

Vision for

Geraldton

**DOING
WHAT'S
RIGHT**

FOR WA

**WA
Labor**



Roger Cook and WA Labor **Vision for Geraldton**

Western Australia has the strongest economy in the nation.

Much of our success as a State is the result of the businesses, industries and people across our vast regional areas.

The exciting thing is – we’ve only scratched the surface of what we’re capable of.

Our Vision for Geraldton is about building on our success and preparing for the future.

In recent years, we’ve had a major focus on growing our economy, cost of living relief, boosting housing supply and investing in our hospitals.

We’ve also created a pipeline of investment to help Geraldton and the Mid West to reach their potential.

We’ve upgraded major roads, boosted renewable energy, increased tourism, improved the port, unlocked industrial land, built better schools and made TAFE free.

At the same time, we’ve increased the regional health workforce and we’re redeveloping Geraldton Regional Hospital.

It’s a great start - but we can do more with a steady hand at the wheel.

WA Labor will make more things here, create the jobs of the future and keep our economy strong.

We’ll invest in schools and free TAFE, and we’ll build job-creating infrastructure to keep our regions strong.

And we’ll continue to help with the cost of living, build more houses and set up our health system for the future.

In times of global challenges, WA needs experienced leadership.

Only the WA Labor Government has the experience to keep the WA economy strong and protect our fair share of the GST.

WA Labor’s Vision for regional WA will deliver for all Western Australians, across the length and breadth of our State.

Only WA Labor will do what’s right for WA.



Roger Cook
Premier of Western Australia



Pipeline of Projects

Pipeline of infrastructure projects under construction, plus future projects under a re-elected Cook Labor Government.

Geraldton Port Maximisation Project - \$350 million

Geraldton Regional Hospital redevelopment - \$166.1 million

Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation - \$28.5 million

Champion Bay SHS new gymnasium - \$23.5 million

Radiation Oncology Service - \$21 million

Family and domestic violence refuge units - \$15.4 million

Waggrakine Primary School Education Support Facility - \$9.1 million

Houtman Abrolhos Islands tourist facilities - \$8.1 million

Kalbarri Foreshore and Beaches Revitalisation - \$8.1 million

Geraldton SHS classroom refurbishments and air-conditioning - \$8 million

Royal Flying Doctor Service base - \$7.5 million

West End cultural precinct redevelopment - \$5 million

GBSC Sport Park new changerooms - \$3 million

Geraldton Health Campus dialysis expansion - \$2 million

Olive Street worker accommodation - \$1.6 million

Kalbarri Evacuation Centre planning - \$250,000

Cost of Living Measures

The Cook Labor Government has kept our economy strong and carefully managed the finances.

As a result, we've had the capacity to offer a record amount of cost of living relief to local households.

We've distributed more than \$1.1 billion in support for households across more than 20 programs and initiatives over the last year alone.

The Cook Labor Government is committed to continuing to help Western Australians with cost of living pressures.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Deliver a further \$100 increase to the Regional Pensioner Travel Card, bringing the total to \$775, building on the \$100 increase delivered in 2024.
- Deliver the \$8 million Country Week Assistance Program to reduce accommodation and travel costs for students attending Country Week events.
- Deliver the Access All Areas Pass for kids, a \$50 voucher that will be available to all young Western Australians aged from five to 15 years so they can attend an event at various arts, cultural and creative venues, including in Geraldton.
- Continue to deliver cost of living relief to regional families and residents in Geraldton.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has:

- Introduced Regional Airfare Caps for Geraldton residents, reducing one way fares from Geraldton to Perth, to a maximum of \$199.
- Slashed \$700 off power bills in 2024 including \$350 in the December and January billing cycle - and \$2,100 since 2020.
- Delivered the WA Student Assistance Payment, \$150 for every primary school kid and \$250 for every secondary school kid.
- Made regional TransWA services 50 per cent cheaper over summer.
- Made 130 priority TAFE courses fee free.
- More than doubled assistance through the KidSport vouchers program, helping parents cover the cost of kids in sport.
- Doubled the travel and accommodation allowance for regional apprentices, trainees, cadets, and interns who are required to travel long distances for their training.





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VISITOR

MULTIPLEX
VISITOR

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WA Jobs and Economy

Through some of the toughest global conditions, the Western Australian economy has prevailed.

Our domestic economy has grown by nearly a quarter from pre-pandemic levels, the fastest of any State and well above the national growth rate.

Unemployment has averaged below four per cent for more than three years, while more than 340,000 jobs have been created during our time in office.

We're also investing to diversify our economy at a rate never seen before.

In Geraldton, and through the Mid West, we're unlocking land in places like Oakajee to fast-track clean energy and major industrial projects.

We're also upgrading Geraldton Port to accommodate the region's growth in trade, as well as enhancing cruise ship capacity.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Continue to support major job-creating projects in Geraldton and the Mid West region such as critical minerals processing and green steel.
- Invest an additional \$20 million, on top of the existing \$70.5 million program, to expand the highly successful Aboriginal Ranger Program.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$500 million to deliver enabling infrastructure in Strategic Industrial Areas including at Oakajee.
- \$20.1 million for construction of the access road into the Oakajee Strategic Industrial Area.
- \$350 million towards the Geraldton Port Maximisation Project, which will significantly boost the capacity of Geraldton Port and facilitate the export of new commodities from the Mid-West region including critical minerals.
- \$40 million towards the Mid West Hydrogen Hub, with a range of planning studies underway.
- \$5 million for the West End cultural precinct redevelopment.
- Over \$4.6 million through the Regional Economic Development grants program to support 37 job creating projects in the Mid West.
- \$8.1 million towards tourism activation in the Abrolhos Islands (Stage 1), as part of an overall \$16.8 million investment in the Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park.
- \$8.1 million towards the Kalbarri Foreshore and Beaches Revitalisation initiative.

Housing

After some of the toughest conditions in the construction market experienced both globally and nationally, we're getting more homes built across the regions.

Through our WA Housing Plan, we are building more homes, freeing up land, cutting red tape and growing our construction workforce.

In the last four years, we've invested an additional \$4.5 billion into initiatives focussed on boosting housing supply.

In Geraldton, we're training the next generation of home builders, we're expanding stamp duty concessions, incentivising short stay accommodation back onto the rental market and building more social homes.

The Cook Labor Government will continue to accelerate housing supply, while exploring innovative and sustainable solutions such as modular construction and tiny homes.

We're on track to deliver an additional 32,000 houses by the end of 2025.

Our plan is working, but there is more to do.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Establish a new \$25 million Regional Housing Support Fund that will provide grants of up to \$5 million to support new housing and land supply across regional WA, assisting with a wide range of costs, with local government projects and regional subdivisions eligible.
- Double the Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) construction program with over 100 new builds across regional WA, to support more key government workers such as police and teachers to live in the regions and boost housing supply, including 20 new homes in Geraldton.
- Deliver additional stamp duty relief for first home buyers in regional WA by raising stamp duty thresholds for both established homes and vacant land.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$28.5 million to the Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation project, construction underway.
- \$9.3 million towards the Spalding urban renewal project, including the refurbishment of social housing, new public spaces and upgrades to the Mitchell Street Community Centre building.
- \$1.6 million for the Olive Street key worker housing project in Geraldton.





Health

The Cook Labor Government has invested a record \$14.3 billion in new health and mental health since 2021.

We've added more than 800 beds to the system in the past three years – more than a new tertiary hospital.

Despite global health workforce shortages, we've increased our health workforce by more than 30 per cent.

To further boost health outcomes in Geraldton and the Mid West, we're undertaking a \$188.6 million redevelopment of Geraldton Health Campus.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Invest \$34 million to expand and increase the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) by increasing the fuel subsidy to 40c per km, and include Allied Health and Dental in the eligibility requirements.
- Invest \$2 million to expand the existing dialysis unit at Geraldton Health Campus from 9 to 14 chairs.
- Contribute \$7.5 million towards a new Royal Flying Doctor Service base in Geraldton, including a primary care health hub.
- Invest \$21 million to establish a radiation oncology service and linear accelerator in Geraldton.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has invested:

- \$188.6 million for the Geraldton Health Campus redevelopment with construction underway.
- The HECS-HELP initiative, providing grants of up to \$12,000 over 3 years for newly qualified registered nurses and midwives who take up a role in WA's rural, remote, and regional public hospitals.
- A new, expanded role for community pharmacists in Western Australia, providing patients access to treatment for a range of common and mild conditions, including UTIs and repeats of the contraceptive pill.
- The first-ever dedicated rural psychiatry training program in Australia, designed to attract, train, and retain psychiatrists to regional WA.
- A new, state-wide telephone support line, 'Here For You', providing a single point of contact for Western Australians who are concerned about their own or another person's mental health issues and/or alcohol and other drug use.
- The WA Telestroke service, giving regional hospitals a 24-hour, seven day a week service for clinicians caring for patients with acute stroke symptoms.

Education and Training

A good education at a well-equipped school is the right of every Western Australian child – no matter where they live.

In partnership with the Federal Government, we're boosting funding to public schools in Western Australia by \$1.6 billion.

We are upgrading, refurbishing and redeveloping schools across WA to prepare our young people for the jobs of the future.

Additionally, we're committed to maintaining Fee Free TAFE, which has already afforded tens of thousands of people the opportunity to gain a new skill.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Invest \$8 million for classroom refurbishments, LED lighting and air conditioning upgrades at Geraldton Senior High School.
- Invest \$23.5 million for a new gymnasium at Champion Bay Senior High School.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$9 million for an education support facility at Waggrakine Primary School.
- \$3 million for new STEM classrooms at Geraldton Senior High School and Champion Bay Senior High School.
- \$1 million for a STEM classroom at Kalbarri District High School.
- \$410,000 for a STEM classroom at Northampton District High School.
- \$4.8 million for virtual power plants at Waggrakine Primary School, Geraldton Senior High School and Champion Bay Senior High School.



MASTER CLASS
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TAFE
WA

TAFE
Central
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Community Safety

We have more Police on the beat than ever before - nearly 800 Police Officers joined the Force in the last year.

At the same time, initiatives like Regional Shield have increased police presence in regional communities across WA.

We're also committed to ensuring our emergency services are equipped to respond when disaster strikes.

By funding extra firefighters, boosting volunteer infrastructure and expanding our aerial firefighting fleet, more Western Australians can be kept safe during bushfire season.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Invest \$15.6 million to increase the number of police officers in regional WA with recruits from regional WA by:
 - Redeveloping the accommodation facilities located at the WA Police Academy, and provide regional recruits with free accommodation at the upgraded facility while undergoing their training; and
 - Guaranteeing regional Police Recruits a placement in or near their home in regional WA for the first four to six years of their career.
- \$1 million to PCYC to deliver youth diversion programs in Geraldton.
- Invest \$2.3 million to install additional CCTV cameras across the State to help combat anti-social behaviour, including additional cameras in Geraldton.
- Invest \$15.4 million to deliver up to 12 extra family and domestic violence refuge units in Geraldton to provide emergency accommodation for vulnerable victim-survivors and their children.
- Invest \$11.5 million to expand the Safe at Home program that supports victim-survivors of family and domestic violence to stay in their homes, including expanding it to Geraldton.
- Provide \$250,000 towards planning for an evacuation centre in Kalbarri.



Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- Operation Regional Shield across regional WA, with a surge of police resources and officers in regional towns ready to disrupt any criminal and anti-social behaviour over the summer period.
- Operation Regional Influence that will see an additional 8,000 extra hours of road patrols, a fleet of 44 high visibility highway patrol cars and two new alcohol and drug testing buses boosting regional road safety.
- \$15.8 million for a new WA Police jet and to upgrade existing air assets to provide critical support in regional communities.
- The Grain Harvest Aerial Fleet, with a team based in Geraldton over the harvest period, to protect grain growers from fires.

Transport and Infrastructure

In recent years, the Cook Labor Government has overseen major investment into regional infrastructure - roads, bridges, ports and renewable energy.

In Geraldton and the Mid West, we have built and upgraded a range of roads to improve access, increase safety and open up economic opportunities.

We are also continuing to roll out improvements to hundreds of kilometres of Mid West roads through our Regional Road Safety Program.

To ensure the Mid West can realise its renewable energy and industrial potential, we are also undertaking major upgrades to the South West Interconnected System.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Install a signalised crossing on Brand Highway in Tarcoola Beach to cater for students at Wandina Primary School.
- Continue to prioritise upgrading regional roads, including expanding the Regional Road Safety Program to local government roads.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$4.7 million for a passing lane at Brand Highway and West Bank Road in Geraldton.
- \$2.6 million for upgrades to the Brand Highway and Barrett Drive intersection.
- \$4.5 million for a roundabout at the Marine Terrace intersection.
- \$4.3 million for the Geraldton Cycling Network Expansion Project (Stage 1 & 2).
- \$3 million for the Drummond Cove Coastal Protection and Boat Ramp Project.
- \$18 million to the Beresford Foreshore for coastal protection and enhancement.
- \$10 million for works at Geraldton Fishing Boat Harbour.
- \$3 million for two jetties - one at Geraldton Port Eastern Breakwater and one at Batavia Coast Marina.
- \$6.5 million to the Geraldton Airport Expansion.

Sport and Recreation

Sport and recreation are vital parts of life in regional Western Australia, and Geraldton is no exception.

The Cook Labor Government has invested in better facilities for sporting clubs and organisations.

Equally, we have expanded our network of cycling paths, trails and national park infrastructure for locals and visitors alike.

WA offers the best recreational opportunities in the world and the Cook Labor Government is committed to making them more accessible for everyone.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Contribute \$3 million towards new toilets and changeroom facilities, including for women, at GBSC Sport Park.
- Contribute \$1.3 million for medical facilities at all Karting WA clubs, including Midwest Kart Club in Geraldton.
- Establish the \$4 million Veterans Facilities fund to help RSL and veterans organisations upgrade their local facilities and RSL clubs.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$3.5 million to the Geraldton Basketball Association for the construction of four new indoor courts.
- \$220,000 to the Geraldton Hockey Association for upgrades to their facilities.



