WA LABOR

Plan for the Pilbara

A Fresh Approach for WA

WA Labor Policy | February 2017
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**STAY INFORMED:**

markmcgowan.com.au/Pilbara

Mark McGowan MP
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I am proud to present to you WA Labor’s Plan for the Pilbara region. It’s a plan that focuses on the things that really matter to local families – jobs, 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. WA Labor has always been a friend of the Pilbara region.

Live everywhere in regional WA, jobs and unemployment are big issues in the Pilbara. 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.

We’ll also fund important local infrastructure like the Port Hedland boat marina and waterfront redevelopment and the $50 million upgrade of the Karratha to Millstream Road. These projects will create jobs for people in the Pilbara.

Our Plan also includes important commitments in health. We’ll invest $2.5 million improve the Royal Flying Doctor Service airstrip at Tom Price and $1.3 million for the establishment of a renal dialysis service for patients at Newman Hospital.

We’ll also invest in important community facilities like Wickham Skate Park, security upgrades and lighting at the Well Women’s Centre in Hedland, a new outdoor basketball court in Newman and a nature playground in Tom Price.

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 Pilbara region and my fresh approach for WA.

Mark McGowan, WA Labor Leader
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Plan for Jobs in The Pilbara

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Invest $50 million to upgrade the Karratha to Millstream Road.

- Ensure the Karratha to Tom Price road is placed onto Main Roads WA’s ten-year capital investment plan to attract Federal funding for future upgrades.

- Invest in the Port Hedland marina and waterfront development.

- Invest $425 million over 5 years to promote WA and showcase our beautiful state including Millstream Chichester National Park, Karijini National Park, historic Cossack, and the Burrup Peninsula.

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

- 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.

- Create a $4.5 million Regional New Industries Fund providing grants to support and accelerate new and emerging businesses in the Startup and gaming sectors, creating jobs in the is burgeoning hi-tech industry.

- Bring the development of industrial land in the Pilbara under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority to develop serviced, ready to use industrial land at such locations as Gap Ridge in Karratha and Wedgefield Industrial Estate in Hedland.

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

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

- 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 Pilbara Region employed on government projects.

- Introduce the Aboriginal Procurement Policy of awarding three per cent of all government contracts to Aboriginal owned businesses by 2020.

- Continue its strong support for the Pilbara resources industry as a key part of the local economy and an important source of local jobs.
Putting Patients First in The Pilbara

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Invest $1.3 million to establish a renal dialysis service for patients at Newman Hospital.
- Allocate $2.5 million to improve the Royal Flying Doctor Service airstrip at Tom Price.
- Work with local health care providers to establish an Urgent Care Clinic in the Pilbara region.
- Build WA’s first Medihotel in Perth to make extended hospital stays more comfortable for patients from the Pilbara region who are required to travel to Perth for treatment.
- 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.
- Make it easier for aged care providers in the Pilbara Region to develop new facilities by identifying suitable land and removing existing planning and local government impediments.

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.
- 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.
- Employ an additional 120 teachers to provide more capacity for Level 3 teachers to improve classroom teaching in their schools and 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.
- Establish a Partnership on School Leadership with key education stakeholders to deliver high quality professional development and to look at ways to attract and retain teachers at rural and remote schools.
• 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.

• 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.

• 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.

• 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 Pilbara region.

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

• 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 at every new primary school.

• 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.
Services and Infrastructure

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Provide $20,000 to purchase new music equipment for Boondera Music Academy in Roebourne.

• Allocate $35,000 to provide shade and lighting facilities at the Wickham Skate Park.

• Allocate $10,000 for new security equipment and lighting at the Well Women’s Centre in South Hedland.

• Contribute $100,000 towards the construction of an outdoor basketball court in Newman.

• Implement a state-wide, coordinated and targeted Methamphetamine Action Plan (MAP) focussed on three key areas to reduce demand, reduce harm and reduce supply.

• Work with the Pilbara Shires to introduce response signs along beaches with public access.

• Fund a State-wide Fishing Safety Strategy. The Strategy will be developed in consultation with Recfishwest and other stakeholders.

• Introduce the MarineRescue App, a free App that connects boaters to marine rescue experts, increasing safety for those out to sea.

• Increase funding to Fishability WA.

• 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.
Karratha to Millstream

As part of the plan to diversify the economy in the Pilbara, WA Labor will invest $50 million to seal the next stage of the Karratha to Tom Price Road. The additional 50km would make the Millstream Chichester National Park more accessible for tourists and help boost jobs in the local economy.

• A McGowan Labor Government will invest $50 million to upgrade the Karratha to Millstream Road.

A sealed road would encourage more visitors and longer stays, adding to the region's economy significantly and creating more local jobs into the future.

As part of the long term plan to complete the project, WA Labor will ensure that it attracts Federal funding by placing it on the Main Roads ten year capital investment plan.

• A McGowan Labor Government will ensure the Karratha to Tom Price road is placed onto Main Roads WA's ten-year capital investment plan to attract Federal funding for future upgrades.

The Karratha to Tom Price road was upgraded by Main Roads WA in 2008 under the previous WA Labor Government, with a 90km section sealed between the North West Coastal Highway at Karratha and the Roebourne-Wittenoom Road at Barowanna Hill.

Completing the sealing would generate substantial benefits for the Pilbara, improving connectivity between the two population centres, generating more tourism traffic to create more local jobs, and improving road safety for travellers.
Port Hedland Marina

The development of the Port Hedland Marina will deliver marina facilities and a waterfront development to attract and cater for tourists, including providing landside activity options for passenger from the cruise ships visiting the Port.

- A McGowan Labor will invest in the Port Hedland marina and waterfront development.

The Town of Port Hedland has worked for a number of years on proposals to redevelop Port Hedland’s waterfront and establish a marina for leisure craft. An attractive waterfront development would be key to improving Hedland’s quality of life and encouraging more people to live in the town.

Tourism Opportunities of the Future

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 Millstream Chichester National Park, Karijini National Park, historic Cossack and the Burrup Peninsula.

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.

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. Western Australia can do more to capitalise on the boom in food and alcohol tourism, especially in promoting regional specialties of the Pilbara Region.

We need to encourage more tourism-friendly hospitality culture by allowing such simple measures 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.

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 Karratha and Port Hedland 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.

### 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.

### New Industries Fund to attract and foster Startups

A McGowan Labor Government will invest $4.5 million in a Regional New Industries Fund to support and accelerate new and emerging businesses in the Startup and gaming sectors. This investment has the potential to generate jobs in a diverse range of industries and provide investment opportunities for these new companies.

- A McGowan Labor Government will create a $4.5 million Regional New Industries Fund providing grants to support and accelerate new and emerging businesses in the Startup and gaming sectors, creating jobs in the is burgeoning hi-tech industry.

WA Labor will support innovation in regional WA which has the effect of boosting the local economy and creating further opportunities for job growth.

The Pilbara Development Commission will be responsible for identifying locations to develop business incubators to foster and accelerate regional based Startup and gaming enterprises. Funding support through the New Industries Fund will focus on early career and business development support and foster an environment where private investment does the heavy lifting for commercial production and market entry.
Industry and Technology Parks to Create Jobs

Under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority, a McGowan Labor Government will cut government red tape and drive the development of the industrial parks in Gap Ridge in Karratha and Wedgefield Industrial Estate in Hedland to encourage meaningful investment in the Pilbara and create new job opportunities.

• A McGowan Labor Government will bring the development of industrial land in the Pilbara under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority to further develop serviced, ready to use industrial land at such locations as Gap Ridge in Karratha and Wedgefield Industrial Estate in Hedland.

In Karratha and Port Hedland, the WA Government either directly, or through its various agencies hold significant and critically located tracts of land. Currently, there is little power or capacity to incentivise investment in regional industrial parks. Accordingly, many parks have struggled to attract investors and have done little to diversify the types of industries that would create meaningful long-term jobs.

The Industrial Lands Authority will promote, assist or offer incentives to attract regional business investment. 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 the Pilbara and create new job opportunities.

More Buy Local in the Pilbara

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

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

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.

The WAIPPs will be implemented in conjunction with an enhanced Buy Local Policy. Loopholes that exist in the current buy local policies mean the Pilbara Region is not experiencing the full benefit of investment in the area.

A recent analysis shows that regional business preference eligibility was applied to only 17 per cent of the net worth of projects in regional WA.

Pilbara Development Commission

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

WA Labor will ensure that jobs created through our plan go to Western Australians first.

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 Pilbara Region employed on government projects.

Supporting Aboriginal Owned Businesses

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to supporting Aboriginal owned businesses and driving jobs growth for Aboriginal communities in the regions.

The State Government will increase the number of contracts awarded to Aboriginal businesses focussed on developing entrepreneurship and business opportunities for the regional Aboriginal community.

The Commonwealth Government has now adopted a much stronger procurement policy of three per cent of all government contracts be awarded to Aboriginal businesses by 2020. A McGowan Labor Government will follow this example by setting a percentage target of actual contracts awarded as opposed to value.

• A McGowan Labor Government will the Aboriginal Procurement Policy of awarding three per cent of all government contracts to Aboriginal owned businesses by 2020.

The Aboriginal Procurement Policy will provide real opportunities for Aboriginal owned businesses to develop and expand.

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 Pilbara 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.
Dialysis to Newman Hospital

Patients in Newman with renal disease will be able to receive regular dialysis treatment closer to home with the establishment of a four chair service at Newman Hospital under a McGowan Labor Government. Currently patients are faced with having to move away from their home town to receive treatment.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $1.3 million to establish a renal dialysis service for patients at Newman Hospital**

The Liberal- National Government has failed to make provision for a renal dialysis service in the upgrades of the Newman Hospital. A McGowan Labor Government will ensure that this important service is made available for Newman.

Tom Price RFDS Airstrip

- **A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $2.5 million to improve the Royal Flying Doctor Service airstrip at Tom Price.**

Currently patients from Tom Price needing to be airlifted from the town have to be driven 70 kilometres to Paraburdoo airport to meet the Royal Flying Doctor Service plane. If the Tom Price airstrip were upgraded, RFDS planes could land there and save seriously ill patients such an arduous road journey.

WA Labor will allocate $2.5 million towards upgrading the Tom Price airstrip and as a matter of priority seek further funding from the Federal Government to supplement the State’s contribution.
Urgent Care Clinics

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce Urgent Care Clinics to reduce the pressure on our hospital emergency departments so you can get the care you need when you need it.

Rather than making people sit in a busy emergency department Urgent Care Clinics 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 establish an urgent care clinic in the Pilbara region.

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

Medihotels – An Innovation in Health Care

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to providing health services close to where people live. However, there is often a need for regional 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 Pilbara region who are required to travel to Perth 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.
Specialist Services in the Future

The provision of specialist services in the Pilbara 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.

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

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’s 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.

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’s 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

Provision of Aged Care to Free up Hospital Beds

The Pilbara Region 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 Pilbara region 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.
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.
Putting AIEOs Back in Regional Schools

An additional 25 Aboriginal Islander Education Officer (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 Officers 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.

Dedicated Teacher Support for 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.
More Teachers in our schools

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

1. 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, to be leaders in classroom teaching practise.

2. Time for 300 schools with 0.1 FTE of a Level 3 teacher time to oversee the delivery of mental health programs in schools.

3. Additional support for regional students studying remotely.

These additional teacher resources will help improve teaching practice 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 SIDE.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will employ an additional 120 teachers to provide more capacity for Level 3 teachers to improve classroom teaching in their schools and 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 a 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.

It will also explore a range of initiatives to attract and retain good teachers and school leaders at remote and rural schools and at schools in lower socio-economic areas in Perth.

A snapshot of schools across the State showed that in the last 24 months Pannawonica Primary School had three different principals and Karratha Primary School, Halls Creek and Wyndham District High School all had two principals in two years.¹

WA Labor will change this, and ensure good teachers and good leaders are attracted and retained at remote and rural schools.

• A McGowan Labor Government will establish a Partnership on School Leadership with key education stakeholders to deliver high quality professional development and to look at ways to attract and retain teachers at rural and remote schools.

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.

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 less 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 industries.

Science in Primary Schools

A WA Labor Government will invest in our schools for the jobs of the future. Coding, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics 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.
**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.

**Plan for TAFE**

Under a McGowan Labor Government, TAFE will remain a modern responsive training organisation that will drive the future economic development of our State. 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.**

It 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 Government. The Department of Training 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 Pilbara region.

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 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 Pilbara region.

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 Productivity Commission report into childcare estimates that there are up to 165,000 parents (on an FTE basis) who would like to work, or work more hours, but are not able to do so because they are experiencing difficulties with the cost of, or access to, suitable childcare.

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- 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 at every new primary school

- 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

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.

For further information go www.markmcgowan.com.au/education
Boonderu Music Academy

Boonderu Music Academy is a non-government organisation running a popular music program linked to school attendance at Roebourne District High School.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will provide $20,000 to purchase new music equipment for Boonderu Music Academy in Roebourne.**

  The Boonderu performance group have showcased their talents at other Pilbara schools during NAIDOC celebrations, Expressstival in Perth, Wirrpanda Foundation dinner, 2015 AIEO conference, North Cottesloe Primary School, Brierty, The Cossack Family Day and in 2016 were 1 of only 3 groups worldwide to be officially invited to Garma Festival.

  A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $20,000 so the Academy can provide new equipment to continue their valuable work.

Wickham Skate Park Install

The Wickham Skate Park is a popular local facility providing a much needed source of recreation for local people. To maximise the use in all conditions, shade from the strong Pilbara sun and lighting so the facility can used at night need to be installed.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $35,000 to provide shade and lighting facilities at the Wickham Skate Park.**

  A McGowan Labor Government will ensure the skate park can be fully utilised and the recreational benefits maximised through this allocation of $35,000 for shade and lighting.
South Hedland Well Women’s Centre

The Hedland Well Women’s Centre is a unique, specialist female service located in South Hedland. The Centre provides vital clinical health services and counselling to all women. New security and lighting at the Centre will ensure that clients and staff can access and use the Centre safely, especially at night.

A McGowan Labor Government will assist the continuation of the Well Women’s Centre’s valuable work through the allocation of $10,000.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $10,000 for new security equipment and lighting at the Well Women’s Centre in South Hedland.

Basketball Court for Newman young people

Recreational facilities for young people in regional towns are very important and basketball is very popular with the youth of Newman. A new outdoor basketball court would provide a vital recreational facility for the town and the chance for Newman young people to engage in a healthy physical pursuit.

A McGowan Labor Government will work with local stakeholders to determine the best site for the new basketball court and contribute $100,000 towards the construction of the new court.

- A McGowan Labor Government will contribute $100,000 towards the construction of an outdoor basketball court in Newman.

Methamphetamine Action Plan

The impact of methamphetamine addiction on the Pilbara Region has been devastating. A McGowan Labor Government will implement a state-wide coordinated and targeted Methamphetamine Action Plan (MAP) focussed on three key areas to reduce demand, reduce harm and reduce supply.

- A McGowan Labor Government will implement a state-wide, coordinated and targeted Methamphetamine Action Plan (MAP) focussed on three key areas to reduce demand, reduce harm and reduce supply.

WA Labor will work with experts and stakeholders on early targeted prevention, better treatment services and effective withdrawal services. The MAP will build on what is currently seen as best practice, providing education, training, rehabilitation, coordination and research.

Safer Beaches with Rapid Response Signage

WA Labor will always support measures that will reduce the risk of shark attacks subject to them being based on science and genuinely improve community safety. While we are unlikely to completely remove the risk of shark attacks in WA a McGowan Labor Government will make our beaches safer by introducing a range of measures to minimise risk.

WA Labor believes that our oceans are one of WA’s greatest natural assets. By encouraging science-backed mitigation strategies we can provide peace of mind while at the same time protect our marine environment for generations to come.

Recently the City of Mandurah decided to introduce rapid response signs along 50kms of coastline to
increase the ability of emergency services to respond to calls for assistance. The signs will include the number, name and exact GPS location of each section of beach providing vital information in the event of a shark sighting or attack. A McGowan Labor Government will look at providing a grants program for Local Governments and Shires that wish to install rapid response signs along areas of coast line with public access.

- A McGowan Labor Government will work with the local Governments to introduce response signs along beaches with public access.

WA Labor is serious about making our beaches safer and will invest in complimentary solutions that are evidence based to provide people peace of mind whilst at the same time respecting the marine environment.

Recreational Fishing Facilities

Recreational fishing is an important part of WA's way of life and it is an important economic driver. Recreational fishing creates jobs in both direct and indirect supply which are vital to many coastal towns and regional areas.

Safety must always be an important part of Recreational Fishing. Rock fishing in particular can be very dangerous with 30 people having died in WA since 2002.

- A McGowan Labor Government will fund a State-wide Fishing Safety Strategy. The Strategy will be developed in consultation with Recfishwest and other stakeholders.

On average in WA, only 15 per cent of recreational craft notify someone before heading out to sea. This makes searching for lost vessels harder and less time responsive.

- A McGowan Labor Government will introduce the MarineRescue App, a free App that connects boaters to marine rescue experts, increasing safety for those out to sea.

The App will enable boaters to log on to the website and if boaters aren’t safely back when expected, the App alerts the nearest marine rescue group.

Making recreational fishing accessible to people with disabilities can sometimes be a challenge but it brings many rewards. That is why the work of Fishability WA [formerly Fishers with Disabilities Association] is so important and will receive ongoing funding from a McGowan Labor Government.

- A McGowan Labor Government will increase funding to Fishability WA.

Recreational fishing supports jobs and businesses as well as encouraging kids and families to get outdoors and learn more about our environment. Recreational fishing also has a positive influence on mental and physical health.

WA Labor will continue to support new initiatives through the Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund.
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, meaning that 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.
WA LABOR
Plan for the Pilbara

Plan for Jobs
Putting Patients First
Investing in Education and Training
Community Services and Infrastructure