Broome and Kununurra to supervise and assist Year 11 and 12 students undertaking SIDE studies.

At present SIDE supervising teachers in regional schools also have a teaching load of regular classes and so the time available to help SIDE students is limited. ILCs will be dedicated full time to the SIDE students as well as sourcing specialised assistance for the students.

The ILCs will be employed full time to undertake the following tasks:

- Supervision and assistance while Year 11 and 12 students undertake their remote learning courses through SIDE.

- Assistance to access more specialised help for these Year 11 and 12 students from SIDE staff and from the Regional Learning Specialists Team.

A Regional Learning Specialists (RLS) Team will be established consisting of two specialists in each curriculum area of Sciences, Social Sciences, Mathematics and English.

The RLSs will each be employed full time to undertake the following tasks:

- Undertake visits to each of the 10 regional schools at least once per term – for a number of days (up to a week) at a time – to run classes for the students being managed by the ILCs.

- Be available for specialist assistance to students via phone and email.

Science in Primary Schools

A WA Labor Government will invest in our schools for the jobs of the future. Coding, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) will be the future drivers of innovation as we reshape our economy. Science is one of the fundamental elements of the STEM disciplines and a focus on science will support the diversification of the economy and is an investment in the jobs of the future.

Likewise, coding is what makes it possible for us to create websites, apps and computer software. Science and business leaders have long been calling for coding to be taught formally in schools. Through coding, students build essential literacy skills, gain
an understanding of logic and sequence and turn computers into tools to make new things.

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Invest $12 million to roll out science programs in up to 200 public primary schools including funding to convert existing classrooms to science laboratories.
- Provide $5 million in grants for $25,000 to enable schools to buy resources to equip those labs.
- Invest $2 million to deliver professional development for teachers to support the integration of coding into their teaching.

WA Labor believes science has been a missed opportunity for WA and currently there is a lack of science focus in primary schools. This has had a flow on effect into secondary schools with fewer students taking up science. While there are science jobs in the resources sector, as exploration and development shrink so too do these jobs. Science is more than geology and biology and if WA is to become a smarter and more innovative State then we must prepare students for jobs beyond the resources industry.

WA Labor believes we must be innovative to keep our economy growing. A McGowan Government’s plan to roll out science programs in primary schools and coding in the school curriculum are important steps in creating a broad economy which generate jobs in a diverse range of areas.

**Direct to Market (D2M)**

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce a direct-to-market (D2M) maintenance and minor capital works model that will provide efficiency in service delivery and better value for money for schools. This will help schools address the backlog of maintenance issues within their schools.

- A McGowan Labor Government will introduce a direct-to-market (D2M) maintenance and minor capital works model that gives schools the authorisation and funding pool to directly engage their own contractors for works up to a value of $20,000.

The D2M model will allow schools to have:

- Flexibility to contract and manage services contracts including routine maintenance
- An annual maintenance allocation
- An opt-in model which means the scheme would be voluntary
- Oversight and support from the Department of Education

There are 159 WA public schools that have opted to manage their own repair and faults for works under $1,500. The Queensland Government adopted an opt-in model, and it estimated savings of around 20 per cent.

Under a McGowan Labor Government, schools can either continue to use the centralised tendering method for works under Building Management and Works in the Department of Finance or use the direct-to-market (D2M) method for works up the value of $20,000.

D2M could provide schools with the autonomy to select their own service providers and allow for a more efficient use of the maintenance budget and more value
for money.

The Department of Education would govern the D2M program and oversee its implementation. Schools will have to ensure contractors have the required licences and insurance cover to carry out the maintenance tasks and the work would be signed off to ensure it's at the required standard.

A McGowan Labor Government would provide a transparent analysis of the maintenance backlog and establish measuring capabilities to assess and report if the program objectives have been achieved.

**Educare**

A McGowan Labor Government will support parents and children during the working day by allowing school communities the option of providing extra childcare through quality childcare providers.

A lack of childcare can be a major stumbling block to parents pursuing or maintaining their employment opportunities. This can have a negative impact on the financial viability of households and the general economic activity of the State.

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- **Work with local school communities at existing public schools to open up the opportunities for more childcare as well as before and after school and school holiday care facilities.**

- **Provide a site for childcare centre in the planning of every new public primary school and opportunities for before and after school care and school holiday care.**

Many parents are all too familiar with the stress of balancing work and family. It begins with finding a childcare place for infants and toddlers, which can lead to the dreaded double drop-off between the childcare centre and school and then rushing to get to work on time.

In the afternoon it all starts again when school finishes hours before many of us finish work. School holidays bring extra headaches as parents wonder what to do with their kids during working hours.

Allowing school communities the option of providing extra childcare through quality providers can also lessen the pressures on everyday family life.
Plan for TAFE

TAFE will remain a modern responsive training organisation that will drive the future economic development of our State. Under WA Labor’s Plan for Jobs, TAFE will continue to be the preeminent provider of vocational training in the State and do so under the banner of TAFE.

- A McGowan Labor Government will rebuild TAFE and deliver an affordable training system to support jobs growth in Western Australia.

TAFE has also been the primary source of affordable further education for the adult population over a wide range of interests. In the last seven years however TAFE has been under merciless attack by the Liberal National Government. The Department of Training and Workforce Development and all of the Colleges have been subjected to funding cuts, job losses, course closures and students have been subjected to massive increases in study fees.

Under a McGowan Labor Government TAFE will be reinvigorated and will play a vital role in the economic and industrial development of our State.

Regional TAFEs Supporting Regional Job Growth

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to ensuring that there is a quality TAFE system in regional WA. A TAFE system that delivers training linked to real jobs and aligns with future job growth in the regions.

Regional TAFEs will develop partnerships and drive innovation and new industries.

- A McGowan Labor Government will implement a VET Regional Partnerships Program to provide an opportunity for regional TAFEs to invest in new and innovative long term partnerships to create training and job opportunities in the community.

The State Priority Occupations List is used to determine which courses are delivered and the level of government funding different courses will attract.

This affects the annual funding allocations by the Department of Training and Workforce Development including the allocations to regional State training providers on training priorities.

This list must be responsive to changes in the economy and local employment needs.

- A McGowan Labor Government will ensure that the State Priority Occupation List will be more responsive to the employment needs of the regions and ensure regional TAFEs are delivering training that aligns with future job growth in the regions.
Target 120

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Introduce Target 120 to focus on the family homes of the worst 120 juvenile criminals in the State.
- Apply multi-systemic therapy to address problems in dysfunctional family homes of juvenile offenders as part of the Target 120 initiative.

Under a McGowan Labor Government Target 120 will focus on the dysfunctional homes that have created an environment for criminal behaviour.

The $22 million program will feature an across Government approach to dealing with the State’s 120 worst juvenile offenders. Agencies such as Police, Health, Education, Corrective Services, Child Protection and Sport and Recreation will work together as a team to address the issues facing the offenders and their families using Multi Systemic Therapy.

Each family will have a single, dedicated contact person who will coordinate the provision of Multi Systemic Therapy to the household, to ensure efficiency and avoid duplication.

Early intervention with at risk young people will help turn lives around and reduce the rate of offending in our community.

Remote Aboriginal Communities

- A McGowan Labor Government will not forcibly close remote Aboriginal communities.

WA Labor supports Aboriginal people having access to traditional lands and will support Aboriginal people who want to pursue cultural practices on country. WA Labor sees enormous value to all of Western Australia of Aboriginal people continuing to practice culture and protect connections to country that have been developed over thousands of years.

WA Labor supports tenure reform to ensure that Aboriginal people have certainty over land to ensure that they can never again be vulnerable to the Government of the day threatening the closure of communities and the removal off country.

WA Labor is committed to improving the health and welfare of Aboriginal people by focusing on improving education, economic opportunities and delivering appropriate health services.
Plan for the Goldfields

Plan for Jobs
Putting Patients First
Investing in Education
Goldfields Community