WA LABOR

Plan for the Kimberley
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I am proud to present to you WA Labor’s Plan for the Kimberley. 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.

In Josie Farrer, the people of the Kimberley have an outstanding local candidate who is working hard to get a better deal for her community. Since being elected in 2013, she’s been fighting hard to get a better deal for local families.

Jobs and unemployment are big issues in the Kimberley. 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.

Providing a quality health and education system across WA will always be a priority of a McGowan Labor Government. We’ll make sure can access better health care, no matter where they live.

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 Kimberley and my fresh approach for WA.

Mark McGowan, WA Labor Leader
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Plan for Jobs in the Kimberley

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Invest an additional $20 million over the next 5 years into the WA Indigenous Ranger Program to look after WA State Parks, Indigenous Protected Areas and indigenous tenures.

- Invest $425 million over five years to promote WA and showcase our unique regional destinations such as the Kimberley.

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

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

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

- 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 burgeoning hi-tech industry.

- 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.

- Ensure the Kimberley Development Commission takes a more proactive role in maximising the value of local content delivered on RFR programs and other state government contracts in the Kimberley.

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

- Ensure more local content in State Government purchasing and on building and construction projects to create more jobs in the Kimberley.

- 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.

Putting Patients First in Kimberley

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Provide $1.3 million over four years to provide a mobile dialysis unit which will operate during the dry season to provide lifesaving dialysis to remote communities and a preventative education program.

- Expand the Earbus program to provide a screening service in the Kimberley.

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

- Establish a culturally appropriate housing facility for regional Aboriginal people visiting family at Royal Perth Hospital.
• Fund a meet and greet service for people from remote communities visiting Perth for medical treatment.

• Build a specialised drug rehabilitation centre in the Kimberley.

• Work with local health care providers to introduce Urgent Care Clinics in the Kimberley.

• 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 Kimberley to develop new facilities by identifying suitable land and removing existing planning and local government impediments.

• 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.

• 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.

• 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.

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 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.

• Provide a site for childcare centre in the planning of every new public primary school and 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.

• 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 Kimberley.

• 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 Kimberley.

Supporting Communities

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Not forcibly close remote Aboriginal communities.

• Allocate $1.2 million over 4 years for the implementation of the ‘Improving the Juvenile Justice System, Framework’.

• Work with the Shire of Broome to develop a transient visitor campground at an appropriate location with the support of local service providers.

• 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.

• Upgrade boating facilities in Broome to improve safety and access at Entrance Point, Town Beach and Gantheaume Point.

• Allocate $500,000 towards the planning for a new Marina in Broome.

• Fund the installation of community swimming pools in Balgo and Kalumburu as a means of improving health of remote Aboriginal communities.

• Upgrade the BRAC multipurpose outdoor courts to include weather proof structure over the courts, seating and lighting.

• Allocate $590,000 to build a water play ground in Kununurra.

• Provide $500,000 over 4 years to support the work of KALACC in documenting and teaching traditional languages.

• Seal the Cape Leveque Road to open up tourism opportunities for traditional land owners of the Dampier Peninsula.

• Seal the remaining 13kms of the Bidyadanga Road.

• Continue to work with the Federal and Northern Territory Governments to seal the Tanami Road to support the economic opportunities sealing this road will bring to northern WA.
• Commit $152 million over 4 years to improve aboriginal housing and to improve essential services and remote regional communities.

• Fund a 12 month subsidised trial of twice a week return service Derby to Perth to assess the demand for an ongoing regular passenger service.

• 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.

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $200,000 to resurface the Halls Creek Basketball Court.

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $25,000 to provide shade sails for residents of the Koongie Park Aboriginal community.

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $30,000 to provide shade sails and play equipment for the Kurnangki community of Fitzroy Crossing.

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $50,000 to improve facilities and purchase equipment for the Derby Youth Centre.

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $70,000 towards planning for a youth centre at Beagle Bay.

Environment

A McGowan Labor Government will:

• Continue to implement a mosaic of national parks to protect the outstanding natural and cultural values of the broader Kimberley including a network of marine sanctuary zones.

• Deliver a credible science-based process for the establishment of future marine sanctuaries in the Kimberley.

• Create the Fitzroy River National Park which will extend the Geikie Gorge National Park along the Fitzroy River to the north and along the Margaret River to the east.

• Support the protection and development of a management plan for the Fitzroy River to ensure the health of the river and provide a basis for sustainable economic development.

• Not allow the Fitzroy River or its tributaries to be dammed.
Indigenous Ranger Program

WA Labor will support Indigenous people to work as rangers protecting our threatened species, controlling threats in remote areas, managing our beautiful long coastline, and to help keep tourists safe and informed in remote areas.

- A McGowan Labor Government will invest an additional $20 million over the next 5 years into the WA Indigenous Ranger Program to look after WA State Parks, Indigenous Protected Areas and indigenous tenures.

WA Labor will negotiate with Traditional Owners for the joint management of pre-existing conservation estate in the Fitzroy River region. We will support ranger teams to work both on and off reserve as required to preserve the values of the parks and surrounding lands.

The dramatic and intact landscapes of the Kimberley have remarkable biological richness and are home to living Aboriginal culture more than 40,000 years old. The pristine marine environment, intact landscapes and healthy rivers of this spectacular and remote region are intimately linked through ecology and culture, and will be protected together.

At its heart, A McGowan Labor Government will protect the rights of Traditional Owners to their land and sea Country. We will recognise rights through improved consultation, recognition of indigenous leadership in land management, supporting participation in economic activities on Country, and the joint vesting of marine parks.
Tourism Opportunities of the Future

WA Labor has a vision for tourism in the Kimberley supported by the development of Brand WA, a global toolkit of consistent concepts; packaging and messaging that will promote Western Australia to the rest of the world. Brand WA will be developed through consultation with industry and be used to sell the Kimberley to the world.

WA Labor will also invest $45 million per year in Destination Marketing for Western Australian tourism. Broome and the Kimberley are a vital part of that $225 million five-year marketing funding.

Destination marketing campaigns in the past have promoted events such as the Experience Extraordinary Campaign and programs showcasing a variety of tourism experiences in the regions and will continue to be used to promote the unique tourism opportunities in the Kimberley.

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 Kimberley economy.

- A McGowan Labor Government will invest $425 million over five years to promote WA and showcase our unique regional destinations such as the Kimberley.

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 specialities of the Kimberley.

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.

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.

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 Broome and Kununurra 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.
Aboriginal Procurement supporting Jobs in the Regions

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

A policy will be implemented that will result in the State Government increasing 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 adopt 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.

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 the Kimberley which has the effect of boosting the local economy and creating further opportunities for job growth.

The Kimberley Regional Development Commission will identify 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 serviced industrial land and technology parks in the Kimberley.

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.

- 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.

Regional Development Commissions to maximise local content and local jobs

The role of the Kimberley Development Commission (KDC) is to lead and support sustainable development in the Kimberley.

WA Labor will enhance the role of the KDC by requiring them 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 are increased.

• A McGowan Labor Government will ensure the Kimberley Development Commission takes a more proactive role in maximising the value of local content delivered on RFR programs and other state government contracts in the Kimberley.

On projects such as the Broome Boating Facility and Remote Pools Program, WA Labor will require all departments and head contractors to advertise all tenders and job openings on the respective RDC website. This will allow local businesses and job seekers to have a single portal to access opportunities in the Kimberley.

More Buy Local in the Kimberley

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

• 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 Kimberley.

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.

• A McGowan Labor Government is committed to ensuring more local content in State Government purchasing and on building and construction projects to create more jobs in the Kimberley.

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

The Broome Senior High School project, worth $8.35 million was awarded to head contractors not based in Broome. The Kununurra Courthouse project worth $21.7 million was awarded to head contractors not based in Kununurra.

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.

• 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.
Divestment of Aboriginal Land Trust Land

A McGowan Labor Government will set a two term target to divest the ALT (Aboriginal Lands Trust) land to appropriate Aboriginal organisations. Some land will be easily divested and some will take some time due to complexities around tenure and native title.

The ALT holds more than ten per cent of the entire State of WA on trust for the Aboriginal people of WA and being tied up in the ALT means that this land is an enormous lost opportunity for Aboriginal people to make the most of the land estate that they own.

A McGowan Labor Government as a matter of priority will convene a meeting of the Aboriginal leadership in the Kimberley to identify land that is ready for immediate divestment and to identify the appropriate organisations to whom such land can be divested.

By setting a clear and ambitious target this will enable the State Government to be accountable for this policy and, importantly, require the Government to explain why land is not being divested to its rightful owners. This is not new and, indeed, the late Senator, Neville Bonner, recommended such an action by the State Government to the Richard Court led Liberal Government.

Divesting this land to Aboriginal people will at last provide the legal right to properly realise the value of this land and create jobs and economic opportunities for Aboriginal communities.
Dialysis Bus for people in country (Kimberley)

The Kimberley has the highest rate of Aboriginal kidney failure in the State, being five times the national average. Approximately one in every thousand Aboriginals in the Kimberley have end stage kidney disease. Nationally, the prevalence of end stage kidney disease is 1:5000 for Aboriginal people and 1:10,000 for non-Aboriginal people.¹

The Kimberley has four renal centres located in Broome, Derby, Kununurra and Fitzroy Crossing. There are currently over one hundred Aboriginal patients receiving renal dialysis from the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service every week in Broome. Over two thirds of these patients are not from Broome and receive treatment away from their family and country.

On the last trip that the Mobile Dialysis Unit made to Balgo, a Balgo man who has been receiving dialysis in Broome revealed that he had not seen his own family for over 5 years. Additionally, there are patients receiving dialysis in Perth who are on the waiting list to return home to the Kimberley.

- A McGowan Labor Government will provide $1.3 million over four years to provide a mobile dialysis unit which will operate during the dry season to provide lifesaving dialysis to remote communities and a preventative education program.

The Mobile Dialysis Unit (MDU) is an existing service which was originally funded by the Commonwealth Government but has not received funding for mobile dialysis services since 2014/15.

WA Labor believes the MDU will help improve the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal patients from remote communities receiving dialysis, by reconnecting them to their country, their family and friends. Patients will have the opportunity to catch up with siblings, parents, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents, meet new arrivals to the family and say their farewells. The visits are equally beneficial for residents in their home communities and provide a stronger sense of

¹ KAMS/KRS 'Mobile Dialysis Unit', 2013
family identity. Enabling patients to return to country assists in providing a culturally appropriate service.

Further to the educational, preventative, emotional and social benefits gained by the MDU, the MDU takes patients who normally receive services in Broome back to their communities which frees up renal chairs at the Broome service. This enables some respite capacity for Perth based patients who are originally from Broome to return home for short periods, and potentially provide some capability to treat patients who are holidaying in Broome.

**Clear Ears in the Kimberley**

Middle ear infections and hearing problems could be mitigated if these children had access to quality primary health care and specialist services like those provided by Earbus foundation of WA.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will expand the Earbus program to provide a screening service in the Kimberley.**

The Earbus program is a network of mobile clinics that travel throughout the Perth metropolitan region and the South West and Pilbara regions to screen children’s ear health and hearing. In addition to the trained ear health screeners, the Earbus team includes a GP, nurse and an Aboriginal Outreach Worker who provide a comprehensive service to children which middle ear disease.

Children referred for GP treatment are seen by the doctor who visits the school they attend and, if necessary, referred to an ear, nose and throat specialist.

Aboriginal children have the worst ear health of any people in the world with prevalent rates 10 times that of non-Indigenous children.¹

This cost can be measured in terms of direct health system costs and the need for additional education and support services.

Good hearing is essential for the development of language and communication. The earlier a child’s hearing is affected, the greater these life skills are impacted. It is vital we screen for infections and hearing problems in our Indigenous children to avoid those hearing problems that could lead to learning difficulties, behavioural problems and a drop in school attendance.

*In many schools over 75 per cent of Aboriginal children cannot pass a routine hearing screen.*²

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¹ Senate Inquiry of the 42nd Parliament – ‘Hear Us: Inquiry into hearing Health in Australia’ 2010, p15

² Earbus Foundation of WA, Clear Ears in Ten Years, Implementation of a WA Regional Earbus Program; p3

**Medihotels – An Innovation in Health Care**

A McGowan Labor Government in committed to providing health services close to where people live. However there is often a need for 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 develop WA’s first Medihotels in Perth to make extended hospital stays more comfortable for patients from the Kimberley 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.
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.

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.

Culturally appropriate housing for visiting families

While there are some facilities in place for regional Aboriginal people travelling to Perth to visit patients receiving medical treatment, they are often not culturally appropriate.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will establish a culturally appropriate housing facility for regional Aboriginal people visiting family at Royal Perth Hospital.**

A McGowan Labor Government will work in partnership with the Aboriginal Hostels Association Limited and Aboriginal Health Council to develop culturally appropriate accommodation for regional Aboriginal people who travel to Perth to visit family receiving medical services.

Remote patient meet and greet services

Many patients from remote communities are required to travel to Perth for medical treatment and elective surgery. For some, this may be a daunting experience. It might be the first time they have visited Perth or any big city; they may speak a language other than English, and may not be able to negotiate the transport system to get to hospital let alone do when they get there.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will fund a meet and greet service for people from remote communities visiting Perth for medical treatment.**

Working with non-government community medical services, the service will assist with travel arrangements, escort the patient through the care process, and also provide pre and post-operative instruction to improve health outcomes. A meet and greet service will create efficiencies in the system by reducing the number of ‘do-not-attend’ and missed appointments.
Specialised drug treatment centre

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

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

• A McGowan Labor Government will build a specialised drug rehabilitation centre in the Kimberley.

The final location of the centre will be determined following consultation with service providers and the community to ensure the best clinical outcomes are achieved. 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.

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

Urgent Care Clinics

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce Urgent Care Clinics in the Kimberley 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 introduce Urgent Care Clinics in the Kimberley.

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

Specialist Services in the Future

The provision of specialist services in the Kimberley 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 and RFDS

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 Johns 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.

Likewise, the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) plays a crucial role in the health and wellbeing of people living in regional and remote WA including patient evacuation and retrieval.

A McGowan Labor Government will include the services provided by the RFDS in the review of regional and country ambulance services.

For further information go www.markmcgowan.com.au/health

Provision of Aged Care to Free up Hospital Beds

The Kimberley has a serious 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 the Kimberley 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.
Investing in Broome SHS

A McGowan Labor Government will invest $20 million in the redevelopment of Broome Senior High School.

With a significant improvement in retention rates in recent years, Broome SHS is a success story. In 2012 it was named WA best secondary school in WA and in 2016 shortlisted for the best Vocational Education and Training award for schools.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest $20 million in school infrastructure upgrades at Broome Senior High School.**

This invest in infrastructure together with WA Labor’s commitment to more teachers and education support in the classroom will help build on this success.

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 50 Aboriginal Islander Education Officer (AIEOs) 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). Regional schools will apply for funding under a Targeted Initiatives for programs that are staffed by AIEOs.

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

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

**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.

Remote Community Schools

• A McGowan Labor Government will create $110,000 Kimberley Remote Schools Grants Funds to deliver improved resources and equipment for students in remote Aboriginal community schools.

Government, Catholic and Independent schools in remote Aboriginal communities provide a vital education service to the children of those communities. Dedicated groups of teachers and education assistants live and work remote communities throughout the Kimberley. They deliver flexible and innovative education programs to ensure students in remote areas are not disadvantaged by their location and have access to high quality learning programs.

A McGowan Labor Government will assist those dedicated staff members with a $110,000 grants fund, which Kimberley remote schools will be able to access to make improvements to equipment, resources and facilities.

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 practice.

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 teacher quality in our schools and support the delivery of evidence based mental health programs. It will also provide much needed dedicated support for children in regional WA studying through 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 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.

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

¹ Parliament Question on Notice 08/09/2015, Legislative Council Question 3376, Tabled Paper 3490
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. 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.

Direct to Market (D2M)

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

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

The D2M model will allow schools to have:

• Flexibility to contract and manage services contracts including routine maintenance

• An annual maintenance allocation

• An opt-in model which means the scheme would be voluntary

• Oversight and support from the Department of Education

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

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

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

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

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

**Educare**

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

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

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- Provide a site for childcare centre in the planning of every new public primary school and 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.
Plan for TAFE

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

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.

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 Kimberley.

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 Kimberley.
The State Government has a role to play in building community sustainability and economic diversity, including community infrastructure that will enhance economic growth through tourism initiatives, access to services and job creation. There are also many positive health and social outcomes for regional communities when governments invest in local infrastructure.

**Remote Aboriginal Communities**

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

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

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

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

The Royalties for Regions program has focused largely on infrastructure and less on the social and economic welfare of regional people, including indigenous communities. WA Labor will keep the Royalties for Regions funding and improve it by focusing on the priorities of the people living in the regions, including creating local jobs in a range of industries.
Juvenile Justice

People in the Kimberley are experiencing a crisis which continues from generation to generation. This crisis manifests as suffered relationship difficulties, homelessness, mental health issues, antisocial behaviour, unemployment, drug and alcohol addictions, high rates of incarceration, and suicide.

Kimberley children are a means to turning this crisis around, but only if they are provided for and supported in the best way possible.

The situation is complex due to unresolved inter-generational social issues escalating over decades. Kimberley residents have experienced much trauma, originating from but not limited to colonisation, genocide, assimilation, the Stolen Generation and today’s welfare system. Healthy people and healthy communities can only be achieved when society functions well at all levels, that of the individual, the community and the region.

The Kimberley Alternative Juvenile Justice Strategy Working Group released their report in 2014 proposing some much needed improvements to the current Kimberley youth justice system through a series of considered recommendations.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $1.2 million over 4 years for the implementation of the ‘Improving the Juvenile Justice System, Framework’.**

Broome Transient Visitor Campground

Many Aboriginal visitors to Broome from around the region are able to afford and utilise mainstream hotel and caravan park accommodation, residence of their friends and relatives.¹

A review commissioned by the Shire of Broome has found that on average each day, 100 aboriginal people are involved in drinking in public places around Broome, around 30-40 of these individuals are Aboriginal people with no private place to stay, are not utilising the Sober Up shelter and are sleeping rough around the Broome CBD.²

- **A McGowan Labor Government will work with the Shire of Broome to develop a transient visitor campground at an appropriate location with the support of local service providers.**

Broome is heavily reliant upon tourism as a key economic driver and aspires to be a safe and enjoyable place for residents and visitors to live, work and visit.

It is for these reasons that that a transient visitor campground is required to give homeless Aboriginal people safe short-term accommodation where they have access to social and health services.

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

¹ KPP Business Development, Feasibility Assessment Shire of Broome Itinerant Campground p15

² KPP Business Development, Feasibility Assessment Shire of Broome Itinerant Campground p3
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.

**Broome Boating Facility**

Broome has a long history for being the land base for the pearling industry. Today, it is a major tourism base for fishing boats, charter boats and other commercial vessels. Outside the Perth Metropolitan area and Geraldton, Broome has the largest commercial fleet in WA.

The great majority of fishing vessels in and around Broome are trailer size. However, the existing boating facilities in the Broome marina are dangerous and have caused injuries to local boat operators and property over many years.

The Liberal-National Government broke their commitment to improve Broome’s boating infrastructure, withdrawing funding for the project in the 2013/14 Mid-Year Review.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will upgrade boating facilities in Broome to improve safety and access at Entrance Point, Town Beach and Gantheaume Point.**

WA Labor’s plan will be based on work done by the Broome Boating Facility Working Group and the Shire of Broome and will improve safety and access to many of the water based activities on which Broome is based on.

Boating and fishing is a big part of life in Broome. Better boating facilities will assist the local tourism industry and potentially create more local jobs.
Broome Marina

There have been a number of proposals in Broome for a new a marina. There are a number of challenges to overcome including Broome’s large tidal range (up to 10 metres) and sometimes cyclonic storms. Locating a suitable and available coastal land site has also proved challenging.

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $500,000 towards the planning for a new Marina in Broome.

A working committee (The Broome Boat Harbour Advisory Group) has been established by the Shire of Broome (Chair) together with the Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd (Deputy Chair), Kimberley Development Commission, Landcorp, and the Department of Transport to examine possible development sites.

A McGowan Labor Government will provide $500,000 in funding towards the planning for Broome’s new marina. WA Labor will continue working with local organisations and the community in Broome to identify a suitable site and commence planning.

Remote Swimming Pools

The Remote Aboriginal Swimming Pools Program (RASPP) is an initiative of the Royal Life Saving Society and aims to run safe, efficient aquatic facilities in remote indigenous communities in the north of WA. The RASPP provides communities with recreational and education swimming programs that encourage safe aquatic participation.1

It has also been found that swimming pools in remote Aboriginal communities lead to greater community cohesion, improved health and well-being and higher school attendance.2

- A McGowan Labor Government will fund the installation of community swimming pools in Balgo and Kalumburu as a means of improving health of remote Aboriginal communities.

Other achievements of the RASPP program that were highlighted by the study included cultural appropriateness, community participation, positive effects on health, swimming ability and well-being and the promotion of good behaviour among youth. (IBID)

The program started in 2000 and currently runs at the remote towns and communities of Burringurrah, Jigalong, Yandeyarra, Bidyadanga, Warmun and Fitzroy Crossing. The program is funded by the Department of Housing with additional funding from BHP Billiton.

Multipurpose outdoor courts

The Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre (BRAC) is in need of a number of upgrades to the Multiuse courts including a weather proof structure over the courts, seating and lighting.

A weather proof structure and seating would enable the community to use the courts more often than would otherwise happen due to Broome’s tropical weather. It would also encourage youth engagement, community sport and recreational initiatives.

- A McGowan Labor Government will upgrade the BRAC multipurpose outdoor courts to include weather proof structure over the courts, seating and lighting.

Broome deserves better infrastructure so that youth and the wider community can enjoy high quality facilities and host large regional competitions.

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1 http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/key-resources/programs-projects/?pid=2061
2 The Photovoice Project, Royal Life Saving, Remote Aboriginal Swimming Pool Research, 2016, p2
Water Playground in Kununurra

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $590,000 to build a water playground in Kununurra.

Kununurra elders have been concerned for some time with finding ways to provide activities for the younger members of the community. A recent park meeting of elders canvassed a number of proposals and, given Kununurra’s tropical climate, it was considered that a town water park or water playground would be a positive addition.

WA Labor will help to make that vision a reality by allocating $590,000 to build a water playground in Kununurra.

Aboriginal Language

It is important that the traditional languages of the Kimberley are recorded and taught so they are not lost to future generations.

The Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Cultural Centre (KALACC) has a long and proud history of supporting the traditional cultural practises of the 30 language groups across the Kimberley.

- A McGowan Labor Government will provide $500,000 over 4 years to support the work of KALACC in documenting and teaching traditional languages.

Seal Cape Leveque Road

Cape Leveque is a remote peninsula in the far north of the Kimberley, home to spectacular scenery, wilderness and coastline and an eco-resort operated by the traditional owners of the land.

More than half of the road from Broome to Cape Leveque, approximately 200kms is sealed. However the remaining section of 90kms is sandy, undulated and often impassable in the wet season.

Sealing of this road would open up tourism, employment and business opportunities for the Aboriginal communities in the area.

- A McGowan Labor Government will seal the Cape Leveque Road to open up tourism opportunities for traditional land owners of the Dampier Peninsula.

Main Roads will manage the contract with a focus on ensuring local residents get training to enable them to work on the project.

Seal Bidyadanga Road

Bidyadanga is the largest remote Aboriginal community in WA, located 180 kms from Broome. The Bidyandanga Road runs from Bidyandanga Community to the Great Northern Highway near Wanamulnyndong and is largely unsealed.

- A McGowan Labor Government will seal the remaining 13kms of the Bidyadanga Road.

Seal the Tanami Road

The Tanami Road connects Alice Springs in the Northern Territory to Halls Creek in WA. For many, this road is the only route for cattle to get to markets in the south of WA. And at times when the Victoria River is flooded, the Tanami Road is the only access to get produce from the Ord Agricultural area to market. There are also many Aboriginal Communities dotted along the Tanami Road.
Recently a joint proposal to seal the Tanami Road was submitted to Infrastructure Australia by the Northern Territory and WA Governments.

- A McGowan Labor Government will continue to work with the Federal and Northern Territory Governments to seal the Tanami Road to support the economic opportunities sealing this road will bring to northern WA.

An upgrade and seal of the Tanami road would significantly reduce supply chain costs for pastoralists, open the area to regional tourism opportunities and increase productivity in the northern WA. Balgo, Billiluluna, and Mulan communities will benefit from increased tourist numbers and subsequent economic opportunities as well as better access to essential services such as education and health delivery providers.

Aboriginal Housing and Essential Services

- A McGowan Labor Government will commit $152 million over 4 years to improve aboriginal housing and to improve essential services and remote regional communities.

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

WA Labor is committed to improving the health and welfare of aboriginal people by focusing on improving education, housing and economic opportunities and delivering appropriate health services.

While WA Labor is focussed on job creation and the social and economic welfare of regional people, including indigenous communities, there is still a need to provide infrastructure such as housing and essential services including drinking water.

Air Services Review

The Shire of Derby, West Kimberley are currently looking at options to reinstate flights between Derby and Perth since Virgin cancelled services in February 2016 due to poor patronage.

The people of Derby are concerned about how they will now transport blood and tissue and water samples out of Derby and freight to and from Perth.

- A McGowan Labor Government will fund a 12 month subsidised trial of twice a week return service Derby to Perth to assess the demand for an ongoing regular passenger service.

At the end of the trial, funding options for an ongoing service will be determined in consultation with the Shire of Derby.

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.

Boating and fishing is a big part of life in Broome. Better boating facilities will assist the local tourism industry and potentially create more local jobs. 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 safety 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.

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.

Halls Creek Basketball Centre

• A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $200,000 to resurface the Halls Creek Basketball Court

The basketball court at the Halls Creek Recreation Centre has been the scene of many exciting games of Kimberley basketball, including the long-running King of the Kimberley basketball competition. But the court surface is overdue for an upgrade.

A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $200,000 to resurface the basketball court to ensure this popular sport can be played on a vastly improved surface.
Koongie Park

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $25,000 to provide shade sails for residents of the Koongie Park Aboriginal community.

Koongie Park has few substantial trees to provide shade and so the community has a need for shade areas that can provide some relief from the high summertime temperatures.

Kurnangki Community Fitzroy

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $30,000 to provide shade sails and play equipment for the Kurnangki community of Fitzroy Crossing.

The Kurnangki community’s children will benefit from shade sales over their play area to provide shelter from the harsh sun and high temperatures experienced in the region. New play equipment will also provide a much-needed boost for the children of the Kurnangki community.

Derby Youth Centre

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $50,000 to improve facilities and purchase equipment for the Derby Youth Centre.

Derby Youth Centre is a hub for Derby young people, being the only facility catering for young people aged 12-17. The centre provides after-school programs and activities including basketball games, competitions and weekly cook-ups. It also provides access to sporting and computer equipment and use of the pool and table tennis areas.

The funding provided by a McGowan Labor Government will allow the centre to revamp their facilities and purchase new equipment.

Beagle Bay Youth Centre

- A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $70,000 towards planning for a youth centre at Beagle Bay.

Beagle Bay would benefit from the creation of a youth centre to provide a focal point of activities for the young people of the community.

A McGowan Labor Government will allocate $70,000 towards planning and design work for a youth centre for Beagle Bay to expand the recreational options for Beagle Bay’s young people.
Western Australian’s are fortunate to have such a pristine and unique natural environment on our doorsteps. Our environment is the foundation of our lifestyle and WA Labor is dedicated to its protection and conservation for future generations to enjoy.

WA Labor has a strong record of protecting Western Australia’s environment and whilst in Government some of its biggest achievements included putting an end to logging in our precious old growth forests and saving Ningaloo from inappropriate development.

We will continue to search for new and innovative ways to conserve and protect this precious resource to ensure following generations are able to experience WA’s natural beauty well into the future.

Further Protection for the Kimberley

A McGowan Labor Government will ensure the Kimberley is protected in a way that respects native title and the conservation and land management achievements of Traditional Owners. WA Labor will provide certainty to marine based aquaculture and recreational fishing. As has been demonstrated at the Ningaloo Reef Marine Park, world class protection and world class recreational fishing go hand in hand.

- A McGowan Labor Government will continue to implement a mosaic of national parks to protect the outstanding natural and cultural values of the broader Kimberley including a network of marine sanctuary zones.

WA Labor will include the thousand islands of the Buccaneer Archipelago and the fringing coral reefs that surround them. The rights and aspirations of Traditional
Owners will be respected through strong consultation including on the boundaries of marine parks and by providing opportunities in management, science and tourism.

WA Labor will ensure that the Kimberley remains a world class tourism destination and provide certainty for the growth of the region’s multimillion dollar tourism industry. It will support sustainable tourism at all levels to ensure economic growth beyond the mining boom whilst delivering real opportunities for people living in the region.

Tourism is the biggest industry on the Kimberley Coast worth an estimated $250m per annum. Conservation, science and land management is also a big employer through indigenous ranger programs.

As the last WA Labor Government proved at Ningaloo Reef, creating world class protection in marine sanctuary zones leads to environmental, social, economic and political gains. Ningaloo remains a benchmark for marine protection, tourism has grown, the environment has recovered and it also remains a top recreational fishing destination. It has stood the test of time as a major environmental accomplishment of the Gallop and Carpenter Labor Governments.

• A McGowan Labor Government will deliver a credible science-based process for the establishment of future marine sanctuaries in the Kimberley.

Fitzroy River

The health of the Fitzroy River is intimately linked to culture and the health of many people, the protection of endangered species and the health of the Kimberley’s pristine coastal marine environment that supports tourism, fishing and aquaculture industries. The traditional owners have released a declaration outlining their priorities for the Fitzroy River.

The Fitzroy River also has a rich pastoral heritage that has been recognised under the National Heritage listing.

A McGowan Labor Government will

• Create the Fitzroy River National Park which will extend the Geikie Gorge National Park along the Fitzroy River to the north and along the Margaret River to the east.

• Support the protection and development of a management plan for the Fitzroy River to ensure the health of the river and provide a basis for sustainable economic development.

• Not allow the Fitzroy River or its tributaries to be dammed.

The national park will be jointly managed by the traditional owners and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Under the joint management agreement, traditional owners will be able to exercise significant control over their traditional lands, create sustainable economic enterprises in their own right and in partnership with private and Government entities.

WA Labor will work with Traditional Owners and other stakeholders to ensure the protection of the National Heritage and other significant cultural and environmental values of the Fitzroy River and provide a basis for sustainable economic development.
Plan for the Kimberley

Plan for Jobs in the Kimberley
Putting Patients First in the Kimberley
Investing in Education and Training
Supporting Communities
Environment