

The Infrastructure Program

Total infrastructure expenditure in 2005-06 is estimated to be \$476 million, including:

- a capital works program of \$295 million with estimated expenditure of \$192 million (including a 40 per cent increase in minor new works to \$28.6 million);
- capital grants spending of \$43 million;
- Power and Water Corporation capital expenditure of \$63 million; and
- repairs and maintenance totalling \$170 million (including Power and Water Corporation).

Backing Territorians

The 2005-06 Budget supports:

- local businesses, by making the Territory the lowest taxing jurisdiction in Australia for businesses with up to 100 staff;
- a continued high level of spending on infrastructure and jobs;
- new opportunities to build better skills in the Territory workforce, skilling 10 000 Territorians over the next four years;
- record budgets for health, education and police; and
- the environment and a great lifestyle.

The Government has also committed at least \$10 million to rebuilding those Territory communities affected by Cyclone Ingrid.



Less Tax

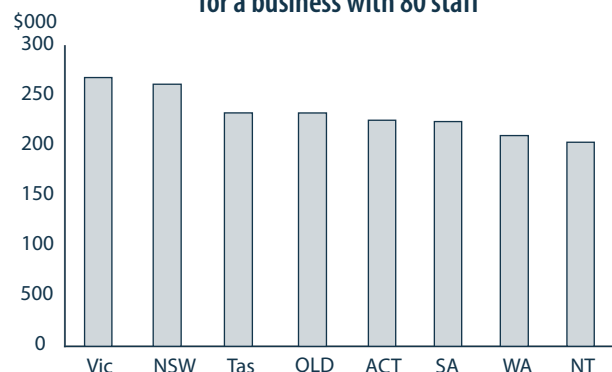
The 2005-06 Budget outlines tax cuts of \$40 million.

- Homes purchased by first home buyers from 3 May 2005 will not attract any stamp duty on the first \$200 000 of the price.
- The payroll tax threshold will increase from \$800 000 to \$1 million from 1 July 2005 and \$1.25 million from 1 July 2006, reaffirming the Territory as the lowest-taxing jurisdiction.

**Annual recurrent taxes from 1 July 2005
for a business with 50 staff**



**Annual recurrent taxes from 1 July 2005
for a business with 80 staff**



Highlights

Local Jobs and Better Skills

Creating local jobs growth is a key priority. The 2005-06 Budget continues record spending on infrastructure projects of \$476 million that will support local jobs growth, invest in the construction industry and develop the economic base of the Territory.

Over four years, *Jobs Plan 2* initiatives will support 10 000 new trainees and apprentices.

The 2005-06 Budget focuses on building a skilled workforce. It injects additional funding to support key jobs programs and \$1.5 million will support training linked to skills shortages in traditional trades, through Charles Darwin University.

Record Budgets: Health, Education and Police

The Government's commitment to the key priority areas of health, education and police is reconfirmed by record budgets for 2005-06:

- \$687 million for health and community services;
- \$582 million for employment, education and training; and
- \$189 million for police, fire and emergency services.

Great Lifestyle

Backing Territorians includes supporting our great lifestyle, and the 2005-06 Budget includes:

- \$17 million for sports, recreation and major events;
- over \$34 million for arts, museums and libraries;
- over \$105 million for conservation, parks, natural resource management, environment and heritage; and
- over \$102 million for Territory Housing services.

2005-06 Major Works Program

The program is supporting growth in local jobs through construction of social and economic infrastructure, and developing the economic base of the Territory:

- roads and other transport infrastructure – \$80 million;
- schools – \$36 million;
- housing – \$24 million;
- Desert Knowledge Precinct – \$22 million;
- Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek Hospitals – \$17 million;
- lifestyle and environment – \$15 million;
- East Arm and Darwin Business Park – \$12 million;
- Darwin City Waterfront site works – \$10 million;
- health centres and other health facilities – \$10 million;
- police, fire and emergency services – \$4.6 million;
- land developments – \$3.6 million; and
- correctional services – \$3.5 million.

