WA LABOR

Plan for Bunbury

A Fresh Approach for WA

WA Labor Policy | January 2017
WA LABOR’S PLAN FOR BUNBURY

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Mark McGowan MP

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I am proud to present to you WA Labor’s Plan for Bunbury. It’s a plan that focuses on the things that really matter to WA 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 understand the challenges facing hardworking, everyday families.

Our Plan will create jobs and opportunities for people in Bunbury. We’ll make sure local businesses and workers get a bigger share of work on big government projects.

Don Punch, WA Labor’s candidate for Bunbury, is “Proudly Bunbury” and his vision is for Bunbury to be a place where you can work, build a home, educate your kids and have great health care all in a place you love.

A McGowan Labor Government will fast track the development of Stage 3 of the Bunbury Waterfront project and develop marine facility infrastructure to attract private investment and develop a major waterfront destination for visitors and the local community. We will also develop the Bunbury Port as part of an integrated solution to WA’s transport needs.

Tourism is a huge part of my plan to diversify the economy and create new jobs. As WA’s second city, we will work with industry to develop more landside destination options for the cruise ship sector, to generate additional visitor spend and more local jobs.

A $30 million investment in a revitalised Australind train service from Perth to Bunbury will bring tourists to the South West and offer a faster journey between Bunbury and Perth.

The health of our loved ones is everything. A McGowan Labor Government will upgrade Bunbury Hospital to increase its capacity to a 200 bed facility and deliver a new Step Up Step Down mental health facility. A specialised drug rehabilitation centre will also be built in the Bunbury Collie region and we will build a new police station at Capel.

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 Bunbury. 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

Creating Jobs in Bunbury

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Complete stages 1 and 2 and fast track the development of the business model for Stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront project to guide public and private sector investment in the project.

- Begin construction of the new breakwater at the entrance to Casuarina Harbour and repair and extend the Koombana Bay groyne to increase protection and create new jobs in the marine industry sector.

- Develop the core marina and marine facility infrastructure to attract private investment and develop a major waterfront destination for visitors and the local community.

- Create a dedicated cruise ship berth and move cargo facilities at berths 1 and 2 from the Outer Harbour as part of this long term plan.

- Work with industry to develop more landside destination options for the cruise ship sector, thus generating additional visitor spend and more local jobs.

- Create a Bunbury Development Committee to guide the development of Casuarina Harbour, Withers and Glen Iris.

- Appoint a responsible lead agency to project manage the future of Withers.

- Invest $425 million over 5 year to promote WA and our regional destinations including Bunbury.

- Create a 12 month project position to kickstart the activation of the central business district.

- Allocate $200,000 to the City of Bunbury to identify and develop a suitable entry statement and signage for Bunbury.

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

- 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 in regional WA.

- Continue to support grassroots arts activity and community cultural development in Bunbury and foster the economic opportunities offered by arts based tourism, excellence in regional arts practise and the contemporary film, animation and digital sectors.

- Bring the development of industrial land under the auspices of the Industrial Lands Authority to develop serviced, ready to use industrial land.

- Address the infrastructure and service needs at Halifax Business Park to support long term growth.

- Ensure the South West Regional Development Commission takes a more proactive role in maximising the number of jobs created on Royalties for Regions programs and other state government contracts in Bunbury.

- Introduce Western Australian Industry Participation Plans (WAIPPs) to ensure more local jobs on WA Government building projects in Bunbury.
• 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 employed on government projects.

• 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.

Putting Patients First in Bunbury

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Invest $20 million to upgrade Bunbury Hospital, including increasing the capacity to a 200 bed facility.

• Guarantee the delivery of a new Step Up Step Down mental health facility in Bunbury.

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

• Work with local health care providers to establish an Urgent Care Clinic in Bunbury.

• Build a specialised drug rehabilitation centre in the Bunbury/Collie-Preston region.

• Complement the implementation of our Methamphetamine Action Plan in Bunbury and support the transition of Doors Wide Open to a professional community organisation.

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

Transport Links to support WA’s Second City

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Deliver a revitalised train service to Bunbury and the South West bringing tourists to the south west and offering a faster journey between Bunbury and Perth.

• Provide an additional no stop service between Bunbury and Perth and vice versa.

• Develop specific tourism packages for Bunbury, Collie and the surrounding communities linked to a revitalised Australind Service.

• Consult with the City of Bunbury and the local community to confirm a site for a future train station closer to the City centre.

• Create a $30 million Rail Futures Fund to support the upgrades to the Australind service and to continue the planning for high speed rail to Bunbury.

• Undertake a review of the Bunbury City Transit Services and develop a plan for public transport between Bunbury and regional centres like Collie.
• Make a priority application to Infrastructure Australia for funding to complete the Bunbury Outer Ring Road as a major economic driver for Bunbury and the South West.

Bunbury Port Driving Economic Growth for WA

• A McGowan Labor Government will continue to develop the capacity of Bunbury Port as part of an integrated solution to WA's transport needs.

Investing in Education and Training

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Build a new canteen and Home Economics facilities at Bunbury Senior High School.

• Build a new Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Centre at Newton Moore Senior High School.

• Allocate $3 million to build a new undercover area and commence an upgrade at South Bunbury Primary School.

• Put Education Assistants back in the classroom.

• 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 in Bunbury to open up the opportunities for more childcare as well as before and after school and school holiday care facilities.

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

• 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 Bunbury.
Services and Infrastructure

New Police Station in Capel
- A McGowan Labor Government will build a new police station at Capel to service Capel and Dalyellup.

Dalyellup Family Centre
- A McGowan Labor Government will build a Family Centre in Dalyellup to provide a hub for family and child oriented services and programs.

Upgrading facilities at Hay Park
- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $4 million to upgrade facilities at Hay Park including addressing drainage and lighting issues.

Upgrade to Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club
- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $300,000 towards an interim facility for the Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club and work with the Shire of Capel on how best to progress a suitable site for a permanent facility.

Bunbury Bowling Club
- A McGowan Labor government will commit $200,000 to the Bunbury Bowling Club to support the creation of a green accessible to people living with a disability.

Safer Beaches with Rapid Response Signage
- A McGowan Labor Government will work with the City of Bunbury to introduce response signs to help emergency services identify the precise location of beaches with public access.

Recreational Fishing Facilities
A McGowan Labor Government will:
- Work with the City of Bunbury to build a fishing platform for the Bunbury community.
- Investigate suitable locations around Bunbury where artificial fishing habitats can be deployed to increase year round fishing opportunities.
- 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.

The Cut
- A McGowan Labor Government will conduct a needs analysis study to determine the suitability of making The Cut a navigational channel and safe for small boats.

Artificial Surf Reef
- A McGowan Labor Government will undertake a study to determine the feasibility of building an artificial surf reef at BP Beach in Bunbury

Environment

Preston River to Ocean Regional Park
- A McGowan Labor Government will fast-track the Preston River to Ocean Regional Park for Greater Bunbury.

Ban Fracking in the South West
- A McGowan Labor Government will ban the fracking of unconventional gas in the South West, Peel and the Perth metropolitan area.
Revitalising Bunbury Water Front

A McGowan Labor Government will complete the work started by WA Labor as part of Bunbury 2000. Stage 2 will be completed and WA Labor will deliver stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury’s Waterfront Plan.

This will transform Casuarina Harbour into a world class waterfront precinct generating hundreds of jobs and new investment in Bunbury. The development will include mixed use retail, short stay and residential development together with marine facilities that will provide boat storage, more pens and marine support industry.

Planning for the development of the Waterfront will include the development of linkages to Bunbury’s central business area so that the CBD can embrace the waterfront as imagined in the Bunbury 2000 program and not be isolated from it. This will help to create jobs and build vibrancy in the CBD.

- A McGowan Labor Government will complete stages 1 and 2 and fast track the development of the business model for Stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront project to guide public and private sector investment in the project.

Stage 3 will also include redevelopment of the Koombana Bay Groyne which is falling into disrepair to provide increased protection for new facilities at the Koombana waterfront, opportunities for increased public access for fishing and facilitate private sector investment in new pen facilities at Koombana Bay.

New breakwaters at Casuarina Harbour will provide the protection the harbour needs for expansion and development of land based infrastructure.

The marine infrastructure will provide much-needed facilities to the boat users, including chandlery, fuelling, boat lifting, boat storage and stacking as well as slipway and boat ramp facilities.

- A McGowan Labor Government will begin construction of the new breakwater at the entrance to Casuarina Harbour and repair and extend the Koombana Bay groyne to increase protection and create new jobs in the marine industry sector.

The Casuarina Vision Plan released in August 2105 provides a blueprint for the development.

There are key Outer Harbour industrial leases due to expire in 2018 and so the State Government needs to be ready to make timely decisions and be in a position to start work. Solid planning and LandCorp’s business model for future development of the Outer Harbour needs to be ready.

With a detailed business model in place and a breakwater to protect the next parts of the Stage 3 development, a McGowan Labor Government will begin the process of developing core marina and marine facility infrastructure.

WA Labor will also begin the process of attracting private investment proposals for marine business, such as chandlery, boat storage and the like, and for restaurants, cafes and bars, affordable residential and other facilities that service Bunbury locals and international and domestic visitors.

- A McGowan Labor Government will develop the core marina and marine facility infrastructure to attract private investment and develop a major waterfront destination for visitors and the local community.
Cruise ship tourism to Bunbury and the South West

A long-term vision, and the coordination between Government agencies is required to make the most of the opportunities presented by the portions of Bunbury’s Outer Harbour not covered by Stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront project – the docking berths.

A McGowan Labor Government will begin the long-term planning needed to convert berths 1 and 2 of Bunbury Outer Harbour to a dedicated cruise ship berthing facility.

Berths one and two are predominantly used for storage. The current leases on the storage facilities are due to expire in 2108 providing an opportunity to relocate these facilities to the Bunbury Port freeing up valuable land at the Outer Harbour.

- A McGowan Labor Government will create a dedicated cruise ship berth and move cargo facilities at berths 1 and 2 from the Outer Harbour as part of this long term plan.

A coordinated approach, backed by a sustainable plan to promote Bunbury as a cruise ship destination, is required to position Bunbury and its region, as an attractive proposition for investment and a destination for international visitors.

Properly serviced by made-to-measure shore excursions and dockside facilities, cruise ship tourism can be hugely beneficial. The peak for cruise ship visits to Bunbury was in 2009-10, when 9 ships visited but numbers have fallen away significantly with fewer visits each year. With as many as 2,000 passengers on larger ships, and a dedicated cruise ship berth, Bunbury and surrounding towns like Collie could reap the benefits of potentially 18,000 extra international visitors per year.

A McGowan Labor Government would work with local state and Federal government agencies to plan for dedicated cruise ship docking facilities at Bunbury’s Outer Harbour. WA Labor will also work with tour operators, retailers, Indigenous tourism operators and other stakeholders to develop packages, goods and services suited to cruise ship passengers.

- A McGowan Labor Government will work with industry to develop more landside destination options for the cruise ship sector, thus generating additional visitor spend and more local jobs.
Bunbury Development Committee

WA Labor’s plan to grow Bunbury into a vibrant second city requires coordination across many areas within Government. This includes addressing the multiple land ownership issues which are currently held by different government agencies.

Three key projects include:

1. Bunbury Waterfront including Casuarina Harbour for the establishment of marina and new mixed use developments together with linkages to the city centre.

2. The redevelopment of Withers including the creation of a new central community area.

3. The redevelopment of Glen Iris including new community infrastructure.

The relevant land will be declared improvement areas under the Planning and Development Act. Section 119(1)(a) provides for the development of improvement plans in specified areas.

A Bunbury Development Committee will be formed under delegation from the WAPC and supported by the South West Development Commission. The Committee would have control of planning the development in each of the specified areas in a similar manner to a redevelopment authority. Proposals would need to be endorsed by the Western Australian Planning Commission.

- A McGowan Labor Government will create a Bunbury Development Committee to guide the development of Casuarina Harbour, Withers and Glen Iris.

The committee of 5-6 people will be drawn from leading business and community figures who would guide the development of these important projects.

Withers Redevelopment

Withers is a suburb within the City of Bunbury, approximately 4kms south of the Bunbury CBD. The area is more socio-economically disadvantaged than the surrounding area and is in need of redevelopment and investment.

WA Labor supports the Withers renewal program and recognises that it will require significant cooperation between a number of agencies.

- A McGowan Labor Government will appoint a responsible lead agency to project manage the future of Withers.

A staged action plan will be developed involving both Landcorp and the Department of Housing and will include strong community consultation at every stage.

Tourism Opportunities of the Future

WA Labor has a vision for tourism in Bunbury supported by the development of Brand WA, a global toolkit of consistent concepts; packaging and messaging that will promote Bunbury to the rest of the world.

Brand WA will be developed through consultation with industry and be used to sell Bunbury as a cruise ship destination. The Wellington National Park and Ferguson Valley together with local towns such as Collie and Donnybrook will be promoted as destinations for international visitors. Local produce from the region such as wine, food, beer and other products will be purchased by those visitors.

WA Labor will also be investing $45 million per year in Destination Marketing for Western Australian tourism. Bunbury and its hinterland is a vital part of that $225 million five-year marketing funding.
A McGowan Labor Government is committed to ensuring that the model of funding provides certainty and security for the tourism industry. This will maximise the return on investment and grow jobs in this important part of the Bunbury economy.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $425 million over five years to promote WA and our regional destinations including Bunbury.**

This increase in funding for marketing and event tourism will have a positive boost for regional economies and drive their share of the tourism market.

A McGowan Labor Government will also create an events and marketing project officer for Bunbury to help activate the central business district.

The 12 month project position will be responsible for kick-starting events and bringing more visitors to the CBD, which has been neglected under the Barnett Liberal Government.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will create a 12 month project position to kickstart the activation of the central business district.**

Further to this, WA Labor will work with the City of Bunbury on an appropriate entry statement and signage for Bunbury.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $200,000 to the City of Bunbury to develop a suitable entry statement and signage for Bunbury.**

### 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 South West.

We need to encourage a 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.

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

WA Labor will make it easier for tourist to try our unique local products by freeing up the regulations around regional collectives and farmers’ markets. Currently regional collective cellar door facilities can showcase wine and beer from a particular region but no distilled alcohol products.

### New Industries Fund to attract and foster Startups

A McGowan Labor Government will invest $4.5million 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 sector in regional WA.**
WA Labor will support innovation in Bunbury which has the effect of boosting the local economy and creating further opportunities for job growth.

The South West Development Commission will identify locations to develop business incubators to foster and accelerate Bunbury based Startup and gaming enterprises. Funding 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.

**Arts and Culture**

Arts and cultural activity plays a vital role in establishing a sense of place for regional communities. A vibrant arts and cultural sector contributes not only to a healthy community but also to regional tourism and to the generation of economic opportunities. As an industry sector it is a major contributor to the $360 million generated annually in the south west through the broader creative industry sector.

Bunbury is a hub for arts activity in the region as the home of the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre and the only A class gallery south of Perth in the Bunbury Regional Art Galleries. The creativity and innovation of our community has also seen unique initiatives such as re.discover and Maker and Co flourish in Bunbury and attract new visitors to our city.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will continue to support grassroots arts activity and community cultural development in Bunbury and foster the economic opportunities offered by arts based tourism, excellence in regional arts practise and the contemporary film, animation and digital sectors.**

**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 serviced industrial land and technology parks including Halifax Business Park and Kemerton Industrial Park near Bunbury.

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.

- **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.**

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 regional WA and create new job opportunities.
Halifax Business Park

Addressing the transport, water and security issues within the Halifax Business Park will be a priority for a McGowan Labor Government.

- A McGowan Labor Government will address the infrastructure and service needs at Halifax Business Park to support long term growth.

The infrastructure needs at Halifax Business Park include:

- Provision of slip lanes at major entrances off the South West Highway to promote safety.
- Ensure water mains pressure servicing the Halifax Business Park to support growth.
- CCTV at the three entrance points to Halifax to help reduce late night crime.
- Investigate deep sewerage to the balance of the park to prevent leakage of nutrients into the adjacent Preston River.
- Review fire fighting requirements with Water Corp and FESA to ensure adequate fire fighting capacity in the park.

Bus services to Halifax Business Park during early morning and afternoon peak periods will also be reviewed.

South West Development Commission to maximise local jobs

The role of the South West Development Commission (SWDC) is to lead and support sustainable development in Bunbury.

WA Labor will enhance the role of the SWDC and require it to take a more proactive role in ensuring that the value of the local content on Royalties for Regions programs and other state government contracts is increased.

- A McGowan Labor Government will ensure the South West Development Commission takes a more proactive role in maximising the number of local jobs created on RFR programs and other state government contracts in Bunbury.

On projects such as the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront Project WA Labor will require all departments and head contractors to advertise all tenders and job openings on the SWDC website. This will allow local businesses and job seekers to have a single portal to access opportunities in the Bunbury Region.
Local Jobs on WA Government Building Projects

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

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

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 Bunbury including the major upgrade to Bunbury Hospital 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 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 employed on government projects.

Apprentices and Trainees

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 employed on government projects.
A new Vision for Bunbury Hospital

Bunbury Hospital has served the community well for many years and the staff at the 164 bed Bunbury Hospital provide an outstanding service. However with the region’s growing population, Bunbury Hospital’s services are increasingly stressed and the health professionals under pressure.

In 2014-15 40,310 people presented to Bunbury Hospital Emergency Department and by 2015-16, this had increased to 40,514. The pressure on the Hospital’s High Dependency Unit increased in that time by almost 60 per cent, with 412 admissions in 14-15 and 656 in 15-16.

To ease this pressure WA Labor will undertake a major upgrade of Bunbury Hospital over the next 6 years including increasing its size to a 200 bed facility.

- A McGowan Labor Government will invest $20 million to upgrade Bunbury Hospital, including increasing the capacity to a 200 bed facility.

Step-Up Step-Down

In 2013 the Liberal Government announced that they would build sub-acute mental health facilities in Karratha and Bunbury with work to commence in 2013/14. They broke this promise but ahead of the 2017 State election have again committed to funding these two facilities.

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to delivering important mental health facilities in Bunbury and will not break its promise on this important issue.

- A McGowan Labor Government will guarantee the delivery of a new Step Up Step Down facility in Bunbury.

Mental Health is a critical area of State Government responsibility and community concern. These concerns arise out of a high level of unmet need for Western Australians with mental health conditions that require, but are unable to access, appropriate mental health beds, support and services.
Provision of Aged Care to Free up Hospital Beds

Bunbury 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 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 Bunbury 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.

Urgent Care Clinics

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce an Urgent Care Clinic in Bunbury 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 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 Bunbury.**

Hospital based Urgent Care Clinics will treat patients who are assessed as non-urgent.

These patients will be triaged at the emergency department and taken to the clinic for further assessment. The patient will be managed by the emergency department but will be under the care of a GP and nurses more suited for the patient’s condition.

Ambulances presenting at emergency departments with patients with non-life threatening conditions will be taken to an Urgent Care Clinic in a hospital setting.

Other patients who wish to see a doctor after hours will be able to attend an Urgent Care Clinic in their community. A McGowan Labor Government will enter into a formal arrangement with a range of General Practices. These practices will be licensed to operate as Urgent Care Clinics and will be promoted as part of the Urgent Care Clinic network.

The community based Urgent Care Clinic will work in partnership with the local emergency department. They will have a direct line of communication with the local emergency department and will be able to prioritise patients referred to the emergency department if their condition deteriorates or warrants a higher level of care.
Specialised Drug Treatment Centre

The impact of methamphetamine addiction on regional communities in WA has been devastating.

Recently more than 40 former ice users and their families met in Bunbury to discuss how to best tackle the scourge of Methamphetamine use in regional WA.¹

They called for urgent rehabilitation services in the South West; “The need is phenomenal, people need somewhere to go to get clean. They can’t just do it on their own.”²

There is a distinct lack of services available in the South West. WA Labor recognises the importance of having these services available close to home where family and the community can remain connected.


Within the model of treatment, the MAP will include support services that cater for the long withdrawal and recovery period and high relapse rate associated with methamphetamine use.

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.

Doors Wide Open

Doors Wide Open is a community group dedicated to supporting families dealing with the impacts of the meth addiction of one of their loved ones. They seek to minimize the incidence and impact of addiction.

To date, Doors Wide Open has been wholly volunteer run but the demand for their services has grown beyond a volunteer capacity. They are now seeking to open a crisis care clinic for loved ones of those living with addiction and will expand their service to support addicts in recovery and their families.

This community organisation is filling an important gap, supporting those family members and loved ones who are at the coal face of fighting meth in our community.

- A McGowan Labor Government will complement the implementation of our Methamphetamine Action Plan in Bunbury and support the transition of Doors Wide Open to a professional community organisation.

For further details on WA Labor’s Methamphetamine Action Plan go to www.markmcgowan.com.au/MAP

¹ Georgia Loney, Former ice addicts want more rehabilitation services in regional WA, ABC Online, 4 April 2016, accessed online at http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-04-04/call-for-more-drug-rehabilitation-in-the-regions/7297000
² Ibid
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 people from Bunbury to travel for more complex health care treatment.

Medihotels are an innovative way of making the experience of travelling for treatment less stressful. It will provide an alternative option to the PATS scheme which often leaves people out of pocket.

- A McGowan Labor Government will build WA’s first Medihotel to make extended hospital stays more comfortable for patients from Bunbury 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.

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.
Specialist Services in the Future

The provision of specialist services in Bunbury 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 centred 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.

St John’s 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 Johns 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
Train Services to Bunbury

A McGowan Labor Government is committed to delivering a revitalised Australind rail service that will support the needs of the growing communities and deliver an economic benefit to Bunbury, Collie and the South West Region.

- A McGowan Labor Government will deliver a revitalised train service to Bunbury and the South West bringing tourists to the South West and offering a faster journey between Bunbury and Perth.

Part of a revitalised Australind service will include an assessment of needs at the inland stations and improvements, especially in terms of access for people with disabilities. WA Labor will also implement a passenger rail rolling stock manufacturing strategy to replace the ageing Australind rail cars.

While the Australind is popular with some travellers, it does not serve the needs of those who wish to travel quickly. The current two hour thirty minute journey is ideal for tourists and holiday-makers but less suited to people who wish to commute to Perth for work or appointments.

WA Labor will provide an additional no stop Australind service between Perth and Bunbury to reduce travel times.

- A McGowan Labor Government will provide an additional no stop Australind service between Bunbury and Perth and vice-versa.

As part of a passenger rail rolling stock manufacturing strategy, a McGowan Labor Government will set out a long term plan for manufacturing passenger rail cars in Western Australia. New Australind rail cars will be part of this strategy. The guaranteed levels of local content for new rail car purchases will secure existing
maintenance jobs and potentially grow thousands of jobs in the manufacturing of rolling stock and its associated supply chain.

A revitalised Australind train service has a key part to play in bringing those visitors to Bunbury and Collie including outdoor and adventure packages around Wellington National Park and the Collie River. A coordinated approach between government, accommodation providers and local tourism operators is needed to make the most of the new service.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will develop specific tourism packages for Bunbury, Collie and the surrounding communities linked to a revitalised Australind Service.**

To cater for commuters, day-trippers and holiday makers to Bunbury, there is a real need for a rail station closer to the Bunbury City centre. Easy access to accommodation for tourists requires convenient transport into the centre, where options for short term stays are concentrated.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will consult with the City of Bunbury and the local community to confirm a site for a future train station closer to the City centre.**

A McGowan Labor Government will allocate an initial $30 million to a Rail Futures Fund to start the program of revamping the service and will continue the planning and route definition to develop a long term plan for high speed rail to Bunbury, ensuring the corridor is preserved for future construction.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will create a $30 million Rail Futures Fund to support the upgrades to the Australind service and to continue the planning for high speed rail to Bunbury.**

**Review of Bus Services**

As part of the revitalisation of the Australind, WA Labor will develop a long term plan for public transport for Bunbury.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will undertake a review of the Bunbury City Transit Services and develop a plan for public transport between Bunbury and regional centres such as Collie.**

Bunbury is Western Australia’s second city and as such is home to an array of government and non-government service agencies, large retail and commercial developments and a vibrant entertainment precinct. It is the South West region's key service hub.

There is a clear need for Bunbury residents to easily move around their city to access those services. To ensure the city doesn’t become congested with cars, an efficient public transport system is vital.

So too, residents of surrounding centres such as Collie need to travel to Bunbury to access the services the city has to offer. Some of those residents do not have access to a car or would prefer the option of public transport into Bunbury.

WA Labor will ensure there is a systematic approach to long term planning for regional bus services and that those services are part of an integrated transport plan for Bunbury and surrounding areas.
Complete the Outer Ring Road

Bunbury is central to the economic success of the region. The City is home to a range of service, construction, agricultural, engineering and manufacturing industries and hosts major regional economic centres such as Kemerton Industrial Park and the Bunbury Port.

Freight movements in the Bunbury area are inefficient, trucks are required to use indirect routes and the operation of higher productivity vehicles in the region is limited. Land use planning in the Greater Bunbury area was predicated on the existing and planned major transport links in the area resulting in indirect routes being used by trucks and an inappropriate use of local roads that are unsuited to the task.

The Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) stages 2&3 were submitted to Infrastructure Australia in December 2012 but remain on the ‘Real Potential’ list without a commitment from the Liberal National Government, even with a high benefit cost ratio.

- A McGowan Labor Government will make a priority application to Infrastructure Australia for funding to complete the Bunbury Outer Ring Road as a major economic driver for Bunbury and the South West.

Completion of the Bunbury Outer Ring Road will provide more efficient access for freight to the Bunbury Port and enable the expansion of the industrial centres leading to more manufacturing, agricultural processing and more jobs.

The BORR will remove current inefficiencies in the supply chain to the Port from occurring and enable neighbouring industrial centres to increase the economic output
Expanding the capacity of Bunbury Port has been identified as an important project to drive jobs and investment in the South West. It also provides an opportunity to address a number of issues facing the congestion and capacity issues associated with Fremantle Port. Bunbury Port should be seen as part of an integrated solution to the State’s transport needs and the long term economic future of WA.

The benefits of expanding the capacity of Bunbury Port were identified in ‘Roads to Export Greater Bunbury Infrastructure Investment Plan’ released in October 2010. More recently the South West Regional Blueprint identified the potential for the growth at Bunbury Port and capacity to expand its operations to include containers and remove some pressure from Fremantle Port.

In the South West Regional Blueprint the expansion of the manufacturing sector and the development of expanded gateways to export into countries particularly in Asia were identified as important for the long term economic development of the South West. (South West Regional Blueprint, p24)

- A McGowan Labor Government will continue to develop the capacity of Bunbury Port as part of an integrated solution to WA’s transport needs.

The allocation of $10 million from Royalties for Regions (RFR) will allow for the staged development of the capacity of Bunbury Port as part of our commitment to use RFR for investment in economic development and infrastructure projects.
Specific Infrastructure Announcements

A McGowan Labor Government will build better schools and upgrade existing schools so that our children can get the best education they deserve in well maintained facilities that support the modern educational needs of our students.

A McGowan Labor Government will invest in education and create the best learning environment for our students.

A McGowan Labor Government will provide a modern learning environment and will invest in upgrades to the following schools in Bunbury.

- A McGowan Labor Government will build a new canteen and Home Economics facilities at Bunbury Senior High School.

Bunbury Senior High School is in dire need of a canteen. Although a feasibility study into a new canteen was completed in April 2015, 19 months later, nothing has been done. A McGowan Labor Government will build a new canteen as well as new Home Economic facilities for the school.


Newton Moore Senior High School was built in 1966 and much of its infrastructure is ageing, in particular its Design and Technology (D & T) facilities which still have pieces of equipment that are fifty years old. A McGowan Labor Government will replace these aging facilities with a new STEM centre.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $3 million to build a new undercover area and commence an upgrade at South Bunbury Primary School.

South Bunbury is also one of Bunbury’s older schools and is in urgent need of a new undercover area to provide an all weather meeting and play space for students. It also needs an upgrade to its ageing facilities. WA Labor will allocate $3 million to begin the upgrade and build a new undercover area.

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 years’ students are at school.

- A McGowan Labor Government will put Education Assistants back in the classroom.
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.

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.

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 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.

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.

Schools in Bunbury will benefit from this increased investment in science.

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 in Bunbury 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 in Bunbury to open up the opportunities for more childcare as well as before and after school and school holiday care facilities
- Provide a site for a childcare centre in the planning of every new public primary school and 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 in Bunbury 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.

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 to regional TAFEs.

- 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 Bunbury.
New Police Station in Capel

Western Australians are concerned about community safety and the long response times for police to attend calls for help. The Community wants its police force to have the resources it needs and to see more police on the beat in their neighbourhoods. Over the past eight years crimes against the person and crimes against property have continued to rise an average of 11 per cent each year.¹

In the South West town of Capel, the community has long been calling for a stronger police presence to respond to the crimes being committed in and around Capel and the growth area of Dalyellup.

- A McGowan Labor Government will build a new police station at Capel to service Capel and Dalyellup.


Dalyellup Family Centre

Dalyellup was established in 1999 and since that time has grown rapidly with the population now estimated at around 10,000 people. The community started with a small primary school and now has two primary schools with 664 and 445 students each, a secondary college of almost 800 students and a non-government school, Ocean Forest Lutheran College.

There is a need in Dalyellup for a community hub to house family and child focussed programs and services such as playgroups, parenting advice and other support services. Young families in particular require access to services in the area where they live.

- A McGowan Labor Government will build a Family Centre in Dalyellup to provide a hub for family and child oriented services and programs.
In conjunction with the Dalyellup community, WA Labor will determine a site for the proposed Family Centre and determine the most appropriate model for management. It is envisaged a family centre be built to house at least one employee who would help drive and create a program of support services for families living in Dalyellup.

The range of programs will be determined through consultation with the people of Dalyellup and their needs. There is potential for services in Bunbury, such as those at Milligan in Carey Park or Hudson Road Family Centre in Withers to be able to offer outreach services to a Family Centre in Dalyellup. This approach would capitalize on existing resources, social capital, expertise and local knowledge whilst still allowing the programs to be tailored to the specific needs of Dalyellup families.

Upgrade to Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club

Dalyellup is a new beachside community in greater Bunbury that does not currently have proper Surf Lifesaving Club facilities. The Club was formed in 2001 and is still operating from sea containers in the absence of proper facilities.

Land has been identified for a permanent Surf Club, but current land use issues mean that this can not be built for approximately eight years and as such the club requires adequate interim facilities to continue the valuable service they provide to the community.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $300,000 towards an interim facility for the Dalyellup Surf Life Saving Club and work with the Shire of Capel on how best to progress a suitable site for a more permanent facility.

Upgrading facilities at Hay Park

Located in the suburb of Withers, Hay Park is a major regional recreation area supporting a variety of community sports, community activities and events. As Bunbury grows Hay Park needs to evolve to meet the needs of a larger population with a broader range of recreational needs and increased demand.

The City of Bunbury has worked with sporting associations to develop the Hay Park Master Plan. There are significant drainage issues impacting some facilities and lighting upgrades to maximise night time use.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $4 million to upgrade facilities at Hay Park including addressing drainage and lighting issues.

WA Labor will work with the City of Bunbury to ensure that upgrades funded by the State Government do not result in steep increases in charges and rentals but remains affordable for all of the community.

Bunbury Bowling Club

Sporting Clubs are at the heart of communities. The Bunbury Bowling Club plays a vital role bringing people together and helping create a sense of community. WA Labor values the role social and sporting club play in the health and connectedness of our communities.

Currently, disabled access to the bowling greens in Bunbury is limited, denying many people the opportunity to engage in this popular social activity. Modifying one green at the Bunbury Bowling Club to be directly accessible from the carpark with a wheelchair resistant synthetic surface will allow many people currently unable to engage in a social, sporting activity to participate in the Bunbury Bowling Club programme.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $200,000 to the Bunbury Bowling Club to support the creation of a green accessible to people living with a disability.
Safer Beaches with Rapid Response Signage

WA Labor will always support measures that will reduce the risk of shark attacks provided they are 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.

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 coastline with public access.

- A McGowan Labor Government will work with the City of Bunbury to introduce response signs to help emergency services identify the precise location of beaches with public access.

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 protecting our marine environment for generations to come.

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

Fishing Platform

Since the gradual disintegration of the old wooden jetty in Bunbury, recreational fishers have called for a safe fishing platform for the community to use. The completion of Stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront Project will provide the opportunity to build a fishing platform for the Bunbury community.

- A McGowan Labor Government will work with the City of Bunbury to build a fishing platform for the Bunbury community.

Recreational Fishing

Recreational fishing is an important part of Bunbury'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.

Offshore fishing can be hard around Bunbury due to the lack of a significant structure that can provide all year round fishing. Artificial reefs, Fish Aggregating Devices (FADS) and restocking programs all play an important part in enriching the recreational fishing experience as well as growing the economic contribution recreational fishing makes to the state.

- A McGowan Labor Government will investigate suitable locations around Bunbury where artificial fishing habitats can be deployed to increase year round fishing opportunities.

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.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will conduct a needs analysis study to determine the suitability of making The Cut a navigational channel and safe for small boats.**

  Such a study will point the way forward for marine safety for boaters in Bunbury.

**Artifical Surf Reef**

An artificial surf reef off the coast of Bunbury, especially in the vicinity of BP Beach, has the potential to provide surfable waves for locals and visitors alike. Such a reef would attract more visitors to the area, providing another avenue for diversifying Bunbury’s economy and creating more jobs.

An artificial surf reef also has the potential to provide a buffer between the swells and the beach, with the breaking waves further offshore reducing in power before they reach the beach. This could provide an effective tool against further beach erosion.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will undertake a study to determine the feasibility of building an artifical surf reef at BP Beach in Bunbury.**

Bunbury Back Beach at certain times of the year, receives heavy swells but finding surfable waves for local and visiting surfers is a hit-or-miss affair. The lack of consistently shaped sandbanks or favourably shaped reefs, means that the waves often crash straight onto the beach rather than peeling off in a surfable fashion.

Erosion of the Back Beach, which required a multi-million dollar investment by the previous Labor Government, was caused by those very same swells.

WA Labor is committed to exploring options to diversify Bunbury’s tourist appeal and create more local jobs for Bunbury.
Preston River to Ocean Regional Park

Planning for a regional park from Preston River to the Coast has been ongoing for many years. The proposal to create this reserve of almost 900 hectares would create a continuous reserve to the south of the City of Bunbury and extend west from the Preston River, the Shearwater Tuart Forest to Manea Park and through the Maidens bushland and on to the coast.

The Barnett Liberal Government has stalled this process and is yet to transfer all parcels of land to the State before the area can be formally established as a regional park.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will fast-track the Preston River to Ocean Regional Park for Greater Bunbury.**

A Preston River to Ocean Regional Park will create much needed regional open space for Greater Bunbury which is WA’s second largest population centre. This area also has significant conservation and landscape values along with existing recreational facilities.

This area includes all the values of regional and state significance which will be protected and managed as a regional national park for the residents of Bunbury and the wider region.

Ban Fracking in the South West

The development of unconventional gas is one of the most hotly contested environmental issues in Western Australia and around the world.

Community and industry views on hydraulic fracturing for unconventional gas (HFUG) are varied and equally passionate. What is clear is that Government has a responsibility to provide a stronger legislative framework and baseline data for landowners, aboriginal communities, resource companies, environmentalists, community members and relevant government agencies.

The South West of Western Australia is particularly vulnerable to the risks of fracking because of the presence of the Yarragadee aquifer, farms and high-value tourism. It produces some of the world’s best food and wine and our natural forests and waterways are popular tourism destinations.

The land use patterns of the South West, Peel and the Perth metropolitan area mean that fracking is inappropriate.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will ban fracking gas in the South West, Peel and the Perth metropolitan area.**
WA LABOR

Plan for Bunbury

Plan for Jobs in Bunbury
Putting Patients First in Bunbury
Transport Links to Support WA’s Second City
Bunbury Port Driving Economic Growth for WA
Investing in Education and Training
Services and Infrastructure