

Made in

WA



**DOING
WHAT'S
RIGHT
FOR WA**





Roger Cook and WA Labor **Made in WA**

Western Australians are hard workers.

Together, we've created the strongest economy in the nation.

The WA Labor Government has always been proudly jobs-focused - the proof is in our record.

More than 343,000 jobs have been created under WA Labor.

We've kept unemployment consistently low.

Apprenticeship starts are booming once more, following years of neglect under the Liberals and Nationals.

And businesses are investing in Western Australia like never before.

WA Labor has been a safe pair of hands for the local economy.

We have established strong economic foundations - but that's just the start.

From this position of strength, we can do even more.

We can make more things here - for the benefit of all Western Australians.

We can power WA on clean energy - as well as supply the materials required for the world's clean energy transition.

And we can continue to diversify our economy by leveraging our existing strengths.

The Cook Labor Government has invested in and attracted major job-creating industries and projects to Western Australia, including:

- Advanced manufacturing - including making railcars and electric buses locally.
- Clean energy projects - including big batteries, lithium and rare earth refineries, green iron smelting and solar and wind farms.
- AUKUS - the biggest Western Australian defence project in our State's history.

The jobs of tomorrow will require new skills.

As a government, we have been investing in the skills and education of our younger generations, ensuring they can make the most of these exciting opportunities.

We are at the precipice of our next major economic shift in Western Australia.

Our Made in WA plan outlines the investments and policies we need to ensure every Western Australian continues to have quality job opportunities and our State can continue to thrive in an evolving global economy.

Only my WA Labor Government has the experience to deliver our Made in WA plan, and to do what's right for WA.



Roger Cook
Premier of Western Australia



Made in WA

Making More Things Locally

We will boost our manufacturing sector and make more things in WA, including:

- Household and Industrial Batteries
- Vanadium Batteries
- Transmission Towers and Energy Infrastructure
- Housing Innovation Manufacturing
- Wind Turbines
- METRONET Trains
- METRONET on Swan Ferries
- Electric Buses
- Iron Ore Rail Cars

Renewable Energy Powerhouse

We're delivering a clean energy plan for WA to be a renewable energy powerhouse:

- Green Iron and Steel Action Plan
- Investment Attraction Fund – Support for New Energies Industries
- Collie's Just Transition
- Building a Biofuels Industry
- Funding Boost to the Exploration Industry

Major Jobs Precincts

We're delivering enabling infrastructure to attract major new job-creating industries across WA:

- \$1 billion Strategic Industries Fund
- Upgrade Access into Kemerton and Kwinana Strategic Industrial Areas
- Delivering Westport



Bringing Freight Rail Back into Government Hands

We're negotiating to bring freight rail back into Government hands:

- Move More Freight by Rail
- Deliver a More Efficient Network

Diversify WA

We're broadening and diversifying our economy:

- Tourism and the Night-time Economy
- Delivering 10,000 New Jobs in Defence
- Expanding the Aboriginal Ranger Program
- New Industries, Innovation and Biomedical Industry
- Launching into Space
- Decommissioning Offshore Oil and Gas Infrastructure
- Promoting WA Wine
- Small Business Support
- Supporting our Creative Industries

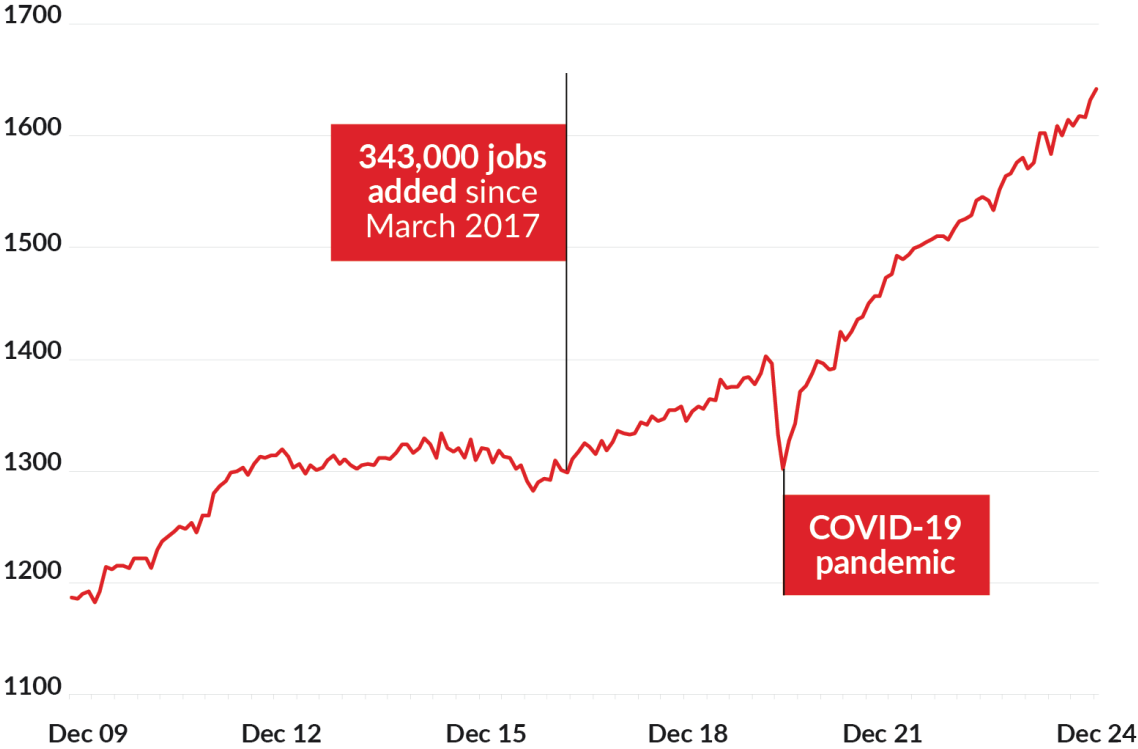
Training a Pipeline of Workers

We're investing in training a pipeline of skilled workers:

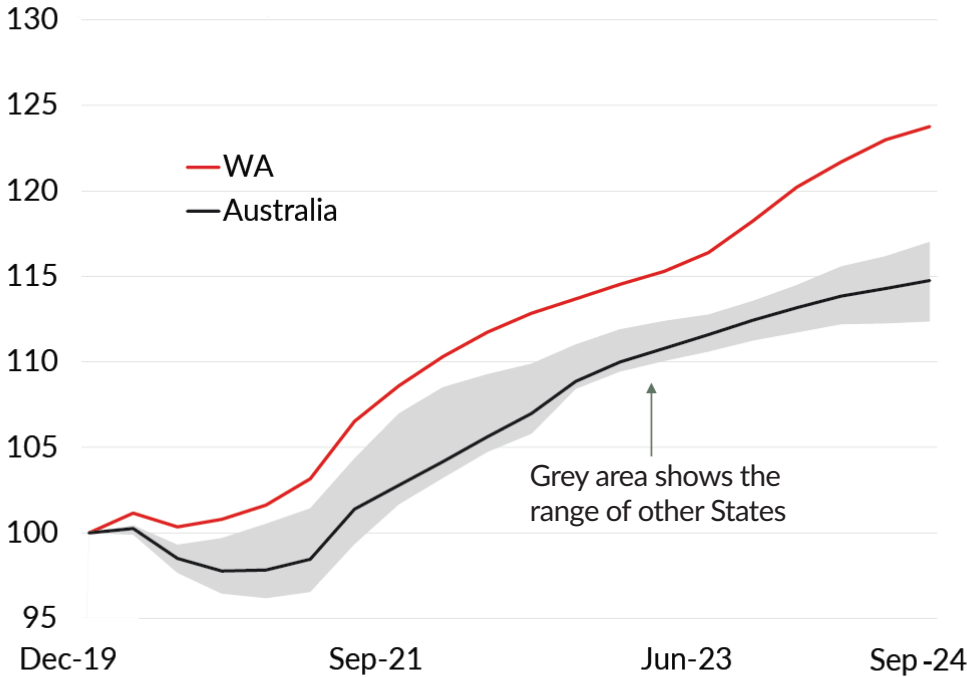
- Fee Free TAFE including Housing and Construction Courses
- New Round of the Adult Apprentice Incentive for Building and Construction
- Expand the Successful Group Training Organisation Wage Subsidy Program
- Expand Munster TAFE to Deliver Clean Energy Training
- Modern Equipment for TAFEs
- New Heavy Vehicle Driver Training Facility in Neerabup

Economic Update

More than 343,000 new jobs created under WA Labor



WA's domestic economy has grown by 24% since 2019





WA has the Best Performing Economy in the Nation

Eight years ago, the WA Labor Government inherited the worst-performing economy in the country from the Liberals and Nationals – it was in recession, unemployment was at record highs and debt was spiralling.

WA Labor came into office with a focus on creating jobs. We worked hard to get the finances under control.

Today, Western Australia proudly has the best performing economy in the nation.

Our State is now widely recognised as the economic powerhouse of the nation.

More than 343,000 jobs have been created since WA Labor came to Government in 2017.

The number of people in a job reached a new record of 1.65 million.

We've grown the domestic economy by 24 per cent from pre-pandemic levels – by far the strongest of all states and territories.

Unemployment has averaged below four per cent for more than three years.

In short – the WA Labor Government took the worst-performing economy in the country and made it the top-performing.

Early in government we secured a fair share of GST for WA and have fiercely protected it ever since.

Our Made in WA plan is a blueprint to keep our economy in pole position.

We will keep WA at the forefront of global market shifts – through training, industry support and the infrastructure we need to grow.

Made in WA

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will boost our manufacturing sector, and make more things in WA including:

- Household and Industrial Batteries
- Vanadium Batteries
- Transmission Towers and Energy Infrastructure
- Housing Innovation Manufacturing
- Wind Turbines
- METRONET Trains
- METRONET on Swan Ferries
- Electric Buses
- Iron Ore Rail Cars

Local Battery Manufacturing Program

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will support industry to make batteries in WA, through a \$50 million Local Battery Manufacturing Program of direct grants and low interest loans.

New battery technologies are transforming the way we live and the way our energy system works.

We want WA families to have access to batteries to help with the cost of living and to support our electricity system.

And we want WA businesses to make batteries in WA.

WA is already home to successful companies making local batteries, with strong markets in remote, regional and mining battery products, such as lighting towers and stand-alone power systems.

We will support these local manufacturers to grow their businesses in the local, national and international markets, to make more batteries right here in WA.

Along with the massive delivery of utility-scale batteries and our new residential battery schemes, this local manufacturing commitment will help local businesses manufacture more locally-built residential and industrial batteries.

This WA-first program will offer \$50 million in competitive grants and low interest loans to WA businesses that manufacture residential battery systems or remote and regional integrated battery products.

Grants will be available for new technology or capital equipment that demonstrates increased productivity and output of the business to deliver local jobs.



Vanadium Batteries and Growing the Local Supply Chain

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will install Australia's first locally built, utility-scale vanadium battery in Kalgoorlie to reinforce the local energy system and support WA's emerging vanadium industry.

Vanadium technology is expected to be required for long-duration energy storage in Western Australia as coal-fired power stations are retired and the share of renewables significantly increases.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will install a 50-megawatt, 10-hour WA-made vanadium flow battery in Kalgoorlie using locally sourced and processed vanadium, creating about 150 jobs during construction. The battery will be located near existing transmission infrastructure and be operational by 2029.

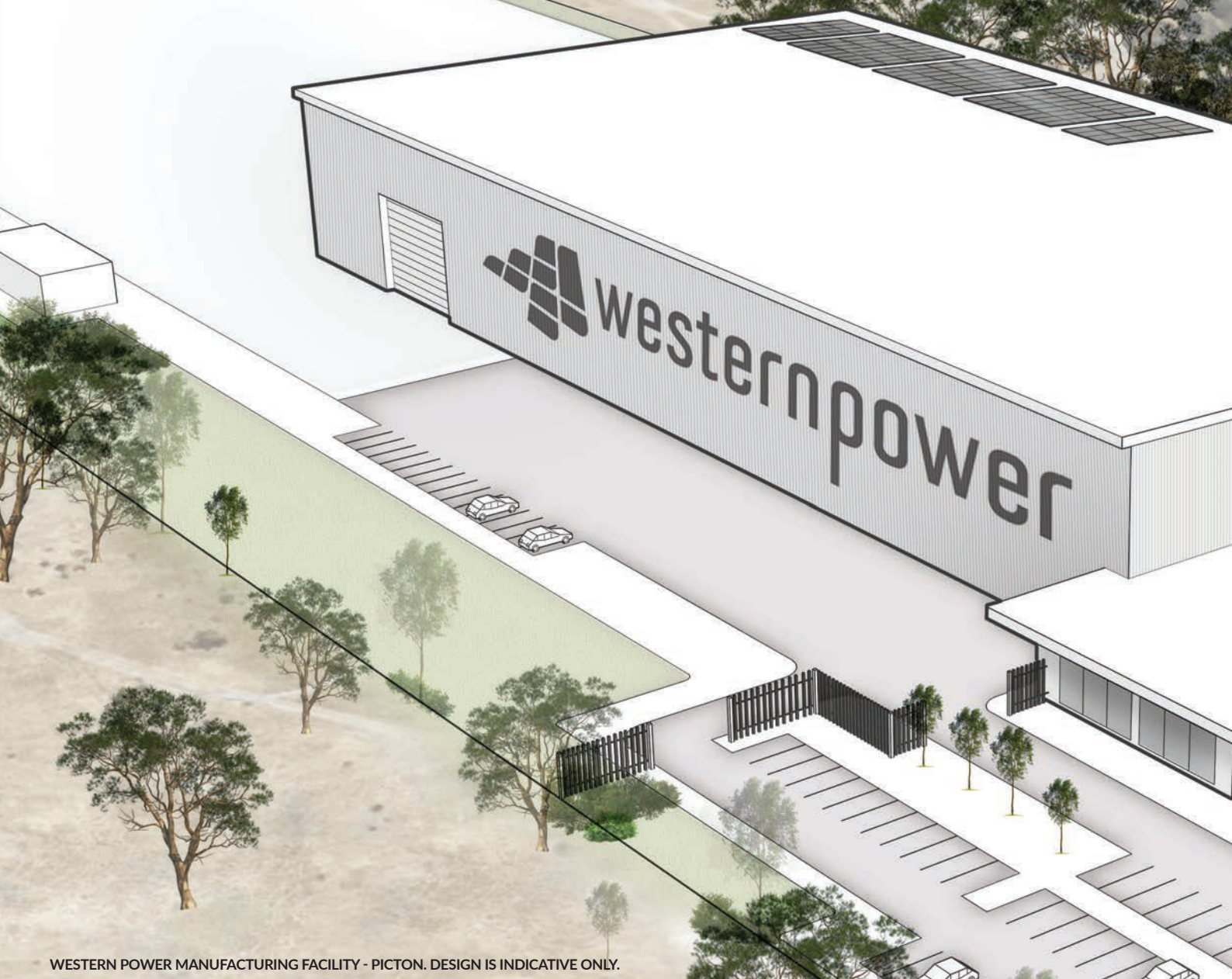
We will also work with the private sector to develop a local vanadium electrolyte production and battery assembly industry in Kalgoorlie.

Delivering WA's first utility-scale vanadium battery will drive growth in the emerging industry and stimulate opportunities for downstream processing and exports.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will apply a 2.5 per cent royalty to vanadium products and maintain no royalties for vanadium electrolyte.

Western Australia has some of the world's best vanadium deposits, however the high-level processing required to produce vanadium products can impact a project's economics. A 2.5 per cent royalty reflects this level of processing and incentivises the growth of the industry.

We will also maintain zero royalties for the midstream production of vanadium electrolyte, an essential step in the manufacturing of vanadium batteries.



WESTERN POWER MANUFACTURING FACILITY - PICTON. DESIGN IS INDICATIVE ONLY.

Transmission Towers and Advanced Manufacturing

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$75 million to make major energy infrastructure in Western Australia by establishing new Western Power manufacturing facilities in Picton and Forrestfield.

Western Power will require thousands of kilometres of transmission lines to deliver WA's energy transition. We will ensure this work creates local jobs and maximises opportunities for local businesses by establishing State Government-backed manufacturing hubs for major transmission infrastructure.

The Western Power Manufacturing Facility - Picton will be the anchor tenant of the new Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Hub (AMTECH) in Greater Bunbury. A re-elected Cook Labor Government will establish this visionary precinct as the State's first dedicated advanced manufacturing, technology and renewables zone - leveraging common use infrastructure, port and rail access, and the skilled local workforce.

AMTECH will be strategically located close to Bunbury Port and WA's key energy infrastructure in Collie. Its proximity to key wind zones makes it an ideal location for the manufacturing of electricity infrastructure, allowing components to be built near where they are needed.



The Western Power Manufacturing Facility - Forrestfield will be developed in consultation with WA's established steel fabrication companies to provide a second State Government-backed facility for the manufacturing of transmission components. WA has significant existing steel fabrication capacity with several established businesses providing quality locally made products.

WA Labor's work to maximise local content in the delivery of METRONET saw the significant expansion of capacity in key areas of the supply chain like steel fabrication. This work saw a key local manufacturer increase its capacity in pile cages by threefold. This new capacity will now allow us to build upon this success and drive a further pipeline of local steel work, creating opportunities for WA businesses.

The facilities will manufacture major energy infrastructure including lattice transmission towers, pile reinforcement cages, poles, wires and substation components - which will be needed in high volumes over the next decade and beyond to deliver WA's energy transition. This will enable local suppliers to be engaged in long-term supply contracts - creating a pipeline of skilled jobs and delivering value for money for locally built materials.

Only WA Labor will keep Western Power in public hands.



Housing Innovation Manufacturing

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will deliver a \$50 million Housing Innovation Program of competitive grants and low interest loans to support the local housing industry to innovate and deliver more houses.

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

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 in initiatives focussed on boosting housing supply.

We've made training free for construction courses.

WA's construction industry has performed strongly in a challenging environment, and we know it can do more.

Local industry has told us it can deliver more houses through innovation and automation in the building sector - to increase the speed and accuracy of production, reduce waste and free-up labour to focus on other jobs including installation.

Examples include steel frame manufacturing automation, concrete slab manufacturing, wall and ceiling construction automation, window and door construction automation, cabinetry automation, and expanded serviced land and hard-stand areas for manufacturing.

We will work with local industry to provide a combination of competitive grants and low interest loans. This will support innovation, technology and expanded facilities to deliver more housing into the WA market.

Wind Turbines

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to develop opportunities for the local manufacturing of wind turbines and components.

We're investing in the local manufacturing of wind turbines through an \$8 million partnership with the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre, supporting local businesses to enhance their participation in wind energy supply chains, including through a grants program.

We have a strong pipeline of onshore wind farms in WA, which represents a significant opportunity for our local advanced manufacturing industry.

We will provide funding and opportunity for these local businesses to supply parts to projects across our State, and across the nation, which will ultimately increase their competitiveness in local and global markets.

AMTECH's Western Power Manufacturing Facility in Greater Bunbury will deliver locally built steel reinforced footing cages, which are also used to construct wind tower foundations. The AMTECH precinct will also invite interest from private sector wind turbine developers to build additional component parts in WA, including towers and turbines.





METRONET Trains

The Cook Labor Government has returned railcar manufacturing back to Western Australia, and if re-elected will roll out hundreds of ‘Made in WA’ METRONET railcars over the coming decade.

The first locally-built METRONET passenger trains were launched in April 2024, with a pipeline of 258 railcars to be delivered over the next ten years.

We established the new railcar manufacturing facility in Bellevue, which currently employs around 150 workers, and delivered the \$5.4 million METRONET Trade Training Centre facility to provide hands-on training.

We’re also boosting WA’s industry capabilities with 15 local businesses playing a role in manufacturing parts for the new trains.

METRONET on Swan Locally Made Electric Ferries

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will locally manufacture five new electric ferries as part of an expanded Swan River ferry service.

Just like our new METRONET trains, these electric ferries will be built right here in WA, supporting local manufacturing and helping our State become a shipbuilding hub.

These locally built ferries are anticipated to create and support at least 40 highly skilled local jobs, including apprentices.



Electric Buses

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will transition its fleet of Transperth and TransRegional buses to locally made electric buses.

Our current fleet of Transperth and TransRegional buses are made in WA – locally in Malaga.

The procurement of new electric buses will be a major boost to the local industry, supporting hundreds of local jobs.

Iron Ore Rail Cars

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to prioritise iron ore rail car manufacturing and maintenance in WA.

We've partnered with industry to help deliver the local manufacturing of 240 iron ore rail cars and establish the Rail Collaboration Centre in the Pilbara, assisted through the Cook Labor Government's \$15 million Local Manufacturing Investment Fund.

We will continue to expand local iron ore rail car manufacturing in WA and collaborate with other industries, including the grain sector, to investigate more opportunities for local manufacturing.

Renewable Energy Powerhouse

The Cook Labor Government is delivering a clean energy plan for WA to be a renewable energy powerhouse.

We're attracting new green industry and creating the jobs of the future while ensuring a reliable and affordable electricity system.

The Cook Labor Government's clean energy plan is powering ahead and delivering for WA:

- Investing more than \$5.7 billion in WA's energy transition.
- More than doubling the amount of renewables on the grid, increasing from 14 per cent in 2017 to more than 38 per cent in 2024.
- Breaking the renewable energy record on WA's main grid, when it reached more than 85 per cent in November 2024.
- Phasing out coal-fired power and replacing it with wind farms and big batteries, firmed by gas when required.
- Installing new utility-scale batteries across Government and the private sector, including four big batteries in Kwinana and Collie that will power hundreds of thousands of homes.
- New wind farms in the Mid-West, South West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern to complement this investment in batteries while creating jobs in regional WA.
- Investing billions in transmission network expansion to build the poles and wires to connect our network to new generation and batteries.



Green Iron and Steel Action Plan

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will deliver a Green Iron and Steel Action Plan to activate green and low emission downstream processing of Western Australian iron ore.

Steel making currently accounts for up to nine per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, with the majority of these attributed to the iron making process.

As the world's largest exporter supplying about 38 per cent of the world's iron ore, there is a huge opportunity for WA to lead the world in producing green iron and steel.

Already in WA we have seen major new projects being developed including the NeoSmelt project in Kwinana, supported by a \$75 million investment from the Cook Labor Government, to develop new manufacturing methods to turn Pilbara iron ore into near-zero emission iron using an electric smelting furnace.

In Collie, Green Steel WA is progressing plans for a Green Steel Recycling Mill, which will process local scrap steel through an electric arc furnace to produce green steel reinforcing bars, with the support of a \$2.7 million grant from the Cook Labor Government.

We will work with industry to develop a Green Iron and Steel Action Plan to ensure the State has a coordinated approach to delivering green iron and steel projects, including streamlining approvals, developing enabling infrastructure and shared common research.

Investment Attraction Fund – Support for New Energies Industries

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to invest in major clean and renewable energy projects through the Investment Attraction Fund, including critical minerals, green iron and steel, hydrogen and carbon capture and storage.

The first \$60 million round of the New Energies Industries stream helped kickstart major new clean energy projects in green iron, carbon capture and storage, and downstream processing in both lithium and graphite.

These projects are at the cutting edge of the global energy transition - reducing emissions from steel and other hard to abate sectors and producing the batteries the world needs for a clean energy future.

We will continue to support major new industries that are driving WA to become a renewable energy powerhouse.

Collie's Just Transition

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will boost Collie's Transition Package by an additional \$30 million – bringing the total investment to \$692 million.

Collie's Just Transition is powering ahead, with new industries and businesses emerging across the town as the transition away from coal-fired power generation progresses.

We are securing new industries and have invested in major projects including a Green Steel Recycling Mill, a net zero magnesium refinery, a graphite processing facility and battery anode material facility.

We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tesla to build a new remanufacturing facility in Collie that will service both grid-scale and residential Tesla batteries for Western Australia and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

We've invested \$134 million to activate industrial land at Coolangatta Industrial Estate to help fast track these major projects.

Our \$30 million additional investment in the Collie Industrial Transition Fund will ensure this work continues.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will also invest \$600,000 to develop a Collie specific job-matching app for transitioning workers.

We've invested over \$26 million to support workforce transition including a new Jobs and Skills Centre in Collie, free training for transitioning workers, curriculum development to match new industries, and we are delivering a new TAFE training facility in town.

We're committed to a Just Transition for Collie. Our plan is working – and Collie's future is bright under a Cook Labor Government.





Growing our Biofuels Industry

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$1.2 million to deliver an Advanced Biofuels Strategy to support and attract renewable fuels projects.

Western Australia is an ideal location for an advanced biofuels industry given the large production volumes of oilseed and agricultural waste produced by our world-class grains sector.

Biofuels will deliver significant and rapid emissions reductions in hard to abate sectors that rely on diesel such as agriculture, transport and mining.

The sector is growing. For example, Formula One has committed to all of its racing cars running on 100 per cent sustainable fuel by 2026.

The Advanced Biofuels Strategy will ensure coordination across government, attract further investment into the State and accelerate the development of biofuel technology in WA.

Funding Boost to the Exploration Industry

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will provide a \$9 million funding boost to encourage mining exploration and support jobs in regional WA.

We will increase the highly successful Exploration Incentive Scheme to \$18 million in grant funding each year to help deliver exploration activities such as drilling, geophysics and energy analysis.

This scheme is literally groundbreaking, supporting explorers and junior minors in their hunt for the next big discovery that will help drive WA's future prosperity. For every \$1 million invested in the Exploration Incentive Scheme, there is a \$31 million return.

We will also invest \$2.5 million to purchase specialist mineral mapping and seismic equipment, with data from the new equipment fed into the State's geoscience dataset and made available for explorers to use and help accelerate exploration.

This \$9 million funding boost will increase the odds of opening new mines, discovering critical minerals needed for the energy transition and creating good local jobs in regional communities.



Major Jobs Precincts

\$1 billion Strategic Industries Fund Delivering Major Job-Creating Projects

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will deliver a \$1 billion Strategic Industries Fund to activate Strategic Industrial Areas across the State to fast-track clean energy and major industrial projects.

We're working with industry to determine the common-user and other enabling infrastructure required in our Strategic Industrial Areas to unlock the industrial land we need to get these projects off the ground.

We will allocate a further \$500 million to the Strategic Industries Fund, to bring the total to \$1 billion to continue activating industrial land across the State.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$8 million to upgrade the entry into Kemerton Strategic Industrial Area at the intersection of Forrest Highway and Marriott Road.

This important upgrade will assist with truck movements and increased worker vehicles, as well as increasing safety for commuters on Forrest Highway.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$5 million to upgrade key entrances into the Kwinana Strategic Industrial Area including Mason Road and Rockingham Road, and Beard Street and Rockingham Road.

These intersections leading into the Kwinana Strategic Industrial Area have not kept up with the growth of industry, causing congestion for workers and delaying truck movements.

We have also allocated \$125 million to open up new industrial land at Latitude 32 in Kwinana, given the strong demand for land in Perth's industrial heartland.

Streamlining Approvals and Fast-Tracking Delivery

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to fast-track State significant projects through streamlined approvals and whole-of-government project delivery.

We have the renewable resources, skills and trading partnerships to become home to job-creating clean energy mega-projects. We will ensure a coordinated approach across government to deliver these major State significant projects.

This builds on our generational reforms to Western Australia's environmental approvals system that are fast-tracking approvals while maintaining among the highest environmental standards in the world.



Westport

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will get on with delivering Westport.

A new port is essential for Western Australia to meet the needs of our growing population and economy.

Under current projections, Fremantle Port will reach capacity by the late-2030s.

Fremantle is also not capable of handling the next generation of bigger, more efficient cargo ships.

A re-elected WA Labor Government will start building a new port at the Kwinana Industrial Area.

This will be a major investment in our future.

Built over the space of a decade, it will be the single biggest project we've ever undertaken in WA.

Research shows that not acting would be a costly mistake, resulting in more freight being trucked from the east and ultimately higher prices for household goods.

The Cook Labor Government has already invested \$273 million to finalise designs and approvals for Westport.

The shift of trade to Kwinana will also create a major opportunity for Fremantle.

Not only will there be less trucks on local roads, the 260-hectare area once occupied by port operations will become a future precinct of housing, hospitality and tourism.

Freight Rail

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will negotiate to bring the freight rail network back into Government hands.

Nearly 25 years ago, the Liberals and Nationals privatised Western Australia's freight rail network.

This privatisation remains one of the worst deals in our State's history.

The 49-year deal ceded control of rail freight and put more trucks on country roads, particularly during harvest.

As a result of the deal, our freight rail network simply hasn't kept pace with our growing economy.

The Cook Labor Government is seeking to right that wrong.

Negotiations have now started to bring the State's freight rail network back into Government hands.

We want to make sure we're moving as much by rail to and from our ports as possible.

A more effective freight rail network will support the growth of our critical industries, unlock future jobs and retain WA's economy as the strongest for future generations.

We will establish a team to undertake negotiations with the State Government open to all options, including a staged return to public ownership.

We will ensure a final decision is based on the best financial and economic outcomes for the State.



Diversify WA

The pathway to Western Australia's continued success is to diversify our economy.

For as long as commerce has existed in this State, we have ridden the boom and bust cycles.

To better compete in an increasingly complex global economy, we must broaden our economic base and expand our expertise across a range of sectors.

The Cook Labor Government has invested over \$8 billion towards the projects that will propel our future economy.

While mining exports will remain a key driver in our economy, the significant investments we've made to diversify our economy are working.

The value added to our economy by industries other than the mining sector has increased by almost 50 per cent - more than \$80 billion - since 2017.

For example, manufacturing has increased by more than 60 per cent.

We will continue to support and invest in industry sectors across the State's economy.

Tourism and the Night-Time Economy

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to grow our tourism sector, attract major events to WA and boost our night-time economy.

Since coming to Government, we've been building WA's global reputation as a destination with incredible tourism and hospitality experiences.

We've boosted our marketing spend, progressed liquor reforms and put WA on the map by attracting major events and securing non-stop flights with 20 global destinations including Shanghai, Paris, Rome, Johannesburg and Manila.

Our plan is working. The latest international and national visitor statistics reveal record-breaking visitor spend of \$17.9 billion, up from \$13.5 billion pre-COVID.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will progress further liquor reforms to increase Western Australia's vibrancy.

WA Labor revolutionised WA's night scene with the introduction of the small bar licenses in 2007 - but there's more to do.

We will work with our hospitality and tourism industry partners to develop a night-time economy strategy, exploring opportunities for additional reforms to drive vibrancy, support small businesses and create jobs.



A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to help fund and attract major events to WA.

Our event strategy has attracted a wide range of major events to WA, with our events program injecting a massive \$286 million into WA's economy in 2023-24 alone.

We've helped deliver major events including WWE: Elimination Chamber, Coldplay, FIFA Women's World Cup matches, a Triple World Title Boxing event, International soccer matches including Manchester United and held the AFL Grand Final at Optus Stadium.

Regional WA has also benefited from the Cook Labor Government's support of regional events, including Broome's Shinju Matsuri, Geraldton's Shore Leave Festival and the Margaret River Pro.

We're successfully securing global-scale events, putting the eyes of the world on Western Australia and bringing in thousands of visitors, while creating jobs, supporting small businesses and pumping millions into our economy.



Delivering 10,000 New Jobs in Defence

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will work with the Commonwealth Government to deliver AUKUS in Western Australia, including establishing the defence precinct in Henderson.

AUKUS represents one of the biggest new job creators for WA in coming years.

The new consolidated defence precinct in Henderson will be a base for servicing nuclear-powered submarines and for defence shipbuilding, and is expected to create 10,000 jobs over the next two decades.

Our role in the AUKUS agreement has already created opportunities for more than 1,000 WA workers, and that role will only grow from here.

Roger Cook and WA Labor will ensure WA realises the full benefits of AUKUS.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will deliver the \$11.5 million AUKUS Defence Industry Incentive Scheme to increase training places for hundreds of new apprentices and grow the defence workforce to deliver AUKUS in WA.

As part of this commitment, \$3 million will be allocated to deliver a further 435 training places for AUKUS and defence-related trades, and a further \$8.5 million will be made available to provide defence industry employers with a \$20,000 grant for taking on an apprentice in a defence-related trade.

This builds on the \$14.6 million WA Defence TAFE Centre of Excellence to deliver the skills workers need in advanced manufacturing for defence projects.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will establish a \$2 million fund for local small and medium businesses to build capacity and capability to work on AUKUS-related projects, including ensuring they comply with defence security and protocols.

There are currently 238 SMEs in WA that are directly involved in the defence industry but this number is expected to increase dramatically.

The AUKUS SME Readiness Fund will provide grants to small and medium defence businesses to help them build the capacity and capability to procure work in the defence and AUKUS supply chain.



Expanding the Aboriginal Ranger Program

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$20 million to expand the highly successful Aboriginal Ranger Program.

Originally a 2017 WA Labor election commitment, the Aboriginal Ranger Program is delivering on-Country jobs and training for Aboriginal people in regional and remote communities across Western Australia.

The program has created more than 1,400 jobs to date, with about 45 per cent of those jobs taken up by women.

We will continue to build on the work already undertaken to deliver meaningful Aboriginal employment.

New Industries, Innovation and Biomedical Industry

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$40 million over the next four years to boost innovation and new industries in WA through the New Industries and Innovation Fund, plus a further \$50 million to support the co-location of world leading medical manufacturers at Perth's newly established Biomedical Precinct.

WA has a long history of successful innovation, cutting edge medical research and biomedical industry development.

We have delivered results in these important sectors including through our landmark \$45 million Venture Capital initiative and \$215 million of investment through the Future Health Research and Innovation Fund.

We will increase the New Industries Fund with \$40 million to boost the development and acceleration of innovation-based technologies and their take up in global value chains.

We will also invest \$50 million to support the co-location of world leading medical manufacturers at Perth's newly established Biomedical Precinct. The funding will support capital works, equipment and incentives for medical manufacturers exporting to the world.

Launching into Space

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$2 million to develop a business case to establish the Western Australian Space Launch Facility.

WA is becoming well known for our exciting space industry, with more than 130 national and international organisations operating space and space-related services in WA, and more than \$1 billion being invested in the State's space sector over the last six years.

Space technologies, data and services are integral to our daily lives, from digital communications and GPS services to remote sensing and many other technologies commonly used on Earth.

They also provide critical services that support the resources, manufacturing and agricultural industries.

The Western Australian Space Launch Facility will take advantage of WA's vast land mass and provide a common-user facility for space organisations to launch satellites and spacecraft into orbit.

Growing the local space sector will also have enormous benefit for WA with advances in technology, data and services - leading to more jobs and economic diversification.

Decommissioning Oil and Gas Infrastructure

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to grow Western Australia's decommissioning industry.

As oil and gas projects come to the end of their life off the coast of WA, this is providing major opportunities for WA to grow its decommissioning industry and create hundreds of new jobs.

We will continue to collaborate with industry to ensure these major decommissioning projects are undertaken here in WA.

Promoting WA Wine

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$6 million to double its contribution to the Wine Industry Export Growth Partnership to grow the volume of WA wine exports, particularly into the east coast market.

We've already invested \$3.5 million in the Wine Industry Export Growth Partnership, matched by a \$3 million commitment from industry.

The program has been critical in limiting the impacts of the temporary loss of China as a WA wine export market and supporting industry to diversify its target markets to Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Through this major funding boost, we will deliver a renewed focus on re-entry to the China market and a focus on increasing sales in the domestic east coast market.

Small Business Support

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will support small businesses to access capacity and capability programs.

There are nearly 240,000 small businesses in Western Australia, across a diverse range of industries.

We will continue to provide support to small businesses across the State to help them build capacity and capability in their business, helping them to expand and create more jobs.

Supporting our Creative Industries

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will continue to grow the cultural and arts industries in WA including investing:

- \$10 million towards planning and design for a visionary expansion of the Art Gallery of Western Australia.
- \$1.5 million to boost the Contemporary Music Fund that supports homegrown musicians to produce and promote their work in WA.
- \$750,000 for a new WA Gig Guide to be the ultimate source of local and touring live music.
- \$500,000 to save WA Music Week and WAM Fest.
- \$2.5 million to the Access All Areas Pass, providing \$50 vouchers to encourage young people aged five to 15 to attend cultural events across the State.

We're backing our local arts, culture and events sector. We want to see our local creative industries flourish and grow local talent.

We know Western Australians love to go out and experience live music, cultural and art experiences, which creates jobs and is great for local venues and the economy.





Training a Pipeline of Skilled Workers

Under the Cook Labor Government, more Western Australians are in training than ever before.

TAFE enrolments have increased from around 130,000 in 2016 to nearly 170,000 in 2024 – an increase of 30 per cent.

Our free and low-cost training has been a game-changer, helping record numbers of people learn skills in areas where they're needed most.

Only the Cook Labor Government will continue to invest in our TAFEs and deliver affordable training.

Building WA's Construction Workforce

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$22 million to make a further seven housing and construction courses Fee Free.

We've been working with industry and training providers on the best ways to further grow WA's residential construction workforce.

Affordable training is a critical part of our work to boost our State's building and construction workforce's capacity to deliver more homes across WA.

It will include courses such as construction, brick laying, plumbing and plastering.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will introduce a new round of the successful Adult Apprentice Incentive.

First introduced by WA Labor in 2021, the Adult Apprentice Incentive will engage 400 new apprentices and trainees over the age of 21 to grow WA's building and construction workforce.

The incentive will pay the wage gap employers would otherwise bear when employing an apprentice over 21, compared to a younger apprentice, opening up a new cohort of potential apprentices for the building and construction industry.

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will boost the successful Group Training Organisation (GTO) Wage Subsidy Program to support 1,000 places.

The GTO Wage Subsidy Program helps building and construction employers cover the cost of employing an apprentice or trainee.

This latest enhancement to the program unlocks an additional 225 apprentices or trainees to build more houses in WA.

Training our Clean Energy Workforce

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will deliver a \$17.1 million expansion of South Metropolitan's Munster TAFE campus to grow WA's clean energy workforce.

Western Australia is expected to need thousands of new electricians to deliver the clean energy transition, in addition to dozens of diverse construction, engineering and mechanical trades needed for big batteries, utility and rooftop solar, and wind turbines.

The \$17.1 million expansion will provide state-of-the-art facilities to deliver future workforce skills for renewables industries, including wind energy, battery technology, green hydrogen, electrification, automation and robotics.

Modern Equipment

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will invest \$33.8 million for a new, expanded round of the successful TAFE Modern Equipment Program.

We will ensure students are trained using the same cutting edge technology they will encounter out in the workforce.

Building on our 2021 election commitment that is already providing thousands of WA TAFE students with quality, industry-standard training resources, this latest investment will deliver additional equipment for the State's TAFEs across electrical, building and construction, health, driver training, automation and manufacturing courses.

Heavy Vehicle Driver Training

A re-elected Cook Labor Government will establish a new \$17.4 million Heavy Vehicle Driver Training facility in Neerabup.

The new facility will provide the metropolitan area with a new dedicated, TAFE-run training facility with the capacity to train 170 students a year from 2026.

It will include heavy rigid trucks and trailers, forklift trucks, a high-tech heavy vehicle driving simulator and wide roads that are suitable for providing practical on-road skilled driver training.

