

Other Initiatives



Main Investments

Where is the money going?	How much is being invested?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing a one-off electricity credit of \$400 to more than 1 million Synergy and Horizon Power customers electricity accounts on 1 July 2022. 	\$445 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An increase in the State Government's contribution to 50% of individual packages for NDIS participants in WA. 	\$78.5 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the 'Lower Fees, Local Skills' initiative, aimed at keeping TAFE fees low and annual fee caps across 200 priority TAFE courses. 	\$38.4 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to tackle family and domestic violence and build safer communities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$14.7 million to establish and run the Armadale Family and Domestic Violence Hub. \$7.7 million to enhance the Family and Domestic Violence Response Teams, which provide targeted and coordinated intervention. \$4.5 million to address family and domestic violence in the Kimberley by extending the Derby Family Violence Service and The <i>'Change Em Ways'</i> Kimberley Project for a further two years. 	\$34.4 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved classroom learning for students with complex behaviours, including increased resources to promote early interventions for students with literacy and numeracy difficulties. 	\$31.9 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the Safe Home Family Package and \$3 million over five years for the expansion of the Respectful Relationships Program. 	\$29.5 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of the Driving Access and Equity Pilot Program, which is aimed at helping people in the Pilbara and the Kimberley to overcome barriers to obtaining their licence, such as geographic location, access to instructors, supervisors, vehicles and/or literacy or the financial means to participate. 	\$5.5 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to retain childcare workers in the regions and establish a sustainable model to support regional childcare. 	\$5.1 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of an Innovation Fund to develop new and emerging initiatives to assist people with disability to continue education, gain employment and increase independence. 	\$5 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A funding boost for Cadets WA. 	\$2.2 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-birth planning as part of the early intervention strategies. 	\$1 million

Our Response

The good:	The bad:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is incredibly welcome to see the \$31.9 million boost to improve classroom learning for students with complex behaviour, including resources to promote early interventions for students with literacy and numeracy difficulties. With a significant portion of existing funding in the education system going to maintaining mainstream education and infrastructure upgrades it is great to see a specific focus on young people who are not being effectively engaged by standard educational tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the significant rises in costs of living expenses such as rent, utilities, fuel and food as a result of inflation and the impacts of COVID-19 it is disappointing to see a lack of investment in targeted concessions for vulnerable young people living in increasing financial stress and at risk of homelessness, the one-off \$400 payment that does not extend beyond this.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also welcome is the continuation of 'Lower Fees, Local Skills' TAFE initiative – providing low-cost and accessible education and vocational training is crucial to giving young people who may otherwise not be able to afford it the opportunity to establish an independent pathway for themselves to build their skills and knowledge and enter the workforce. Fees for TAFE have been reduced by up to 72% across 210 courses focused on local industries. We are hopeful this will support economic boosts in regional areas and address skill shortages while boosting youth employment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite the positive investment in support for young people with complex behaviours in the classroom more is also needed to provide increased support for teachers to engage in day-to-day classroom teaching, as many are overburdened and are suffering from high rates of burnout. We need to improve the capacity of our public education system to ensure it is maintaining high standards of education for young people in WA and provide enough support for teachers to ensure positive health and wellbeing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are also pleased to see the increased investment in family and domestic violence support and intervention programs, however we re-emphasise the need to prioritise resourcing for primary prevention within efforts to address family and domestic violence, in order to address the causes of it rather than simply provide support after it has already occurred. 	