

Vision for

Albany

**DOING
WHAT'S
RIGHT**

FOR WA

**WA
Labor**



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

Western Australia has the best lifestyle and 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 Albany 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 Albany reach its potential.

We've upgraded major roads, boosted renewable energy, increased tourism, improved our national parks and trails, built better schools and made TAFE free.

At the same time, we've increased the regional health workforce and we've delivered important projects like the Albany Oncology Centre.

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.

Chester Pass Road and Menang Drive interchange - \$37 million

North Albany Senior High School new classroom block - \$22 million

Albany Entertainment Centre upgrades - \$20.7 million

Ulster Road water infrastructure upgrades - \$17.2 million

Albany Dental Clinic expansion - \$12.9 million

Spencer Park Education Support Centre redevelopment - \$12 million

Port upgrades planning - \$10.8 million

Albany Women's Centre expansion - \$10.7 million

Southern Ocean Surf Reef - \$4.7 million

Albany Waterfront Marina jetty - \$4 million

Albany Regional Tennis Centre upgrades - \$1.5 million

McKail North housing planning - \$825,000

Albany Speedway upgrades - \$400,000

All-abilities fishing jetty planning - \$200,000

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 billion in support for households across more than 20 programs and initiatives, such as our regional airfare caps.

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

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Halve TransWA fares including for bus services connecting regional WA towns including Kendenup, Mount Barker, Narrikup, Redmond, Albany, Youngs Siding, Many Peaks, and Wellstead.
- Cap public transport fares at the cost of a one-zone ticket including TransAlbany bus services.
- 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 Albany.
- Continue to deliver cost of living relief to regional families and residents in Albany.



Plus the Cook Labor Government has:

- Slashed \$700 off power bills in 2024 including \$350 in the December and January billing cycle – and \$2,100 since 2020.
- Delivered the Regional Airfare Zone Cap Scheme that caps airfares at \$199 one way for regional residents living within 1,000 kms driving distance from Perth, including Albany.
- Delivered the WA Student Assistance Payment, \$150 for every primary school kid and \$250 for every secondary school kid.
- 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.
- Provided free regional school bus services and the Student Transport Allowance – which has more than doubled from 25.24c per kilometre to 55.6c per kilometre – to assist kids in regional and remote areas who aren't able to access free regional school bus services.

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.

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

We're also diversifying our economy at a rate never seen before.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Invest \$10.8 million to undertake a business case for the upgrades of Berths 1 and 2 in Albany, to underpin grain exports and the increase in cruise ships to Albany.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- Over \$3.8 million through the Regional Economic Development grants program to support 40 job creating projects in the Great Southern.
- \$4 million to deliver a new jetty for charter vessels at Albany Waterfront Marina.
- \$11 million of upgrades to the iconic Torndirrup National Park, including new visitor facilities, viewing decks, parking and walkways.
- \$3.2 million for trails at Mount Adelaide and Mount Clarence.
- \$1.3 million into identifying and establishing aquaculture development zones along the south coast of Western Australia.

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 Albany, 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.

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:

- Contribute \$25 million to deliver 51 new affordable, social and GROH homes as part of the Spencer Park mixed-use development.
- Contribute \$825,000 to support planning for an additional 2,000 affordable homes in McKail North, Albany
- 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 new homes in Albany.
- 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:

- \$6 million for the Spencer Park renewal project in Albany, delivering new homes, refurbishments to existing homes and improving street lighting and footpaths.
- New residential lots at Oyster Harbour and Clydesdale Park.
- 24 homes have been returned to the long-term rental market in the Great Southern Region as a result of the Cook Government's Short-term Rental Accommodation and Vacant Property Incentive Schemes



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 Albany, we're progressing a number of projects to advance the health and mental health of locals.

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 \$12.4 million to deliver an adult residential rehabilitation and withdrawal centre in the Great Southern.



Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$13 million for the Albany Oncology centre at Albany Health Campus.
- \$2.1 million to provide an extra 100 car parking bays at Albany Health Campus.
- \$4.1 million for a new Level 2 Special Care Nursery at Albany Health Campus to boost care for complex cases and pre-term newborns from 34 weeks.
- \$1.8 million in upgrades to Plantagenet Cranbrook Emergency Department.
- \$12.9 million to double the capacity of the Albany Dental Clinic.
- 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:

- \$22 million for an expansion and new General Area Learning block at North Albany Senior High School.
- \$12 million to redevelop the Spencer Park Education Support Centre.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$22 million for a new trade's workshop at South Regional TAFE's Albany campus.
- \$16.59 million to the Mount Lockyer Primary School redevelopment that includes new classrooms and refurbishment of a cluster of classrooms.
- \$1.5 million for a new STEM classroom at North Albany Senior High School.
- \$9.9 million for upgrades to the administration block, new English and Maths block and a repurposed STEM classroom at Albany Senior High School, plus a further \$9 million to Albany Senior High School's new performing arts centre.
- \$1.5 million for a new STEM laboratory at Mount Barker Community College.
- \$11 million to the Albany CBD Student Accommodation purpose-built student facility that provides 40 rooms to allow a range of students to study in Albany.

L I N D E R S P A R K



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.
- Invest \$10.7 million to deliver an additional six family and domestic violence refuge units at the Albany Women's Centre 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 Albany.



Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$30 million in boosted regional bushfire management with extra firefighters, trucks and equipment, as well as a dedicated firefighting bulldozer based in Albany.
- \$3 million to build the new Albany SES Unit facility.
- 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.



Transport and Infrastructure

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

In Albany, we have built and upgraded a range of roads to improve access to communities, increase safety and open up economic opportunities.

We've also delivered major projects like the Albany Ring Road and the upgrade of South Western Highway between Albany and Jerramungup.

We also brought road maintenance back in-house, ensuring ongoing jobs and better outcomes for repairs.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will:

- Deliver \$250 million to expand the Regional Road Safety program to include local government roads, delivering road safety treatments including sealing of road shoulders and the installation of audible lines, making more regional roads safer.
- Invest \$50 million for a major upgrade to the South Coast Highway, upgrading nearly 12 kilometres between Cheyne's Road and Kojaneerup, including complete reconstruction, widening and the installation of audible lines, making the road safer and more efficient.
- Install signalised crossings on North Road, near Beaufort Road to cater for students at John Calvin School in Albany.



Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$225 million for the Albany Ring Road, diverting heavy vehicles around Albany, improving freight efficiency and safety.
- \$37 million to construct an interchange at Chester Pass Road and Menang Drive to improve freight access to Albany Port.
- \$30 million for the upgrade of South Western Highway between Albany and Jerramungup, by widening, sealing shoulders, and constructing passing lanes to improve road safety.
- \$8.3 million to upgrade the heritage-listed Albany Pilot Station Cottages and create additional community infrastructure such as an education centre, cafe kiosk and playground area at the Port of Albany.
- \$3.8 million to upgrade Strawberry Hill Farm, the first colonial farm buildings in Western Australia.
- \$17.2 million for Ulster Road water infrastructure upgrades.
- \$25 million for the Albany to Denmark Pipeline.
- \$18.2 million for the new Western Power Albany Energy Hub to meet the growing energy needs of Albany and the communities in the Great Southern Region.

Sport and Recreation

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

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

Equally, we have expanded our network of 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:

- Invest \$200,000 for planning towards a new all-abilities fishing jetty in Albany.
- Contribute \$1.5 million towards the construction of a further four courts and lighting at Albany Regional Tennis Centre.
- Contribute \$400,000 towards upgrading the safety wall and catch fence at Albany Speedway.
- Contribute \$1.3 million for medical facilities at all Karting WA clubs, including Albany City Kart Club.
- Establish a \$6 million Boosting Women's Sport and Girls' Participation fund to encourage women and girls to get involved in community sport.

Plus the Cook Labor Government has delivered:

- \$20.7 million for upgrades to the Albany Entertainment Centre.
- \$4.75 million towards the Southern Ocean Surf Reef at Middleton beach.
- \$2.8 million for major upgrades to the Albany Surf Life Saving Club.
- \$447,000 for the City of Albany to develop six tennis courts at Centennial Park Sporting Precinct.

