

# **Western Sydney Budget Statement**

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**2003-04**



**New South Wales**



## FOREWORD

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It is with great pleasure, that as Minister for Western Sydney, I have the opportunity to present the 2003-04 Western Sydney Budget Statement.

It is no accident that for the sixth year in a row, the NSW Government is delivering a record level of spending for the people of Western Sydney.

As a resident of Western Sydney, I am well aware of the population growth currently occurring in Western Sydney. Each year, 56,000 new residents make their home in Sydney - of this, 30,000 choose to live in Sydney's west. More than ever, there is a need for Government to invest in our schools and health services, to modernise our transport and infrastructure and to protect our environment.

That is why I am pleased to announce that in 2003-04, the State Government's capital and recurrent expenditure in Western Sydney is estimated at over \$7.14 billion.

Highlights of this year's Western Sydney Budget include:

- ◆ \$1.90 billion for Western Sydney schools and TAFE Colleges;
- ◆ \$1.66 billion for new and ongoing health services;
- ◆ \$1.24 billion on Western Sydney public transport and roads;
- ◆ \$1.35 billion for employment, housing, family, child and community support services, arts and sport;
- ◆ \$592 million for police and public safety; and
- ◆ \$394 million for regional parks, water, waste and other environmental initiatives.

I am delighted to present, on behalf of the New South Wales Government, the 2003-04 Western Sydney Budget Statement.



Diane Beamer MP  
**Minister for Western Sydney**  
**Member for Mulgoa**



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## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

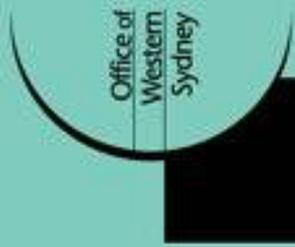
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Western Sydney covers fourteen Local Government areas over some 8,000 square kilometres. It encompasses the Local Government areas of Bankstown, Auburn and Parramatta, south to Wollondilly Shire, Blue Mountains City Council to the west and north to the Hawkesbury Shire.

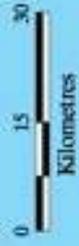
This Western Sydney Budget Statement reports on the Government's progress of its major initiatives.

The Statement is not a description of every Government initiative which will impact on Western Sydney in 2003-04, nor is it a complete list of the programs or funding which will be delivered in the region. Rather, it provides an outline of the key programs and priorities for Western Sydney in the coming financial year. Funding allocations specifically to be spent in Western Sydney are indicated in bold type. Several government agencies have been restructured. A description of the restructured agencies is contained in the introduction of Budget Paper 3.

The objectives of the Statement are to provide a comprehensive picture of key Government programs in Western Sydney and to assist government agencies and the people of Western Sydney to assess program and service priorities across the region.



# Western Sydney by Local Council Area



## **CHAPTER 2: MINISTER FOR WESTERN SYDNEY**

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The NSW Government appointed the first ever Minister for Western Sydney in 1997. The Government has continued its commitment to Western Sydney by again appointing a Minister for Western Sydney following its successful re-election in March 2003. The Minister regularly meets with the region's local and State Government, business and community leaders. These meetings inform the Minister of regional developments, and the Minister ensures that Western Sydney economic, social and environmental issues are raised at the heart of Government, in Cabinet.

The Office of Western Sydney was established by the Government in January 1998 as the key agency to advance the interests of Western Sydney. It provides high-level strategic advice to Government on Western Sydney issues. The Office provides strategic leadership by delivering innovative whole-of-region initiatives to advance the economic, social and environmental priorities for the region.

On 2 April 2003, the Office of Western Sydney was re-established as a branch of the Department of State and Regional Development. The Office is located on the Westmead Campus of the University of Western Sydney and in the Macarthur area at Campbelltown.

In 2003-04 the Office of Western Sydney will continue to highlight the Government's commitment to Western Sydney. The Office will liaise with mainstream agencies to drive and co-ordinate regional action plans in key priority areas identified by Government and the Western Sydney community.

## **CHAPTER 3: FUNDING FOR WESTERN SYDNEY FOR 2003-04**

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New South Wales Government initiatives for Western Sydney are presented in sections focusing on four key priority areas for the region:

- ◆ securing jobs and investment;
- ◆ supporting families and communities;
- ◆ protecting the environment; and
- ◆ better Government services.

The initiatives outlined provide an indicative rather than an exhaustive list of all programs and expenditure which will impact on Western Sydney in 2003-04.

### **3.1 SECURING JOBS AND INVESTMENT IN WESTERN SYDNEY**

The Western Sydney economy has increased by an unprecedented 27.7 percent since 1996. The region represents 10 percent of the Australian economy, with Gross Domestic Product of more than \$55.69 billion a year and economic output estimated at \$77 billion for 2003. More than 150 of Australia's top 500 companies are located in Western Sydney. Over the last 20 years, Western Sydney's population growth has been over one-and-a-half times as large as that for the whole Sydney Statistical Division. The population has increased by 38 percent compared to 23 percent for the entire Sydney area. By 2015, major expansion in the region will see the arrival of 220,000 new residents, 100,000 additional workers and an expected gross turnover of \$80 billion.

More than 350,000 new additional jobs are needed in Western Sydney in the next two decades to meet the region's rapid population growth, from 1.75 million in 2001 to 2.1 million in 2021. Alone, private sector investment in the region is unlikely to create enough jobs to meet demand.

The Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board has compiled the Western Sydney Development Portfolio, a listing of 86 major public and private sector development projects. If these current projects and future council-backed proposals proceed as planned, they will be worth up to \$42 billion, create 132,000 full-time jobs and 55,000 new housing lots. These new building projects are likely to retain Western Sydney's reputation as the fastest growing region in Australia.

Public sector developments which have commenced include the Parramatta Rail Link (over \$1.6 billion), Windsor Road upgrade (\$323 million), Great Western Highway upgrade (\$460 million including \$100 million Federal funding), and the Western Sydney Orbital (\$1.5 billion privately and Federally funded). The 95 kilometre Western Sydney Transitway Network of rapid bus only Transitways, to be constructed by 2010, will provide faster travel and better links to jobs, health, education and leisure facilities. Construction of the first 20 kilometre, \$315 million Transitway link between Liverpool and Parramatta is on schedule for completion in 2003.

The Government is working closely with the community, business, local Government and the University of Western Sydney to create jobs in the region's manufacturing, IT, biotechnology, environmental and knowledge industries. It has delivered record funding for Western Sydney's schools, hospitals, roads,

public transport and law enforcement. The Government is encouraging jobs and investment by building partnerships between business and Government. The Western Sydney Region has around 60 business parks and industrial areas. More than \$6 billion is being invested by the private and public sectors in transport, housing and retail centres. This investment is generating more than 54,000 construction jobs in the short-term and 19,000 jobs in the longer term.

The Government is encouraging massive private sector investment within Sydney Olympic Park, inviting proposals to develop eight sites at a cost of up to \$1 billion. The master plan released in 2002 will bring an additional 3,000 residents and 10,000 workers every day to the site. Development will include around 1,300 apartments, 110,000 square metres of commercial space and 45,000 square metres of leisure, entertainment and retail space. Also being planned at Homebush Bay is an \$850 million high-tech office and industrial campus, which is expected to attract interest from tenants in the pharmaceutical, biomedical, telecommunications and IT sectors.

The Western Sydney capital of Parramatta has entered an era of substantial growth. The Parramatta Government Strategy, which includes projects such as the relocation to Parramatta of NSW Police and the planned relocation of Sydney Water, will support some 5,400 jobs in Western Sydney. This will be supported by additional jobs at the Parramatta Justice Hub. The Parramatta Regional Environment Plan will assist Parramatta to develop as Sydney's second major central business district. This far-sighted Government planning instrument will clarify planning and zoning requirements of the Parramatta central business district and will help create up to 35,000 new jobs over 20 years.

Agencies with head offices in the region are Landcom, the Office of State Revenue, the Heritage Office, the Aboriginal Housing Office, Resource NSW, the Home Care Service of NSW, Office of the Children's Guardian (Parramatta), NSW Rural Fire Service (Rosehill), Department of Housing (Liverpool), Sydney Catchment Authority (Penrith), State Records of NSW (Kingswood), Integral Energy (Huntingwood), Department of Sport and Recreation, Sydney Olympic Park Authority, NSW Lotteries (Homebush Bay), Harness Racing NSW (Bankstown) and the Greyhound Racing Authority (Auburn). These significant employment bases generate additional work opportunities for other businesses in the communities and stimulate additional economic growth for the region.

State Government offices located in Western Sydney to assist business in the region include NSW Agriculture, Department of Community Services, Department of State and Regional Development, Department of Commerce, Roads and Traffic Authority, WorkCover, TAFE, and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources. The Government programs, initiatives and services for which funding has been allocated in 2003-04, and which will encourage investment and job creation in Western Sydney, are outlined below.

## **PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Government continues to invest in major new and ongoing capital infrastructure projects in Western Sydney. This infrastructure includes new and upgraded roads and rail, schools and TAFE facilities, hospitals, correctional facilities, water and sewer infrastructure and community facilities. This commitment complemented by private sector investment, is sustaining jobs growth in the region. Full details of Government capital works can be found in Budget Paper No. 4. **Major capital projects for agencies in 2003-04 include:**

### ***Attorney General's Department***

Over **\$13 million** will be allocated for **court related works in Western Sydney** including programmed maintenance on court houses, continuation of the Metropolitan Children's Court at Parramatta, the upgrade and enhancement of the courthouse at Blacktown, continuation of the construction of a new four-court complex at Bankstown, continuation of construction of a new court house at Mt Druitt and commencement of the construction of the new nine trial courts complex in Parramatta.

The Bankstown complex will be located at the present site and incorporate the area currently occupied by the Police Service. The courthouse at Mt Druitt will serve the growing districts of Mt Druitt/St Marys in the North Western Sydney area. At present, these areas are served by facilities which are located far from the present population.

The new Parramatta complex will significantly improve access to Court services for the people of Western Sydney. They will address the substantial problems arising from the current lack of sufficient court infrastructure to adequately handle an increasing caseload throughout Western Sydney and provide New South Wales with state-of-the-art facilities incorporating existing and emerging technologies and systems associated with the efficient delivery of comprehensive Justice services.

Approximately **\$1.6 million** will be spent on **maintenance work on court houses** in the Western Sydney area.

### ***Department of Corrective Services***

Expansion of correctional facilities will continue at Windsor, Parklea and Silverwater at an estimated cost of **\$6 million**. Construction of Mental Health assessment facilities at Silverwater will continue at a cost of **\$10 million** in 2003-04. New projects totalling **\$4 million** will commence at **Silverwater** and **Parklea** correctional centres and at the **Community Offender Services Program Office in Parramatta**. Total expenditure in the Western Sydney area of **\$19.9 million** is anticipated in 2003-04.

Total inmate beds will increase by 500 when projects are completed at Windsor (August 2003), Silverwater (June 2005) and Parklea (2007).

### ***Department of Education and Training***

Over **\$57 million** is proposed to be spent on the provision of **major new and refurbished facilities for schools** in 2003-04. This includes major upgrading work at Auburn West, Berala, Canley Vale, Carlingford, Fairfield West, Glenbrook, Granville, Holsworthy, Merrylands and Westmead; new halls and canteens at Bankstown, Fairfield Heights and Penrith; and a new library for Sefton High School.

More than **\$7.5 million** is proposed to be spent on the development and refurbishment of **TAFE facilities** at Blue Mountains, Chullora, Granville, Liverpool and Mount Druitt.

### ***NSW Fire Brigades***

In 2003-04, the Brigades will purchase **new fire trucks for eight fire stations** at a cost of **\$3 million**.

### ***NSW Health***

In 2003-04, over **\$63 million** will be allocated for health related capital works in Western Sydney including facilities at Camden, Campbelltown, the Blue Mountains, Penrith and Westmead.

The Asset Acquisition Program provides for the continuation of major upgrading/redevelopment works and other major projects to commence construction in 2003-04, including:

- ◆ **Blue Mountains Hospital Redevelopment Strategy: redevelopment of Blue Mountains Hospital and the Acute Inpatient Unit – Estimated Total Cost \$11.440 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$6.086 million.**

A major redevelopment of clinical and inpatient units at the Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital by consolidating the inpatient areas, relocation and expansion of the dental unit, upgrade of outreach and clinical support services located on campus and the construction of a new helipad.

- ◆ **Children's Hospital at Westmead Child/Adolescent Beds – Estimated Total Cost \$1.514 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$1.044 million.**

The refurbishment of the existing Adolescent Ward to accommodate the new 8 bed inpatient unit, partial refurbishment of an adjacent ward and modifications to the Emergency Department to accommodate facilities for mental health clients.

- ◆ **Campbelltown Ambulance Station – Estimated Total Cost \$1.1 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$1.1 million.**

The relocation of the existing ambulance station to a suitable location to upgrade the services in the Campbelltown area. The new facility will consist of a 10-car station, three paramedic, six general duty and one rapid response unit.

- ◆ **Liverpool Hospital Emergency/Trauma Department Expansion – Estimated Total Cost \$9.1 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$6.756 million.**

The expansion of the existing Emergency/Trauma Department within the Liverpool Hospital, the provision of additional space for paediatrics services and the relocation of pharmacy to the Don Everett Building.

- ◆ **Liverpool Mental Health Facilities – Estimated Total Cost \$26.9 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$10.726 million.**

A purpose built facility to provide 50 acute inpatient beds, ambulatory care, administration and research services in a 4 storey building on the Liverpool Hospital campus.

- ◆ **Macarthur Sector Strategy: redevelopment of Camden Hospital, the upgrading of Campbelltown Hospital; and a child care centre in Camden/Wollondilly – Estimated Total Cost \$108.667 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$8.474 million.**

Redevelopment of Camden Hospital, the upgrading of Campbelltown Hospital; and a child care centre in Camden/Wollondilly.

- ◆ **Neonatal Emergency Transport – Estimated Total Cost \$6.483 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$1.566 million.**

This project will provide a purpose built facility for the Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transfer Service (NETS) including a new helipad for the Westmead Campus and co-location of the Child Flight base.

- ◆ **Nepean Hospital Emergency Redevelopment and Extension – Estimated Total Cost \$8.6 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$6.874 million.**

Redevelopment and extension of the existing emergency department to meet expanding service needs. The works will be phased due to the need to work within the existing department. The new extension and refurbished areas will accommodate acute treatment areas, paediatric treatment areas, shortstay/observation ward, administrative and public facilities.

- ◆ **Nepean Clinical Service Enhancements – Estimated Total Cost \$0.3 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$0.250 million.**

Provision of a new cardiac catheter suite at Nepean Hospital.

- ◆ **Westmead Ambulatory Procedures Centre – Estimated Total Cost \$6 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$2.176 million.**

This development will provide an integrated one-stop centre, including a new endoscopy suite, upgraded pre-admission clinic and day surgery/perioperative unit.

- ◆ **Westmead Hospital Breast Centre – Estimated Total Cost \$3.821 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$0.964 million.**

The new facility will provide a statewide service including research, education program, and breast screening programs and analysis of data supplied by a network of multi-disciplinary breast clinics at Westmead, Liverpool, Nepean and other Hospitals.

- ◆ **Western Sydney Strategy - Estimated Total Cost \$178.5 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$12.625 million.**

Westmead Campus - A major upgrade in the areas of rehabilitation, allied health, cancer care, cardiac services, maternity, imaging, patient wards.

Auburn Hospital – Upgrade of ambulatory care type function at Auburn Hospital.

St Joseph’s Hospital Auburn – Expansion of psycho-geriatric services.

Lottie Stewart Hospital – Realignment of services.

- ◆ **Western Sydney Energy Performance Contract – Estimated Total Cost \$6.671 million, 2003-04 Allocation \$4.821 million.**

Installation of a gas fired cogeneration system and associated support infrastructure at the Parramatta Linen Service, Blacktown/Mount Druitt hospitals and upgraded lighting, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, building management systems, power factor correction and water management systems to achieve energy savings at several hospitals and Community Health Centres within the Western Sydney Area Health Service (WSAHS). The project will generate annual guaranteed savings of \$1.1 million and has a savings guarantee period of 5 years.

This is by far the largest energy performance contract undertaken within NSW Health and the project will reduce the WSAHS energy consumption by 4.6 million megajoules and eliminate the emission of 9,060 tonnes of carbon dioxide. This will significantly improve the WSAHS performance against the Government Energy Management Policy targets.

## **Housing**

The Department of Housing proposes that more than **\$23 million** will be allocated for **capital expenditure** in Western Sydney, for the construction or purchase of 186 new public and community housing properties including 11 new properties for crisis accommodation. This includes **\$11.3 million for public housing** and **\$11.7 million for community housing**.

Around **\$101.5 million** will be expended on **capital improvements** to existing public and community housing stock. Under this program, some 16,080 public and community housing properties will be improved. An estimated \$27.1 million is to be spent on public housing stock for repairs and maintenance.

The Minto Renewal Project will redevelop approximately 800 townhouses on the Minto public housing estate over a 10-year period. In partnership with the private sector, the project will replace the existing

stock with a mix of new private and public housing that will better meet client needs. Work is continuing on stage 1 of the project during 2003-04.

The NSW Aboriginal Housing Office's estimated **expenditure for new housing** (acquired or constructed) in Western Sydney is **\$1.991 million**.

### ***Department of Juvenile Justice***

**\$34.5 million** has been estimated for the **Juvenile Justice Centres** (Cobham at Werrington, Reiby at Airds, and the new Young Women's Facility at Lidcombe). Capital works upgrades set for completion in 2004-05 will see the capacity of Cobham and Reiby increased from 80 to 135 and a specialist Young Women's Facility constructed at Lidcombe to house 46 female juvenile offenders. The centres offer various developmental programs including access to education and training, life skills development, specialist counselling and pre-release support services. The Lidcombe facility on completion will also offer on site gynaecological, obstetric, dental and medical facilities.

### ***National Parks Service***

An estimated **\$300,000** will be provided for the establishment of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's **Blue Mountains Regional Office, at Katoomba**, as part of the Katoomba Revitalisation Project.

Expected expenditure in 2003-04 for the **construction of the World Heritage Visitor Centre at Bilpin** is **\$1.8 million**.

The proposed funding for **construction of a new administration building for the National Parks and Wildlife Service** in south western Sydney is approximately **\$375,000**. This new area Office will provide service to the public and assist in better managing the protected areas of south western Sydney.

### ***Sydney Olympic Park Authority***

The total for the Capital Works Program is **\$10.789 million**.

The Sydney Olympic Park Authority Capital Works Program 2003-04 includes an allocation of **\$250,000 for the Tennis Centre Court Reconstruction** to maintain an international standard of playing surface.

**\$6.039 million will be allocated to parkland development** works for the use and enjoyment of Western Sydney residents and visitors to Sydney Olympic Park. Works will increase the amount and amenity of recreational space and will provide educational, historical, scientific and cultural attraction. Works will include additional landscaping, picnic facilities, shade structures, cycle ways, a people mover train system, educational technology pods and supporting infrastructure.

**\$0.4 million will be allocated for an extension of the recycled water pipeline** from the water recycling plant at Sydney Olympic Park to new urban development at Bay West to service approximately 2,000 dwellings. This will help maximise the production of recycled water and reduce demand on potable water.

**\$1.5 million has been allocated to Master Planning & Property Development**. The Sydney Olympic Park Authority will be selling a number of development sites for commercial and residential development which in turn will provide substantial proceeds back to Government.

The Sydney Olympic Park Authority will allocate **\$1.75 million for asset replacement/renewal** to maintain the significant public assets such as parklands, water features, pavements and public art assets.

**\$1 million** has been allocated for minor capital works related to public safety issues, security equipment and other operational capital expenditure.

### ***Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources***

The Metropolitan Development Program, which includes planning for large-scale future growth areas in both the existing metropolitan and greenfields areas, continues to successfully progress land release in Western Sydney. Glenfield Road has been rezoned and local environmental studies and plans are underway at a number of sites including Edmondson Park, Harrington Park Stage 2, South Hoxton Park, Spring Farm and Elderslie in the South West sector and Riverstone, Balmoral Road and Medallist in the North West sector. Regional structure planning is taking place across the investigation areas of Bringelly in the South West and Marsden Park in the North West.

Future patterns of growth in Western Sydney will aim to achieve a more sustainable form of development integrating the needs of the economy, community and the environment. The Government remains committed to achieving quality planning and urban design outcomes. Co-ordinated planning and the delivery of social and physical infrastructure is underpinned by a fifteen year blueprint to ensure appropriate services are available at the same time as the new housing land.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources, estimates **\$25 million will be spent on land purchases in 2003-04** for requirements such as transport and service corridors, regional parklands and open space reserve. Disposal of properties no longer required for planning purposes is estimated at \$4 million in 2003-04.

During 2003-04, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources, jointly with Landcom, will be finalising the selection of private sector tenderer and arrangements for the **development of the Rouse Hill Regional Centre** under a partnership agreement. The Regional Centre will provide retail, commercial, educational, recreational, transport and community facilities for the residents of the fastest growing area of Sydney. The estimated cost of the development is **\$1 billion** and Stage One is planned to open in 2005.

### ***NSW Police***

NSW Police estimates expenditure in 2003-04 across the Local Area Commands covering the Western Sydney region (as shown in the map on p2) will be **\$292 million**.

Initiatives across Western Sydney include:

- ◆ Provision of a **police station at St Marys** with a total allocation of \$10 million over three years (**\$2.5 million in 2003-04**);
- ◆ Construction of a **Forensic Research and Investigation Science Centre (FRISC)** at a total cost of **\$3.6 million**;
- ◆ Construction of a **police station at Cabramatta** at a total cost of **\$13.85 million (\$3.439 million in 2003-04)**;
- ◆ Provision of Digital Film Processing Equipment and Livescan Fingerprint equipment at Parramatta;
- ◆ Continuation of Operation Viking across the Western Sydney area.

## ***Roads and Transport***

In 2003-04, it is anticipated that the Government will spend more than **\$1.192 billion** on Western Sydney roads and public transport infrastructure, including:

- ◆ **\$82 million** on The North West Transitway Network;
- ◆ **\$40 million** on the construction of the Liverpool to Parramatta Transitway;
- ◆ **\$10.5 million** for the development and construction of other Transitways;
- ◆ **\$53.0 million** to upgrade Windsor Road including:
  - Widening from Showground Road to Norwest Boulevard
  - Widening from Norwest Boulevard to Roxborough Park Road
  - Widening from Acres Road to Old Windsor Road
  - Widening from Merriville Road to Schofields Road
  - Widening from Schofields Road to Mile End Road
  - Widening from Mile End Road to Boundary Road
  - Widening Boundary Road to Henry Road
- ◆ **\$18 million** to widen the Great Western Highway at Leura;
- ◆ **\$6 million** to widen the Great Western Highway at Lawson;
- ◆ **\$18 million** to widen Hoxton Park Road from Brickmakers Creek to Hill Road;
- ◆ **\$16.7 million** to widen The Horsley Drive from Mimosa Road to Lily Street and Landon Street to Fairfield Street;
- ◆ More than **\$55 million** on Road Maintenance Works including:
  - Reconstruction 20km of The Northern Road between the Camden Valley Way and the M4
  - Reconstruction 7km Cattai Road between Old Pitt Town Road and Sackville
- ◆ More than **\$24 million** on Traffic Management Works;
- ◆ More than **\$6 million** on Road Safety Works;
- ◆ More than **\$9.65 million** is allocated to be spent for car parks and interchanges in 2003-04, including \$3.7 million for the Mount Druitt bus rail interchange, \$3.6 million for Wentworthville car park and \$2.2 million for the Emu Plains interchange and car park;
- ◆ **\$420 million on Stage One of the Parramatta Rail Link project works** including the Parramatta Transport Interchange. Stage 1, Epping to Chatswood is a \$1.6 billion project (2000 dollars), due for completion in 2008;
- ◆ **\$138 million** will be provided for **rail infrastructure** maintenance throughout Western Sydney;

- ◆ **\$152.4 million** will be spent on **new Millennium trains**;
- ◆ **\$6.9 million** has been allocated for the continuation of works on **41 new cars to service outer suburban areas, including the Lower Blue Mountains**;
- ◆ **\$2.0 million** will be provided for **conversion of 28 motor rail cars to trailers**;
- ◆ **\$5.7 million** will be provided for **train stabling and servicing facilities** at Blacktown expanding capacity from 84 to 126 cars;
- ◆ **\$64 million** will be spent on **maintenance and operations of railway stations** in Western Sydney;
- ◆ **\$0.5 million** will be spent on **car parks** at Claredon and East Richmond (stage1);
- ◆ **\$1.3 million** will be spent on the **replacement of the overhead footbridge** at Faulconbridge;
- ◆ **\$5.0 million** will be spent on the **extension of the train visibility monitoring system** to include the Auburn to Westmead/Granville to Liverpool/Minto to Macarthur signal areas;
- ◆ **\$9.7 million** will be spent on completing **East Access upgrades at CityRail stations** at Cabramatta, Granville, Guildford, and Mount Druitt and improving access at Blaxland; and

The **Waterways Authority** will spend a total of **\$730,000** in 2003-04 on the construction of the Homebush Bay West small boat facilities, wharf maintenance in Parramatta and Rydalmere, remediation of the Eastern side of Homebush Bay and the replacement of navigation aids for the Parramatta and Hawkesbury Rivers.

### ***Sport and Recreation***

Construction of a world-class **drag racing facility at Eastern Creek** is underway. **The \$20 million plus project**, designed for 25,000 spectators, is due for completion at the end of 2003. It will result in the creation of some 300 construction jobs to build a 1.2 kilometre track, a 60 metre burnout area, a 400 metre timed section, a 700 metre braking area and a 40 metre safety strip.

**\$0.472 million** has also been allocated for capital works at **Parramatta Stadium**.

### ***Government Trading Enterprises and State owned Corporations***

As part of its WaterPlan 21, **Sydney Water** anticipates spending more than **\$200 million** on a **water and sewer infrastructure program in Western Sydney** in 2003-04. This includes the:

- ◆ Upgrade and amplification of the sewage treatment plants and transfer pipes in the **Georges River Catchment (\$49 million)** to meet growth and improve wet weather performance;
- ◆ Completion of the upgrade and amplification of **Penrith sewage treatment plant** and the transfer of sewerage flows from Glenbrook STP to Penrith STP (**\$16 million**);
- ◆ Commencement of construction of **West Camden and Richmond Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrades (\$12 million)**;
- ◆ Improvement of the reliability of **sewage treatment plants (\$15 million)**;
- ◆ **Upgrade of approximately 45 sewage pumping stations** to reduce the risk of dry weather sewerage overflows (**\$36 million**);

- ◆ Relining and renewal of **sewer mains (\$15 million)**;
- ◆ Renewal of **water mains (\$13 million)**;
- ◆ Completion of sewerage services to approximately 1,170 properties in the **Oaks and Oakdale villages (\$5 million)**;
- ◆ Continuation of the program to provide sewerage services to 3,000 properties in the **Blue Mountains (\$4 million)**; and
- ◆ Provision of augmented **sewerage infrastructure** to provide for growth in the **West Camden area (\$7 million)**.

The **Sydney Catchment Authority** will continue the \$150 million Warragamba Dam major upgrade in 2003-04 with expenditure in the order of **\$12 million** to be spent on **site restoration, and upgrading of spillway gates**. The Authority will also allocate around **\$21 million** for the **renewal of capital assets** at Warragamba Dam, Warragamba Pipelines, Blue Mountains Dams, metropolitan dams, upper canal and Prospect Reservoir.

**Integral Energy** will invest nearly **\$137 million** in capital works for Western Sydney in 2003-04. Significant projects commenced or continued in 2003-04 include:

- ◆ **Wetherill Park Transmission and Zone Substation (\$21.7 million)**. This project will address the significant industrial development activity in the Wetherill Park area. The project is due for completion in 2006.
- ◆ **East Liverpool Transmission Substation Augment (\$23.4 million)**. To meet increasing demand, a transmission substation near the Liverpool CBD will be established. The project is due to commence in 2005 and will be completed in 2008.
- ◆ **Glenmore Park Zone Substation Augment (\$3.7 million)**. Will cater for the increasing demand for average household electricity. This work commenced in 2002 and is scheduled for completion in 2004.
- ◆ **North Richmond Zone Substation Augment (\$5.6 million)**. Will enhance the reliability of electricity supply to customers in the North Richmond Area and is due for completion by the end of 2004.

**Integral Energy's** whole of network expenditure including Western Sydney includes:

- ◆ **Transmission System Refurbishment (\$37.1 million)**. This investment will replace system assets to help maintain customer service levels, and improve the safety and environmental impact of the electricity system. This includes \$3 million on major power transformer replacements/refurbishments in Western Sydney, Blue Mountains and other locations.
- ◆ \$1.3 million of this total will be spent on major power transformer replacements in the Southern Highlands and Blue Mountains and at other locations throughout the Integral Energy system.
- ◆ **Distribution System Maintenance (\$16.2 million)**. The investment includes the maintenance and repair of overhead and underground systems, the regular inspection of the electricity system and the repair of the system following incidents such as storms and vehicle impacts.

- ◆ **Preventative Vegetation Management (\$15.4 million).** This is an ongoing program designed to improve the delivery of electricity to customers.
- ◆ **Industrial & Commercial Customer Connections (\$10.7 million).** This ongoing program will streamline the connection of new industrial or commercial customers to the electricity system in the Western Sydney, Illawarra and Southern Highlands areas.
- ◆ **Underground Residential Development (\$10.8 million).** This program ensures the construction of new underground distribution assets in new urban land release areas occurs in a timely manner to meet customer needs.
- ◆ **Distribution Substation Augmentations (\$9 million).** This ongoing program involves the replacement of transformers with larger capacity units.
- ◆ **Distribution Works Program (\$7 million).** This ongoing program identifies essential distribution system development works required throughout our franchise area to maintain community safety, customer service levels and business performance.
- ◆ **Environmental Enhancement Program (\$1 million).** This ongoing program identifies works which will reduce the impact Integral Energy's network upon the environment, primarily via insulation of overhead lines and/or their replacement with underground cables in sensitive locations.
- ◆ **Reliability Enhancement Projects (\$2 million).** This ongoing program targets the poorest performing areas of the electricity network for corrective action.

**EnergyAustralia** estimates expenditure in 2003-04, on electricity distribution capital works in the Bankstown and Auburn Local Government areas will be **\$10.4 million**.

**Landcom** will continue to release strategic industrial land in 2003-04 to provide local employment opportunities. In Narellan, Smeaton Grange sites will be available for sale. Potential exists for the generation of around 120 jobs. **Infrastructure** expenditure totals **\$2 million**. A further 100 hectares remain to be developed over the next four years, having the potential to provide 500-600 jobs.

Construction of Austool Innovation Park in Ingleburn Industrial Estate will provide up to 20 development sites for the Australian Tool Making Industry. **Landcom** is building the Austool headquarters on one of the sites which will provide R&D, training and testing facilities with the potential to boost the industry and make it internationally competitive. **Infrastructure works and building total \$7.5 million**.

Landcom's innovative Park Central development in Campbelltown will create 400 mixed-use home sites including apartments, terraces and live/work accommodation. Also proposed within the site is a 300-unit retirement village to be developed by the private sector. Infrastructure expenditure totals **\$10 million** for stages 1 and 2.

Landcom will create approximately **800 new homesites** with total expenditure being approximately **\$76 million** to be spent in 2003-04 for these homesites and a further 1,200 new homesites in 2004-05.

In addition to providing homesites and associated infrastructure, Landcom is providing strategic infrastructure at:

- ◆ **Stanhope** – with its partner on the Stanhope Gardens neighbourhood shopping centre with 20 specialty and retail outlets and a supermarket. The centre will be open in 2004 at a cost of **\$14 million**.

- ◆ **Rouse Hill Regional Centre** –while still in the planning phase it is anticipated the Centre will provide 100,000 square metres of retail floorspace and 100,000 square metres of commercial floorspace, 1,200 residential dwellings, two schools, community facilities, recreational and open space areas and public transport. Up to 5,000 jobs will be created.

## STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

The Department of State and Regional Development will fund the **Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board** to the extent of **\$100,000 for administration costs**, in 2003-04. The Board will continue to advise the Government on the economic development of the region. In addition, over **\$500,000** will be made available to eligible small and medium businesses in Western Sydney through the **Small Business Development Programs**.

In 2003-04, assistance will be provided to Western Sydney projects through the **Industries Assistance Fund** on a case by case basis. The Department will also provide small business advice to new business starters and newly established businesses through **Small Business Advisory Centres** at Blacktown, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Parramatta and Penrith at an estimated cost of **\$394,000**.

**The Business Centre, Parramatta** provides a complete service to the Greater Western Sydney business community. The Centre's team of business development managers provides expert advice and help to deliver the Department's programs. The Centre hosts regular business seminars and briefings as well as providing business and industry databases and other resources to assist small businesses. 150 events are planned for the Centre during 2003-04.

The Department of State and Regional Development funds three Technology Awareness Groups (TAGs) which enable firms to learn about innovation and leading edge management techniques. Estimated expenditure on TAGs for 2003-04 is **\$60,000**.

The Government is committed to spending **\$16 million** between 2001 and 2004 on the **redevelopment** of the historic town of **Katoomba** in the Blue Mountains and the nearby major tourism attraction, the **Echo Point Lookout**. In 2003-04, an estimated **\$1 million** will be spent on the redevelopment of the Katoomba Civic Centre.

In 2003-04, **Tourism New South Wales** expects to spend **\$290,000** on tourism initiatives for the Blue Mountains and **\$262,000** for the rest of the Western Sydney region.

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES

Funding levels in 2003-04 for the **Western and South Western Sydney TAFE Institutes** and **Southern Sydney TAFE areas** will support Institute profiles which reflect industry trends and customer needs.

An estimated **\$10 million** will be available to support **Industry Training Programs** in Western Sydney during 2003-04 through the various programs delivered by the Program Field Units within the Department of Education and Training's **Industry Training Service Centres** located at Bankstown, Liverpool and Parramatta.

An additional **\$25.98 million** will be made available statewide for teacher quality and teacher supply initiatives in 2003-04. This includes additional teacher scholarships, retraining and accelerated teacher training programs. Students in government schools and TAFE colleges in Western Sydney will benefit from this initiative.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The fastest growing industry projected from 1999 to 2005 in Western Sydney is Information Technology-Communications. NSW has over 42 percent of Australia's information and communications technology workforce. Western Sydney has the largest number of Australian-owned information and communications technology companies.

The Office of Information Technology is responsible for developing and driving the use and management of information and communications technology within Government, and in industry and the community. It plays a key role in driving the use of online government services such as via the Internet, as the use of government services delivered online in Australia increased from 31 percent in 2001 to 46 percent in 2002.

*connect.nsw* is a whole-of-Government strategy for the use of information technology to streamline internal government practices, reduce costs and improve service delivery for the NSW community. In 2003-04 the *connect.nsw* program will continue to support and enhance established government online services such as ServiceNSW (the NSW Government Portal), the Government Online Bookshop (where you can purchase or download free government publications) and the Address Changing facility (which enables the community and business to notify their change of address details to their chosen Government and non-government organisations at one Internet site).

The Government portal [www.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nsw.gov.au) (**ServiceNSW**) is the community's one stop Internet entry point to NSW Government. Established in 1998, the portal provides seven day, 24 hour access to more than 3,700 links to government information and services. In 2003-04, ServiceNSW will be enhanced and provide access to new online services as they become available.

The Government ICT Development Centre, located in Parramatta, has been established as a base for strategic, multi agency initiatives that will deliver enhanced services to the community and business. Two key Government multi agency initiatives are located at the Centre – connectingBusiness and the Better Service Delivery Program.

NSW is committed to simplifying dealings between business and Government to reduce compliance and regulation costs. The four-year, \$32 million connectingBusiness program, will streamline business licensing practices and systems across 32 government agencies. Completion Phase 1 in the first half of 2003 has enabled almost 500,000 business proprietors and around 7,500 licensees of motor dealerships, travel agencies and pawn broking and second-hand dealerships to lodge and pay their business registration and licence renewals via the new Online Licence Renewal Service. In 2003-04, work will commence on Phase 2 which is the progressive implementation of the Government Licensing System, which will replace 70 different licensing systems currently in use.

The Human Services Agencies **Better Service Delivery Program** will improve client referral services between government agencies in the Human Services Sector and non-government organisations. The program involves the implementation of ServiceLink and ReferralLink. ServiceLink is an online directory of services provided across NSW by government and non-government organisations. ReferralLink is a common approach to collecting and communicating client referral information between government and non-government organisations. The Program has also commenced the process, delivering computers, communications links and training support to around 1,000 non-government organisations to facilitate online communication with each other and government agencies. In 2003-04 delivery of computers, communications links, training and implementation of ServiceLink and ReferralLink will be completed for non-government organisations in Western Sydney.

The joint Government and Industry **ICT Skills Action Plan** focuses on the development of ICT skills in Government, industry and the community. In 2003-04, the Office of Information Technology will continue to work with industry, Government and community organisations to implement the plan

including ongoing development and implementation of the community education and awareness program throughout NSW and Western Sydney.

## **AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture in the Sydney Basin (Western Sydney and the Hornsby Shire) creates economic activity worth some \$4.4 billion per annum and around 11,500 on-farm jobs. The farm gate value of the food, landscape and floral agricultural industries for the area exceeds \$1.069 billion per annum or 14 percent of the State's agricultural production.

Research, advisory, education and regulatory services will continue to be provided in 2003-04 to the diverse and intensive Western Sydney agricultural industries by **NSW Agriculture** staff based at Windsor (District Office), Camden (Elizabeth Macarthur Agriculture Institute), Richmond (Organic Waste Recycling Unit), Flemington (Regulatory Office) and Gosford (Horticultural Research and Advisory Station and National Centre for Greenhouse Agriculture which supports research, development and education for the cut flower and fruit and vegetable industries of Western Sydney). The 2003-04 **Capital Works program for the region** is estimated at **\$2.56 million**. The **regional budget** for 2003-04 is estimated at **\$32.2 million**.

## **ARTS**

In 2003-04, the Ministry for the Arts will increase expenditure on the **Government's Strategy for the Arts in Western Sydney** to **\$1.75 million**. This funding will continue the Government's commitment to working with Local Government on arts development and planning, build on capital investments for arts facilities in the region and expand industry development opportunities including through arts/business incubators.

## **ENERGY EXPLORATION**

Exploration for coal-seam methane in the Camden and Wollondilly Local Government areas continues. Sydney Gas, which has been granted two Petroleum Production Leases in the area, has commenced further exploration drilling and testing on its Stage II area to the east of the production leases.

# **3.2 SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES**

## **HEALTH**

The Government's investment in health services in Western Sydney is estimated at **\$1.6 billion** in 2003-04. This is a \$166 million or 11.9 percent increase over last financial year.

Funding for Western Sydney Area Health Service will increase by \$70 million, or 11 percent to **\$689 million**. Funding for South Western Sydney Area Health Service will increase by \$63 million, or over 11 percent to **\$615 million**. Wentworth Area Health Service will receive **\$260 million**, an increase of \$33 million, or 15 percent.

The Government continues to focus on improving access to hospital emergency departments through a number of new initiatives including a six month trial of **Rapid Emergency Assessment Teams (REATS)** across greater metropolitan Sydney. The REATs are a group of experienced doctors and nurses who see patients soon after they arrive at the emergency department, significantly reducing the waiting time for patients. Auburn, Fairfield, Canterbury, Bankstown, Children's Hospital Westmead, Blacktown/Mt Druitt, Nepean and Westmead hospitals in the Western Sydney region are among the trial

sites which will be evaluated early in 2003-04. Annual funding of approximately **\$3 million** has been identified to continue REATs at successful sites.

Emergency department access is also being improved through the trial of **Emergency Medical Units (EMUs)** across Greater Metropolitan Sydney. EMUs provide better care for patients who do not require hospital admission but need to be under observation. These patients are moved to EMUs rather than waiting in the emergency department, freeing up more emergency beds. In the Western Sydney region, Blacktown, Liverpool, Nepean and Westmead hospitals are trialing EMUs. **\$8 million** in annual funding has been identified for the continuation of this initiative at sites that show positive outcomes following an evaluation of the trial.

Under the Greater Metropolitan Services Implementation Group, **\$23 million** in annual funding will go to a number of initiatives in the Greater Western Sydney area including:

- ◆ **Complex Transplantation** - **\$600,000** for **Westmead Hospital** for the provision of a Transplantation Fellow and support of a statewide Organ Retrieval Program.
- ◆ **Ophthalmology** - **\$400,000** for the establishment of an **Academic Unit at Liverpool Hospital**, plus an additional senior staff specialist and administrative support.
- ◆ **Cardiac Services** - **\$1.2 million**, including over \$1 million for **Nepean Hospital** for extra interventional cardiology services and \$120,000 for extra electro physiology study procedures and area directorship at Liverpool Hospital.
- ◆ **Brain Injury Rehabilitation** - **\$400,000** for additional clinical psychologist, coordinators and equipment at both **Liverpool and Westmead hospitals**.
- ◆ **Bone Marrow transplantations** - **\$2.3 million** comprising \$300,000 for additional medical and nursing staff at **Nepean Hospital** and \$2 million for additional transplant physicians, nursing, gastroenterology, endocrinology, Infectious Diseases, allied health staff and increased capacity for additional transplants and scientists for the **Central Laboratory Service**.
- ◆ **Neurosurgery services** - **\$700,000** including \$500,000 for clinical service enhancements at **Liverpool Hospital and the Campbelltown area** and \$200,000 for network case managers for the **South Western and Western networks**.
- ◆ **Stroke Services** - **\$4.6 million** including the establishment of specific stroke units at **Bankstown, Campbelltown, Liverpool, Nepean, Blacktown/Mt Druitt and Westmead hospitals**.
- ◆ **Renal services** - **\$600,000** including \$400,000 to establish a **new Renal Dialysis Service at Nepean Hospital**.
- ◆ **Radiology** - **\$3 million** across the Greater Western Sydney area for additional medical staff and radiographers and support staff for Liverpool, Westmead, Fairfield and Campbelltown hospitals; department directorships at Liverpool, Westmead and Nepean hospitals; new CT scanners at Auburn, Blue Mountains and Blacktown/Mt Druitt hospitals.
- ◆ **Trauma Services** - **\$200,000** for additional trauma staff at **Nepean and Westmead hospitals**.
- ◆ Over **\$6 million** to further progress the **Metropolitan Hospitals Plan** and fund surgical enhancements at Fairfield, Katoomba/Springwood, Auburn, Blacktown/Mt Druitt hospitals, including orthopaedic procedures and clinical leadership, and additional radiology services for Blacktown/Mt Druitt hospitals.

NSW Health will also provide significant funding to maintain and expand specialised health services in Western Sydney in 2003-04. These include:

- ◆ **Mental health** - Recruitment strategies for mental health clinicians are progressing as part of collaborative efforts between NSW Health, area health services, universities and professional bodies. An extra 50 mental health clinicians were recruited in Greater Western Sydney and a further 50 will be recruited in 2003-04. Recurrent funding was provided last financial year for 48 high level supported accommodation places which will be fully functional in 2003-04. An additional \$2.2 million has been allocated for eight new mental health beds in the Children's Hospital at Westmead. Planning networks between Area Mental Health Services are also being developed to improve the access of young people and adults to appropriate in-patient care. Longer term plans for the commissioning of new in-patient facilities in Liverpool and Blue Mountains hospitals are being developed.
- ◆ \$1 million allocated in 2002-03 for the capital development of the Westmead Millennium Research Institute has been rolled over to 2003-04 as business and project planning for the Phase 2 development of the Westmead Research Hub continues. Phase 2 will increase the physical space available for research and will provide facilities for research into genetic epidemiology, vision, transplantation, infectious disease and microbiology, viral vectors for gene therapy and viral vaccines, as well as four new laboratories for existing research.
- ◆ Under the NSW Carers Program the Government will be providing annual funding in excess of \$465,000 for new carer support services in the three health services to improve responsiveness to the needs of carers of people with chronic illness and disability. In addition, the Government has committed annual funding of \$2 million for non-Government organisations and community groups for projects to improve support for carers in the community. Western Sydney will receive a significant share of this funding.
- ◆ New CT Scanners are being installed and supporting staff recruited at Auburn, Mt Druitt, and Katoomba hospitals, significantly improving the diagnostic capability of these facilities and reducing the need for the transfer of acutely ill patients to access these services.
- ◆ Increased funding of \$3 million for the operating cost of linear accelerators at Nepean Cancer Care Centre and the fourth linear accelerator at the Campbelltown Cancer Centre.

The **NSW Ambulance Service** operates 21 stations, employs 483 staff and uses 108 front-line and specialised vehicles to serve the Western Sydney community. Funding will be provided in 2003-04 for expansion of rapid response paramedics in the South Western Sector and an additional 22 officers within the Western Sydney catchment area.

**Multicultural Health.** In 2003-04, NSW Health will provide in excess of **\$12 million** to fund health services to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in Western Sydney. (ie South Western Sydney will receive around \$7.4 million, Western Sydney around \$4.6 million and Wentworth around \$340,000). The Service of Excellence incorporating Auburn Hospital and the Community Health Centre was awarded \$288,000 in March 2003 through the Greater Metropolitan Transition Taskforce initiative to develop demonstration models for a range of diversity health care situations. The models will aim to ensure people using health services, regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability and language proficiency will be able to access services that can work with them to achieve good health outcomes.

Other statewide and national multicultural health services located in Western Sydney include the Transcultural Mental Health Centre, NSW Multicultural Problem Gambling Service, NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Women's Health at Work Program, Multicultural Mental Health Australia and the 24 hour Crisis Line.

## REHABILITATION AND ROAD SAFETY

The **Motor Accidents Authority** (MAA) is a statutory corporation established to administer the NSW Motor Accidents Scheme. This is the Compulsory Third Party personal injury insurance scheme for motor vehicles registered in NSW. An integral part of the scheme is a commitment to supporting injury prevention and effective injury management. As part of this commitment, the Authority provides support and funding for road safety and rehabilitation projects through the Grants Program. In 2003-04, it will provide funding of **over \$1.8 million on rehabilitation and road safety programs** in Western Sydney. For example, Efficacy of Stimulant Medication in Paediatric Acquired Brain Injury project, \$24,481; chronic whiplash project, \$143,784; Physiotherapy Evidence Database project, \$49,388; Chronic Low Back Pain project, \$18,515; Attendant Carer Support and Training Network project, \$25,000; Spinal Cord Injury project, \$141,250; Cardiac Damage Following Severe Traumatic Brain Injury project, \$55,000; Olfactory Functioning in Children With a Traumatic Brain Injury project, \$6,000; Wareemba Community Living Improved Access project, \$50,000; and the Personal Care Training for SCI Carers project, \$74,500.

The road safety spending will include: Operation Westsafe, \$250,000; NSW Youth Week, \$50,000; Eastern University Games, \$30,000; Basketball Roadshow, \$25,000; Child Pedestrian project, \$300,000; Walk Safely to School Day 2003, \$75,000; Prospective Study of Driveway Injuries, \$5,000; Driveway Safety Grants 2003, \$90,000; Local Government grants, \$300,000; and Arrive Alive grants, \$150,000.

Additional funding may be made available by the MAA Board in December 2003, following consideration of funding applications received by MAA from July.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Department of Education and Training co-ordinates the delivery of education and training services across New South Wales, with responsibilities for: Early Childhood and Primary Education; Secondary Education; Vocational Education and Training; Higher Education; and Adult and Community Education.

Quality education programs and student services are provided in Western Sydney for more than 135,830 students in Government primary schools and 85,700 secondary students and through TAFE NSW Western Sydney colleges. There are now 108,400 students studying at the Western and South Western Sydney TAFE Colleges and a further 22,834 students are enrolled at the Bankstown, Lidcombe and Padstow colleges within Southern Sydney. New South Wales Government schools and TAFE NSW, Australia's leading vocational education and training provider, offer relevant and flexible courses of study that meet students' needs and help prepare them for a secure future.

In 2003-04, the Department of Education and Training estimates that in Western Sydney it will commit:

- ◆ Approximately **\$1.76 billion in operating costs for primary and secondary schools;**
- ◆ **\$40.5 million on school building maintenance;** and
- ◆ More than **\$7.5 million for the development and refurbishment of TAFE facilities.**

By 2007, class sizes will be reduced to a statewide average of 20 in Kindergarten, 22 in year 1 and 24 in year 2, with class size reductions beginning with schools serving the most disadvantaged communities.

Statewide recurrent funding of \$222 million and capital funding of \$107 million over four years is being provided on 2003-04. Recurrent funding of \$6 million and capital funding of \$18.65 million has been allocated. Students in years K to 2 in Government schools in Western Sydney will benefit from this initiative.

To improve teaching quality, additional recurrent funding of \$39 million statewide over four years is being provided for professional development at the school level, with \$6 million being provided in 2003-04. Students in Government schools in Western Sydney will benefit from this initiative.

In 2003-04, **\$0.5 million will be provided for new suspension centres**. These are facilities for students who are on long suspension and have been referred by their school as likely to benefit from a structured program to assist their successful return to schooling as soon as possible.

The Department will continue to implement its **Computers in Schools Program**, which has provided schools in the Western Sydney area with more than **\$55.8 million** worth of computer equipment. During 2003-04, schools in the Western Sydney area will receive additional entitlements which will enable schools to acquire computer equipment to the value of **\$5 million**.

Almost **\$6 million** will be provided to schools and TAFE colleges in the Western Sydney area during 2003-04 for the provision of email and a range of Internet and collaborative services for students and teachers. This includes remote access from home for students and teachers to filtered Internet services, web hosting facilities and helpdesk to support these services. This estimate is based on student and staffing population of Western Sydney being 29 percent of the statewide population.

Additional statewide funding comprising **\$43 million** in recurrent funding and **\$30 million** in capital funding will be provided in 2003-04 for network bandwidth. This initiative will progressively upgrade bandwidth for schools and TAFE colleges through the introduction of new telecommunications services and technologies to enhance Internet access and support e-learning initiatives. Students in Government schools and TAFE colleges in Western Sydney will benefit from this initiative.

The schools in the Western Sydney area will be provided with a **computer coordinator's grant** of **\$6.3 million** and a **technology grant** of **\$5 million**.

\$4.4 million will be allocated statewide to the Technology in Learning and Teaching (TILT) program in 2003-2004. Government schools in Western Sydney will benefit from this initiative.

Over **\$17 million** will be made available for **Back-to-School Allowance** payments to families in Western Sydney in 2003-04.

Over **\$36.8 million** will be provided for the 2003-04 literacy and numeracy strategies in schools throughout Western Sydney as part of the **State Literacy and Numeracy Plan**, of which a significant component will be the Reading Recovery Program. These strategies will include:

- ◆ Western Sydney education services will have the capacity to provide K-8 literacy and mathematics consultants. Each consultant will work with both primary and secondary teachers to ensure the continuity of students' literacy and numeracy development from Stages 1 to 4.
- ◆ The **Counting On** program will continue to address the needs of students who have difficulty in demonstrating mathematics outcomes for Year 6. The program will continue to operate in targeted primary and secondary schools.
- ◆ Schools in Western Sydney will be able to access the **Count Me In Too** and **Counting On** professional development programs aligned to school and individual priorities.
- ◆ Support for implementation of the New English Years 7-10 Syllabus will occur in nine Western Sydney school districts as State training of selected English teachers leading to district English networks being established or invigorated.

- ◆ Fifty-nine secondary schools in the Western Sydney region will continue to implement the TAFE peer tutoring program in 2003. In 2004, additional schools will begin implementing the TAFE accredited peer tutor training program in which senior students are trained to tutor junior students in subject specific reading.

The **Parents as Teachers program** will continue to operate in Western Sydney at Sadleir and Madang Avenue (Mount Druitt) Public Schools. It is anticipated that the Department of Education and Training will provide approximately **\$150,000** to fund this program in 2003-04.

**Reading Recovery** is an early intervention program for students who after one year at school, are experiencing difficulties learning to read and write. It is anticipated that more than **\$6 million** will be allocated to greater Western Sydney for Reading Recovery in 2003-04.

The **Priority Schools Funding Program (PSFP)** will provide additional support to assist school communities to improve students' literacy and numeracy achievements and participation. Approximately **\$7.2 million** will be provided in targeted funding to 132 socio-economically disadvantaged schools in Western Sydney. These schools will be supported by an additional 108 teachers.

Additional funds will be provided to support students and their communities in Western Sydney in response to Government commitments and a number of targeted programs. It is anticipated that **\$1.2 million** will be allocated to these programs.

These initiatives include Government election commitments and targeted programs to support young people at risk of leaving school early.

The **Student Assistance Scheme** provides financial support to those students in greatest need. It is expected that over **\$1.4 million** will be distributed under the scheme to Western Sydney schools in 2003-04.

An additional **\$311,000** will be allocated for the **TAFE Youth at Risk Program** in the region in 2003-04.

An estimated **\$0.6 million** will be provided to schools in Western Sydney to expand the support for Years 9 to 10 students to develop individual school to work plans by providing training and resources to support a whole school, across the curriculum approach to vocational learning.

An estimated **\$0.2 million** will be provided to the nine districts in Western Sydney to implement locally devised strategies to implement the work readiness programs developed in 2002-03.

An estimated **\$0.05 million** will be provided to support the organisation of **interactive careers expos** in Western Sydney.

An estimated **\$0.50 million** will be provided by the Board of Vocational Education and Training (BVET) for work placement co-ordination programs to organise structured work placements for students undertaking HSC VET courses.

An estimated **\$.075 million** will be provided for the Youth Partnership with Arabic Speaking Communities, School to Work Program of which \$50,000 will be provided by the Premier's Department.

The **TAFE NSW Scholarship Scheme** will support further study for all young people who have successfully completed vocational education and training courses as part of their HSC over Years 11 and 12.

In 2003-04, funding of approximately **\$130,600** will be available to students in Government secondary schools in Western Sydney to undertake a **study of languages overseas**. This represents approximately 15 percent of available funds.

In 2003-04, it is likely that funding for 3.0 FTE new **community language** teacher positions will be made available to Government primary schools in Western Sydney to give students the opportunity to acquire, develop and maintain a language during the course of the normal school day. **\$3,000** will be available to allocate to schools to assist with the purchase of resources for the new programs. The 143 teacher positions in Western Sydney will represent almost 50 percent of the total teacher positions in the **K-6 Community Languages Program**.

Approximately **\$4.4 million** will be expended in Western Sydney under the **Vocational Education and Training in Schools Program** for the provision of vocational training by both TAFE and private providers.

## **WOMEN**

The Government continues to commit resources and to work towards improving opportunities for women in Western Sydney. The Department for Women aims to achieve safe, participatory and economically developed communities in which women are full and equal participants; services appropriate to women and girls; and learning communities with evidence based approaches to policy, research and evaluation. Through strategic partnerships, research, policy, and contribution to program development, the Department works with government agencies and non-government organisations for tangible and sustainable outcomes for women across the region.

The Department for Women provides a number of services which benefit women in Western Sydney. The Women's Information and Referral Service (WIRS) provides free, confidential and culturally sensitive information and referral for women. The Department's website provides information on current activities of the Department as well as access to publications available from the agency, and the Women's Gateway portal – [www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au](http://www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au) - continues to be maintained by the Department providing continuous online access to information and links.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Unit has been established within the Department for Women to advance the status and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women through policy and program advice, partnerships and projects.

In 2003-04 the Department for Women has allocated **\$1 million** under the statewide **Women's Grants Program** and it is anticipated that a significant portion of this will be allocated to key projects in Western Sydney.

The Department for Women will provide \$10,000 in sponsorship towards the Western Sydney IT Start Up Award – IT Woman of the Future Award in 2003.

Young women in Western Sydney will be introduced to the benefits of economic empowerment and financial independence through one-day GirlSavvy workshops. The workshops work with local business and professional women mentors on a range of innovative and interactive activities.

Girls in Western Sydney will be encouraged to experience a range of courses, including in IT and non-traditional areas, through the Department for Women's silver sponsorship of the summer schools program.

In 2003-04, NSW Health will provide significant funding to continue addressing women's health priority issues in Western Sydney, including mental health, violence against women, physical activity, smoking and pregnancy, with an emphasis on the needs of women who are socio-economically disadvantaged or from culturally diverse and Aboriginal backgrounds.

NSW Health will provide approximately **\$11 million** for **Women's Health Services** in Western Sydney during 2003-04. Services will include:

- ◆ **\$5 million** to BreastScreen NSW for breast cancer screening and assessment services, providing 68,000 screening mammograms for women over 40 years of age;
- ◆ **\$300,000** for projects to encourage women to have regular pap smears every two years and to support pap test screening by general practitioners;
- ◆ **\$5.1 million** to non-government organisations for a range of women's health services, including cancer prevention, counselling and interventions, anti-violence strategies and support and smoking reduction programs for young women;
- ◆ **\$0.6 million** to be provided to the three regional Area Health Services for a range of activities in the areas of training, health promotion and co-ordination. Specific groups targeted are women who have experienced sexual assault or domestic violence, older women, and women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- ◆ **\$0.2 million** will be allocated to the Western Sydney Area Health Service to provide the NSW Education Program on female genital mutilation;
- ◆ Funding will be provided for innovative projects to build strong partnerships in the community, to enhance social networks and build community capacity that allows women to develop skills and capabilities and facilitates cooperation and participation to improve their health outcomes.

The Government will continue to commit significant funds to services for women in Western Sydney, through the **Department of Community Services**, in 2003-04.

**\$6.44 million** has been allocated to **women's emergency services** throughout the region, in areas such as Bankstown, Liverpool, Fairfield, Macarthur, Auburn, Katoomba, Penrith, Doonside, Rooty Hill and Harris Park for women escaping violence.

**Women's Housing Programs** will receive **\$1.28 million** in areas such as Blacktown, Toongabbie, Campbelltown and Liverpool, under the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.

**\$127,403** has been provided for a **Muslim Young Women's Community Development, Early Intervention Project**.

The **Department of State and Regional Development Women in Business Mentor Program** has allocated **\$33,000** in 2003-04 to run two mentor programs and four workshops in Western Sydney.

The **Legal Aid Commission** will continue to fund the **Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme** in Western Sydney in 2003-04 to the extent of more than **\$813,000**. The scheme, which operates at Bankstown, Blacktown, the Blue Mountains, Harris Park, Hawkesbury, Nepean, Liverpool, Fairfield, Campbelltown, Parramatta and Mt Druitt, provides support for women victims of domestic violence during the process of applying for an apprehended violence order.

## SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The *Families First Strategy* will continue to provide help to families with children under eight years of age, by concentrating on strengthening connections between communities and families. *Families First* assists parents and carers who are expecting or caring for a new baby, parents and carers who are caring for young children and families who need extra support.

In 2003-2004, **\$2.3 million** will be allocated to **the Cumberland/Prospect Network** for children and family services and research projects. These include a **Parent Support** project and an **Early Learning Children's** project.

**\$1.7 million** will be spent on *Families First* in **Nepean** in 2003-04, and will continue the development of a service framework based on local research and consultation with parents.

**\$4.7 million** has been set aside for *Families First* in the **South West Sydney** area. This will encompass continued funding to **Volunteer Home Visiting** and **Family Work** services. An additional **\$595,500** is available in support for families who are caring for an infant or young child, including funding to supported playgroup services. **\$414,800** will go to strategies, such as **Schools as Community Centres** projects, that support parents raising children and develop their local support networks.

The **Mount Druitt Community Solutions & Crime Prevention Package** is a **\$13.95 million** bundle of initiatives, announced by the Premier in October 2002, that is funded over four financial years 2002-2003 to 2005-2006.

Key elements of the Package relevant to DoCS include:

- ◆ **Children, Youth & Families** – a range of programs including: implementing a support strategy for victims of family violence; establishing an Aboriginal Women's Safe Space and culturally appropriate support service; various drug and alcohol initiatives and other intensive support for young people at risk from their own or peers' drug use. A temporary video link facility is provided to Penrith Local Court, pending the construction and operational implementation of Mount Druitt Local Court.
- ◆ **Education, Training and Skills for Employment** – a range of educational initiatives centred on the multi campus Chifley College. These provide support for students and their families at risk, due to a variety of pressures, of early departure from the secondary school system. The program includes two Police and Community Youth Centre (PCYC) initiatives, "Drop In" for at risk 12-18 year olds, and "Youth Connection", which targets 12-25 year olds identified as at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. "Schools as Community Centres" have been established at: Noumea, Lethbridge Park, Tregear and Willmot primary schools.
- ◆ **Community Capacity Building** – this will see the refurbishment of existing, under-utilised community buildings to operate as Family Centre Service Hubs at three sites. It will provide for an improved range of recreational, sporting, cultural and artistic programs to address deficiencies in after school and vacation activities for 7-13 year olds. The program will enable the development of an integrated neighbourhood centre to enhance human services capabilities in Mount Druitt.
- ◆ **Specific ATSI/Pacific Islander Initiatives** – this will establish an identified community meeting place to be managed by the ATSI community. It will fund the leasing of two people movers to ATSI/Pacific Islanders so elders from these communities can deliver crime prevention information and conduct elder patrols of known entertainment "hot spots" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. It will provide funding for three projects for the Pacific Islander community, including

a development worker, a Mount DrUITT edition of Tagata Moana Islander Youth Magazine, and establish an office for the Samoan Community Support Service in Western Sydney.

- ◆ The **Mount DrUITT Comprehensive Family Violence Response and Support Strategy** is also funded through DoCS.

The **Primary Connect Project** has been established to develop a model of service to enhance the capacity to intervene early with children and young people “at risk” before their problems become entrenched. The project uses schools as a non-stigmatising setting in which services for children and their families can be provided. The project will improve outcomes for children from five to twelve years of age by providing co-ordination and links between their schools and community services available to them and their families. The program is designed to help schools effectively identify children who are at risk of, or are experiencing disconnection from school, alcohol or drug use, offending, or mental health problems and to provide the necessary supports for these children and their families. It also considers the best way of achieving integration between families, schools and community services in culturally diverse and indigenous communities.

**Primary Connect** is being implemented as one of the key strategies of the NSW Government's *Better Futures Framework: An Action Framework of Vulnerable Young People in NSW*. Approximately **\$0.4 million** has been made available by the Cabinet Office to pilot the project in the Fairfield and Macquarie Fields communities in 2003-04.

**The Better Futures Regional Strategy** extends to vulnerable young people aged nine to eighteen, the successful early intervention and prevention approach taken for those aged zero to eight under Families First. The Better Futures Regional Strategy will commence demonstration projects in six locations over 2003-04, including one in Western Sydney:

- ◆ In Penrith, the Victoria Street Youth Development Association will be funded (**\$143,361**) to manage the Kingswood Park Youth and Community Development Outreach Project.
- ◆ A Youth Plan is being developed for the Nepean region with **\$50,000** funding.

Funding of the **Schools as Community Centres Program** will be continued through interagency contributions and the *Families First* strategy at Bonnyrigg, Canley Vale, Cabramatta, Fairfield, Curran (Macquarie Fields), and Rosemeadow Public Schools. The program will operate at an additional three locations in the Mount DrUITT District funded through the Community Solution and Crime Prevention Strategy. New projects are expected to commence in 2003-04 at Auburn North and the Meadows (Seven Hills) Public Schools through *Families First* funding. Expenditure in Western Sydney is anticipated to be approximately **\$1.06 million**.

The **Department of Community Services'** (DoCS') primary goal is to assist families, individuals and disadvantaged communities under stress, who require help, guidance or protection to enable them to participate in the community.

A recurrent funding package of \$1.063 billion over the rest of this financial year, and the next five years, was announced by the Minister for Community Services in December 2002. As a result, DoCS' recurrent budget will increase to more than \$1 billion per year by 2007-08.

Community Services Centres and specialist units, such as the Joint Investigation Response Teams and Intensive Support Services, employ caseworkers to provide a range of child protection services and services to children and young people in care. The aim is to reconcile and strengthen family relationships, wherever possible, except where this would jeopardise the safety of the child or children concerned.

There are 13 Community Services Centres, three Joint Investigation Response Teams and two Intensive Support Services across Western Sydney, plus the Cabramatta Street Team.

**Community Services Centres** across Western Sydney will receive **\$57.4 million**.

**Western Sydney Joint Investigation Response Teams** will receive **\$1.02 million**, and **Intensive Support Services**, will receive funding of **\$1.19 million**.

The **Street Team** located at Cabramatta will receive **\$710,000**.

DoCS has recently participated in the formation of the new Shared Services Centre, *businesslink*, which will operate as a common corporate service provider to the three human service agencies in the Department of Housing, Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care and the Department of Community Services.

A headquarters for *businesslink* has now been established in Western Sydney at Liverpool and all relevant DoCS corporate service staff have been transferred to the new entity. DoCS expects to spend **\$24 million** in 2003-04 for the **provision of services provided by businesslink**, representing a substantial increase in DoCS funded activity in Western Sydney.

A number of **Place Management Projects** deliver support to communities in Western Sydney.

**The Miller Task Force – Community 2168** is a multi-disciplinary team established with DoCS and NSW Health as the lead agencies, to address domestic violence, mental health and drug and alcohol issues for children and families in Miller. The program will receive **\$0.260 million** from the Premier's Department and **\$20,000** from DoCS in 2003-04.

In the **Canterbury-Bankstown** area, **\$0.790 million** will be spent over two years for DoCS to host a multi-agency team leading change to promote a coordinated approach, by non-government services and government agencies, in response to domestic and community violence.

With a budget allocation of **\$215,000** for 2003-04 under the **Pacific Islander Student and Family Support Project**, DoCS will purchase services from the community to provide services to children, young people and their families. The project will provide support and a community development strategy.

The Arabic Speaking Youth Partnership, between community and government agencies in Canterbury Bankstown, focuses on the needs of Arabic speaking young people and their families in the area. DoCS' contribution to the Partnership includes 20,000 copies of a Parenting Magazine, focusing on teenagers, have been translated and printed in Arabic.

**Intensive Family Based Counselling** services will be available to the community.

A Community Program Officer has been employed at Condell Park High School under the **Transitions Program** to assist young people and their families through the transition from primary to high school. The program will receive funding of **\$150,000** per annum for two years.

The **Community Services Grants Program** (CSGP) provides funds to community services that assist and support disadvantaged people to maintain their independence and enhance their quality of life.

Funded organisations assist clients and groups in the areas of child protection, family and individual support, community development and youth services. Services include community information, sexual assault counselling, building social capital and support to families in crisis as well as social support to young people.

The Reform Framework for the CSGP has been successfully implemented in Metro West Region including the completion of Service Specifications for 100 percent of projects by end May 2003. The CSGP is providing support to disadvantaged people through the four sub-program streams of Child Protection, Community Development, Family and Individual Support and Youth Services.

**\$28.36 million** will be spent on more than **400 Community Services Grant Programs** in Western Sydney in 2003-04.

The **Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)** provides transitional, supported accommodation and related services to homeless people to achieve the maximum possible degree of self-reliance and independence. The program goals are to resolve crisis, re-establish family links where appropriate and re-establish a capacity to live independently of SAAP. The SAAP Act describes a person as homeless if s/he has inadequate access to safe and secure housing, including those who are in crisis or experiencing domestic violence and are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

To date, SAAP has successfully provided support and accommodation for women, women with children, single men and young people in Western Sydney through Women's Emergency Services, Youth Support Accommodation, Youth Social Justice Strategy projects, General Supported Accommodation, Women's Housing projects and case management.

Throughout Western Sydney, **\$22.9 million** has been allocated for more than **100 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program** projects in 2003-04.

**Out-of-Home Care** is the provision of essential foster and residential care services to support and care for children and young people who are no longer able to live at home with their family.

In Western Sydney, 29 Out-of-Home Care Program projects, consisting of a combination of preventative services, residential, foster care, adoption and group home services, will be supported by **\$9.31 million** in funding.

DoCS licenses and monitors childcare services to make sure they comply with the NSW *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*. In addition, funding through the **Children's Services Program** assists communities to provide childcare and related services.

DoCS plans and funds a range of services including preschools, long day care centres, occasional care centres, vacation care, mobile preschools, mobile childcare services and early childhood services.

Currently, the program successfully provides over **460 childcare and related services** in Western Sydney. **\$21.34 million** in funding has been committed for 2003-04.

The **DoCS Helpline** is central to DoCS' role in child protection to receive, assess and act on reports of risk of harm to children in New South Wales. DoCS works with families and the Children's Court to keep children safe and at home. If the risk is judged to be too great, however, out-of-home care with kin or in an alternative family environment is arranged.

The DoCS Helpline is supported by a unique call centre that uses call centre technology in the professional task of receiving and assessing reports, and responding to requests for assistance from parents, children or young people.

The DoCS Helpline, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, is a statewide centralised point of contact for reporting and has provided consistency to the initial assessment of risk of harm reports. Additionally, the establishment of the Helpline has created 130 new caseworker positions in Western Sydney.

Anyone experiencing domestic violence in Western Sydney can call DoCS' toll-free, **Domestic Violence Help Line**, which is staffed every day of the year, 24 hours a day.

DoCS can also arrange emergency accommodation, negotiate with other government departments, such as Health or Housing, to find additional support services for women and children who need them because of domestic violence.

In 2003-04, **\$18.65 million** will fund the operation of the **Helpline**, and the **Domestic Violence Help Line**.

**Young People.** Through the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program, **After School Youth Services** have been established in Western Sydney at **Penrith, Mount Druiitt and Bankstown**, and will continue to receive funding of **\$1 million** per annum. These services will provide safe and supportive places for Western Sydney young people to go after school.

DoCS will provide **\$151,540** in 2003-04 to employ two **Youth Support Workers (YSWs)** – one in **Auburn-Parramatta** and one in **Blacktown**.

The YSW will be available to young people in the 12–17 year age range who are most at risk of homelessness and violence, those with drug and alcohol dependencies and those in DoCS' care. The project will actively cater to young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, as well as those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and other disadvantaged communities.

**Youth Centres** in the region will receive \$2.83 million, from DoCS' 2003-04 expenditure on the Community Services Grant Program. This includes **\$143,080** for two Youth Support Workers at **Liverpool** and **Campbelltown** who provide services for vulnerable young people and their families.

The **Community Relations Commission** will continue to provide grants to community agencies based in Western Sydney for development of projects and services under its Community Development Grants Program.

It has allocated **\$0.63 million** towards community relations projects with a Western Sydney focus including **Canterbury-Bankstown Community Harmony Round Table, Cabramatta City Watch** and components of the **Arabic Youth Partnership Scheme**.

**\$0.05 million** has been allocated for the operation of **Macarthur-Liverpool** and **Nepean-Blacktown Regional Advisory Councils** which help to foster improved communications between community and Government.

The **Commission for Children and Young People** represents the interests of children and young people throughout New South Wales. The Commission's "Working With Children" unit is continuing to coordinate the employment screening process on people who will be working with children and young people in Western Sydney and to encourage employers to be proactive in creating a safer environment for children and young people through a range of other protective employment practices. The Commission will also continue its research, training and community education activities relating to issues affecting the safety, welfare and well being of children and young people.

In 2003-04, the Attorney General's Department will commit **\$0.04 million** to continue the operation of the **Youth Drug Court** at the Children's Courts in Campbelltown and Cobham at Werrington.

**Juvenile Justice Community Services** at Blacktown, Campbelltown and Fairfield provide the courts with alternatives to custody - **\$4.1 million**.

**Intensive Programs Unit** at Blacktown provides specialist counselling and development programs as an alternative to detention - **\$1.02 million**.

**Youth Justice Conferencing Services** at Campbelltown, Blacktown, Fairfield, and Penrith provide police and courts with statutory alternatives to custody - **\$975,000**.

**Community Based Support Services** – the Department funds a number of community organisations to provide appropriate services to its clients, their families, and the community of western Sydney - **\$1.08 million**.

**Youth Drug Court Pilot Program** based at Liverpool is a four-year initiative to provide diversionary programs to assist young offenders in South Western Sydney who are eligible for Youth Drug Court participation and who have been charged with offences related to their alcohol and other drug use. The program is a cross-agency project with representatives from NSW Health, the Department of Education and Training, and the Department of Community Services - **\$750,000**.

**Metropolitan Regional Office, Werrington** co-ordinates all Department of Juvenile Justice services in the metropolitan area - **\$2.6 million**.

**Juvenile Transport Services** based at Werrington and Campbelltown provide secure transport of juveniles under detention - **\$500,000**.

The **School Student Transport Scheme** provides subsidised travel to and from school for eligible students on Government and private bus, rail and ferry services. The School Student Transport Scheme payments in 2003-04 (including those to private operators, StateRail and State Transit Authority) are estimated to total **\$446.8 million**.

## **SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care was established by the Government to enable better standards of care and support for older people, people with disabilities and their carers, to live successfully in their communities. The Department anticipates that its expenditure in Western Sydney in 2003-04 to assist older people and people with a disability to live independently and to assist those with higher support needs, will be more than **\$259 million**. The Department is placing a stronger focus on prevention, early intervention and basic support through community support, community access and home support initiatives.

Government funding for a wide range of **transport concessions** will be provided to both public and private transport operators to ensure that pensioners, retired senior citizens, veterans and welfare recipients have equal access to services and facilities. In 2003-04, \$233 million has been allocated to subsidise pensioner and welfare concession travel on CityRail and State Transit services. In addition, Western Sydney residents will be able to benefit from the **\$41 million** allocated in 2003-04 for the provision of subsidised pensioner and welfare concession travel on Countrylink services. Services provided by statewide private transport operators have been allocated **\$32.5 million** in 2003-04 towards subsidised pensioner travel.

The Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme provides taxi travel at a half rate subsidy to people who are unable to use public transport because of a qualifying severe and permanent disability. Statewide, \$15.6 million has been allocated for the scheme in 2003-04.

The Government has allocated \$19.2 million to community transport operators in NSW in 2003-04 through the Home and Community Care Transport Sub-program, the NSW Community Transport Program and the Area Assistance Scheme. Community transport aims to address specific transport needs

of frail aged, people with disabilities and their carers, and transport disadvantaged people. **\$4.5 million** has been allocated for **community transport projects** in Western Sydney. This includes \$3.9 million for HACC, \$304,000 for Community Transport Program and \$270,000 for Area Assistance Scheme.

The Department of Local Government will pay **\$12.9 million** to Western Sydney councils in 2003-04 under the **Subsidies for Pensioner Concessions Program** for rate rebates to pensioners.

## **ABORIGINAL PEOPLE**

The Government is committed to addressing the infrastructure needs of Aboriginal communities in Western Sydney and is consulting with Aboriginal people to develop solutions to these needs.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs' Major Grants Program, with grants of up to \$45,000, provides financial assistance to indigenous people and organisations that wish to implement innovative programs that will address the socio-economic disadvantage of members of the Aboriginal community. Funds from the Grants Program are allocated to projects that reflect the social justice priorities of the NSW Government and have the potential to deliver long term benefits.

Funding of **\$0.3 million** is being provided in **2003-04** to maintain a number of designated **Aboriginal Vascular Health Workers** and associated costs for the prevention and management of vascular disease in Aboriginal people.

Approximately **\$0.1 million** is being provided to fund the **Aboriginal Otitis Media Coordinator positions** in Wentworth and South Western Sydney Area Health Services. These Coordinators have been employed to provide local screening programs and referrals as well as promotion and community education initiatives.

**The Education Centre Against Violence** is based in Western Sydney Area Health Service. It will receive funding of **\$0.2 million** in 2003-04 to provide professional education and training on Aboriginal family violence, sexual assault and child abuse.

New South Wales Health provides funding of **\$0.9 million** to **Aboriginal Community Medical Services** in Western Sydney including funds to support improving birthing outcomes for Aboriginal women.

**The NSW Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO)** is undertaking a number of initiatives impacting on Western Sydney in 2003-04 and these include:

- ◆ **New housing** is to be acquired or constructed – estimated at **\$1.991 million**, at:
  - Blacktown/Mt DrUITT area, Penrith/Richmond/Windsor or Blue Mountains area (4 houses)
  - Liverpool area (6 houses)
  - Parramatta (3 houses)
  - Parramatta (3 houses)
  - Campbelltown (2 houses)
  - South Western Sydney (1 house)
- ◆ Funds totalling \$957,000 will be allocated for community and organisational development throughout the Sydney Region;

- ◆ \$2.530 million will be allocated to address the backlog of properties to be repaired under the Community Repairs and Maintenance Program throughout the Sydney region.

The **Aboriginal Child, Youth and Family Strategy** will focus on the needs of Aboriginal children and young people and their families by better coordinated and targeting existing resources, ensuring mainstream resources are meeting the needs of Aboriginal people and by testing new ways of supporting these communities. In 2003-04, funding for the Strategy in Western Sydney will be:

- ◆ **\$0.246 million** in the Cumberland/Prospect region;
- ◆ **\$0.157 million** in the Nepean region; and
- ◆ **\$0.270 million** in the South Western Sydney region.

## **THE CASINO COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

In 2003-04, over **\$2.24 million** will be allocated from this fund for services and programs in Western Sydney to **counter gambling-related problems**. These include the:

- ◆ Auburn Asian Welfare Centre to provide a counselling service for problem gamblers and their families (**\$50,725**);
- ◆ Australian Arabic Communities Council to continue with the provision of specialist counselling services for problem gamblers and their families (**\$119,280**);
- ◆ Australian Lebanese Welfare Group to provide support to vulnerable young people who are experiencing drug/alcohol abuse, homelessness, violence, mental health problems and those with special needs (**\$35,000**);
- ◆ Australian Turkish Social and Cultural Trust to assist in increasing the awareness of compulsive gambling implications on individuals and families of Turkish background and the provision of information, support and counselling for compulsive gamblers and their families (**\$27,522**);
- ◆ Centacare Catholic Family Services to continue with the provision of a counselling service for problem gamblers and their families (**\$226,341**);
- ◆ Credit Line Macarthur (Lifeline Macarthur) to assist with the provision of a gambling counselling service for problem gamblers their families (**\$44,707**);
- ◆ Credit Line Penrith Financial Counselling Service to assist with the employment of a part-time financial counsellor to deliver an outreach service for the Emu Plains area (**\$9,500**);
- ◆ Graceades Community Cottage to assist with increasing the literacy level of Tongan women in the Blacktown LGA so they become empowered to access appropriate assistance for the management of violence, alcohol misuse and gambling. (**\$12,985**);
- ◆ Immigrant Women's Speakout Association to provide women and children from non-English speaking background counselling and advocacy services, information and education about issues relating to domestic violence and child abuse (**\$49,400**);
- ◆ Information and Cultural Exchange to assist with the provision of Music workshops as a means for young people from Arabic speaking backgrounds in Western Sydney to articulate their experiences of the negative effects of problem gambling and to use the art form to discuss positive outcomes (**\$3,107**);

- ◆ Khmer Community of NSW to assist with the provision of a gamblers anonymous support group (**\$6,350**);
- ◆ Lao Community Advancement NSW Co-op Ltd to continue the provision of social, recreational and educational guidance and to counteract the effects of gambling in the Lao community (**\$32,715**);
- ◆ Lifeline Western Sydney (Parramatta) to continue with the provision of a bi-lingual counselling service for problem gamblers and their families (**\$199,940**);
- ◆ Macarthur Migrant Resource Centre to assist with the employment of a community development worker (**\$31,246**);
- ◆ Maryfields Day Recovery Centre to continue with the provision of specific programs for problem gamblers and their families which includes education, counselling and therapy (**\$115,628**);
- ◆ Multicultural Problem Gambling Service - to continue with the provision of a culturally appropriate and skilled multicultural problem gambling counselling and treatment service and specialised training programs for bilingual counsellors working with problem gamblers and their families from non-English speaking backgrounds (**\$521,963**);
- ◆ NSW Indo-China Chinese Association to continue with the provision of counselling and treatment services for problem gamblers and their families (**\$96,614**);
- ◆ NSW Indo-China Chinese Association to specify the issues of domestic violence and other important health issues to the Indo-Chinese community (**\$3,000**);
- ◆ Richmond Community Services to improve access to information and support for men with kids and/or families experiencing separation (**\$22,500**);
- ◆ Spanish and Latin American Association for Social Assistance to resource and develop a community support structure to deal with issues surrounding drug abuse in the Spanish community (**\$29,462**);
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Society – Our Lady of the Way to provide a counselling service for women who have experienced and left a violent domestic situation (**\$22,750**);
- ◆ The Junction Works Inc. to conduct group work for young people who are at risk of destructive behaviour (**\$18,750**);
- ◆ University of Western Sydney to assist with a research program entitled “The psychological causes of problem gambling: A longitudinal study of ‘at risk’ recreational poker machine players” (**\$51,391**);
- ◆ Vietnamese Community in Australia (NSW Chapter) to employ a Vietnamese family support worker who will provide direct casework, counselling, community education and support services for Vietnamese families that have encountered domestic violence, social isolation and social disadvantage (**\$22,500**);
- ◆ Vietnamese Community in Australia (NSW Chapter) to continue with the provision of a community education program and research into problem gambling and to provide counselling for problem gamblers and their families (**\$143,523**);
- ◆ Wesley Counselling Services to conduct a pilot adult education program in the Western Sydney region (**\$38,966**);

- ◆ Wesley Gambling Counselling Services, Penrith to continue with the provision of counselling for problem gamblers and their families (**\$203,541**);
- ◆ Wesley Mission Homeless – Serenity House to assist with the minimisation and prevention of the flow-on effects of gambling and problem gambling (**\$34,246**);
- ◆ Wesley Mission – Serenity House to continue with the expansion of service delivery to meet the needs of residents who are problem gamblers by working in collaboration with the Maryfield Day Recovery Program (**\$33,374**);
- ◆ Youth Insearch to administer and conduct Youth Insearch workshops for young people from the Sydney metropolitan area and NSW rural communities (**\$40,000**). **Community Development and Support Expenditure (CDSE) Scheme.** In 1998, the Government introduced a scheme (the CDSE scheme) whereby any registered club that earns over \$1 million annual profits from its gaming machines may qualify for up to a 1.5% tax rebate if the club spends an equivalent percentage of profits above \$1 million, on qualifying projects such as community welfare, community development, social services and employment assistance. The main purpose of the scheme is to encourage clubs to make donations to front-line community service projects so that the disadvantaged can benefit in a tangible way from the substantial contributions that clubs make to community, charitable and other organisations.

NSW has about 500 clubs that earn more than \$1 million annually in gaming machine profits, approximately 90 of these clubs are located in the Western Sydney region. For the gaming machine tax year ended 30 November 2001, these clubs declared contributions of more than \$17 million to organisations qualifying for CDSE activities. The 2002 CDSE expected expenditure for Western Sydney was \$20 million.

## HOUSING

During 2003-04 the Department will introduce a shared home ownership scheme allowing eligible Departmental tenants in Western Sydney to purchase a share of the home they currently rent.

Under the Department's **Mortgage Assistance Scheme**, homebuyers in Western Sydney will be able to obtain financial assistance of up to **\$12,000** to help overcome temporary difficulties in meeting their home loan repayments.

The Department of Housing will develop a new homelessness service in Western Sydney as part of the implementation of the **Western Sydney Homelessness Strategy**, led by the Department of Community Services. The estimated full year cost is \$250,000 of which at least **\$50,000** will be allocated in 2003-04.

Housing's Western Sydney Region will continue its Outreach services and encourage other service agencies to deliver services to local residents from these outreach offices. Services are provided for areas including: Cranebrook, Willmot, Dundas, Emerton, Airs, Claymore, Miller and Warwick Farm.

The Department will continue to support the *Families First* program, the Better Futures initiative and programs for Aboriginal communities.

The Department of Housing is proposing to commence 20 new leases for public housing and 12 new leases for community housing within Western Sydney.

11,980 households are expected to receive housing assistance in Western Sydney mainly to obtain private rental accommodation. A further 220 households are estimated to require special and disability assistance with private rental subsidies.

An estimated 3,480 households will be newly assisted into public and community housing.

The Department of Housing and the Office of Information Technology are planning the establishment of Metropolitan Technology Centres at Cranebrook and Toongabbie. Future Internet cafes will be explored as opportunities arise through liaison with other Government and community services agencies.

In 2003-04, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources will commit a further **\$1.173 million** to continue planning investigations and development co-ordination for the provision of increased stocks of **land for greenfields housing** in Western Sydney.

About **\$2.1 million** will be spent in 2003-04 under the **Urban Improvement Program** on partnership projects with ten Western Sydney councils. This will achieve better planned town centres integrated with public transport and responsive to community needs in Merrylands, Bonnyrigg, Guildford and Narellan. A new town square will be constructed in Katoomba and design plans prepared for new public spaces in Cabramatta and Auburn. The projects will deliver outcomes that reflect the unique cultural identity of these areas and improve the provision of facilities to the people of Western Sydney.

Up to **\$100,000** will be provided to assist Campbelltown City Council **to maintain regional open space along the Georges River**.

## **SPORT AND RECREATION**

In 2003-04, the Government has allocated **\$200,000 to the South West Sydney and the Western Sydney Academies**. The Western Sydney Academy of Sport is to be incorporated. Through supporting the two regional Academies the Department of Sport and Recreation will assist over 300 athletes from Western Sydney to reach their potential in sport. The New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will continue to service the elite level athletes in Western Sydney in the lead up to the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, estimated expenditure being **\$350,000**.

The **Department of Sport and Recreation** will spend around **\$581,000 on sporting and recreational programs and services in Western Sydney**, including contributions to the Community Solutions programs in Mt Druitt and Canterbury/Bankstown. Around **\$850,000** has been allocated for the development of sporting facilities in Western Sydney in 2003-04 under the **Capital Assistance Program**.

The statewide Youth in Sport Program with Police and Community Youth Clubs (PCYC) is funded to the extent of \$300,000 and some **\$60,000** will be allocated to Police and Community Youth Clubs in Western Sydney through the **Youth in Sport Program**.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

NSW Police has a number of initiatives which improve public safety. It has also adopted a comprehensive Disability Action Plan to address issues of disability and equity in areas ranging from physical access to buildings to recruitment of persons with a disability.

**The Innovative Models of Police and Community Training (IMPACT)** Program provides avenues for communication and development of strong relationships between police and local communities by working together on local projects and training initiatives.

**The Cultural Diversity Workplace Trainers** initiative provides innovative and customised learning opportunities to facilitate a culturally aware policing service. Police will have structured learning experiences to enable them to develop the attributes needed for expert work performance.

**Police Accountability Community Teams (PACTs)** were introduced in February 2002, and reviewed by NSW Police in November 2002. The purpose of the PACTs is to provide a forum where community views about police visibility, police deployment and crime hotspots can be considered by the Local Area Command (LAC) when making decisions about the deployment and tasking of LAC resources. Each LAC is accountable to the local community for those decisions. PACT meetings are held quarterly, and chaired by the LAC Commander. Local Members of Parliament, local Mayors and the heads of the local State Chambers of Commerce are invited to attend meetings. The Commander may also invite other community representatives at his/her discretion. All LACs have held at least one PACT meeting each quarter since its inception. PACTs aim to develop local solutions to local problems in partnership with local stakeholders. This initiative is funded by NSW Police from within its existing budget.

**Youth Liaison Officers (YLOs)** have been in each Local Area Command since March 1998. YLOs were deployed to assist the introduction of the Young Offenders Act 1997, support the Youth Policy Statement, work with the Department of Education and Training to prevent truancy, help prevent juvenile crime through the delivery of Crime Prevention Workshops, build relationships and networks with young people and youth services, be a contact point for local young people, help police better understand their obligations under the Young Offenders Act and generally improve the relationships between police and young people.

**Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLOs)** concept was created in the late 1980s to assist victims of domestic violence and ensure they receive the right advice for their situation. DVLOs are supported by Operational Policy and Programs, Operations Support Command. DVLOs are located in all commands across the State. DVLOs perform a vital role within LACs and are increasingly instrumental in developing strategies to address repeat domestic violence offenders and enhance inter-agency victim support processes.

Over the past 10 years, the DVLO program has helped increase the increased focus on policing domestic violence as a criminal matter. A State Domestic Violence Council is chaired by the Corporate Spokesperson. DVLOs provide support to victims of domestic violence (especially through the court processes), inform police on effective ways to investigate domestic violence, provide assistance to police officers in the form of support and training, monitor and quality control the effectiveness of LAC response to domestic violence and provide a link between the LAC, Local Government and community support agencies working in the area of domestic violence.

The **NSW Attorney General's Department** will allocate around **\$53.4 million** in 2003-04 for services relating to Western Sydney. Approximately **\$39.8 million** of this relates to **expenditure by local courts including magistrates, district courts, the Sheriff's Office and by Community Justice Centres**. The Department will establish a pilot of a specialist **Child Sexual Assault Jurisdiction in Sydney West**. Locations will include Parramatta, Penrith and Campbelltown. The specialist jurisdiction will be staffed by judges, prosecutors and court staff with training in childhood development and child sexual assault issues. It will feature a child friendly remote witness facility to protect children from further trauma and victimisation. Expected expenditure is **\$244,000** for this initiative in 2003-04.

To boost safety on trains, **StateRail** will employ 300 transit officers by the end of June 2003 with an additional 200 transit officers progressively deployed up to December 2004, bringing the number patrolling trains and stations to 500. The Department will continue utilising security measures on CityRail trains including features such as high intensity lighting and closed circuit TV cameras, during 2003-04. **State Transit Authority** buses are equipped with closed circuit TV cameras to enhance safety for both passengers and staff.

## PUBLIC TRUSTEE

The **Public Trustee NSW** provides a skilled Will preparation and estate and asset management service to people of New South Wales. In Western Sydney, offices are located at Bankstown, Blacktown, Liverpool and Parramatta. **\$2.42 million** will be made available in 2003-04 to maintain the offices and provide services in Western Sydney. The marketing program raises awareness of the need to have a professionally drafted Will.

## CORRECTIVE SERVICES

The **Department of Corrective Services** will allocate approximately **\$175.1 million** in recurrent expenditure in 2003-04 in Western Sydney for the **containment and care of inmates**, for the **Community Offender Services Programs** and for **Reporting Centres**.

## SUPPORTING CULTURAL DIVERSITY

41 percent of the people born overseas in the Sydney Statistical Division area in the 2001 census resided in Western Sydney. This equates to 34 percent of all overseas born persons in New South Wales. The proportion of the Western Sydney population born overseas increased from 25 percent in 1981 to 33 percent in 2001. In the Fairfield and Auburn Local Government areas, 53 percent of the population were born overseas at 2001.

Over \$87.7 million will be spent statewide by the Department of Education and Training under the Non-English Speaking Background (NESB) Program in 2003-04. A major proportion of this program will be implemented in Western Sydney. This will include:

- ◆ Approximately 535.6 equivalent full-time English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching positions in schools;
- ◆ Approximately **\$3 million** for the **New Arrivals programs** for school students from language backgrounds other than English;
- ◆ Approximately 80,055 students supported in post intensive ESL programs;
- ◆ Approximately 3,536 newly arrived students supported in intensive ESL programs;
- ◆ Nine Intensive English Centres for secondary age ESL new arrivals students;
- ◆ Nine Multicultural/ESL consultancy positions in five districts and working across Western Sydney;
- ◆ Funding for ESL projects in schools and in Training and Development.

Funding of nearly **\$4 million** will be provided for the **Multicultural Education Plan** in 2003-04. A major proportion of this program will be implemented in Western Sydney:

- ◆ Eight Community Information Officers working across Western Sydney;
- ◆ On site and telephone interpreter services for schools;
- ◆ Grants to schools to support Non-English Speaking Background parent participation;
- ◆ Programs to support refugee students and their families;

- ◆ Funding to support anti-racism programs in schools; and
- ◆ \$36,000 to support anti-racism training programs.

Environment Protection Authority initiatives in Western Sydney in 2003-04 include the continuation of the Market Gardening in a Cultural Diverse Society Project for translation of guidance material, training and community development of farmers of non-English speaking backgrounds in the Sydney Basin.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2003-04, the **Western Sydney and Macarthur Area Assistance Schemes** will receive **\$4.06 million** from the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources. Under the scheme, grants are provided to community organisations for social and community development projects. These projects connect communities through partnerships with local councils and community organisations, build community leadership and capacity and promote safe communities.

### 3.3 PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

#### WESTERN SYDNEY ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

The Western Sydney Environment Report and Strategy were endorsed by the NSW Cabinet Office in October 1999 to provide an integrated approach to the region's environment. Under the Strategy, four action agendas were established:

- ◆ ***Celebrating the successes*** by acknowledging and promoting environmental achievements and initiatives through the annual Western Sydney Environment Week and the Western Sydney Children's Environment Art Calendar competition.
- ◆ ***Developing an integrated regional approach*** by establishing the Western Sydney Environment Taskforce in September 2000 to identify and drive an integrated approach to environmental issues in the region. The Western Sydney Environment Taskforce has high level representation from all three levels of Government, industry, national industry associations, research institutes and community organisations.
- ◆ ***A key role for industry*** in sustaining the region's environment has been emphasised through industry involvement in Western Sydney Environment Week, the Environment Taskforce and its Industry Working Group and the Environmental Management and Global Excellence categories in the Western Sydney Industry Awards.
- ◆ ***Encouraging research, development and innovation*** by establishing a research agenda for the region's environment and the establishment of a Taskforce Research Working Group.

Key initiatives include:

The Western Sydney Ministerial Environment Taskforce, established by the Minister for Western Sydney in September 2000, one of the four key action agendas endorsed by the NSW Cabinet. The Taskforce leads the implementation of strategic initiatives to deliver integrated and improved environmental outcomes for Western Sydney. The Taskforce and its working groups bring together high-level representatives from more than 50 organisations representing three levels of Government, national environment industry associations, research institutes and the community. The Taskforce has been highly successful in mobilising resources and support from State and commonwealth government agencies, industry bodies, research institutes and environment organisations to develop and deliver

innovative initiatives addressing water, energy, waste, salinity, industry and research priorities for the region.

Western Sydney Environment Week, with more than 120 community events in June 2003 and the annual Western Sydney Children's Environment Calendar, involve thousands of organisations, Western Sydney councils and residents in promoting the region's environmental achievements. A total 80,000 Calendars of Events are distributed to Western Sydney households via schools, community groups and Western Sydney Councils accompanied by an intensive regional media campaign.

The Western Sydney Environment Taskforce established a comprehensive work program that includes the following key projects: Industry Sustainability Initiative (ISI); Recycle IT! computer trial; Western Sydney Sustainable Energy Plan (WSSEP); Western Sydney WaterLink; region-wide salinity hazard mapping and piezometer testing at selected locations, and a regional environmental research agenda.

The Industry Sustainability Initiative (ISI) is designed to help the region's industry move towards more sustainable outcomes, reflecting improved environmental performance, increased corporate social responsibility and economic efficiency.

The ISI Pilot has developed the basis for a systematic framework for companies to rigorously address sustainability issues and reap even more substantial gains to their triple bottom line. This process can now be applied to subsequent clusters, strengthening the replicability across the region.

RecycleIT is a four-month computer and peripheral equipment collection and recycling trial at seven drop-off locations in Western Sydney to test selected methods, inform the national computer recycling agenda and possibly lead to a \$40 million new industry based in Western Sydney. The *Recycle IT* trial will test three different collection models at various drop-off sites, to inform the development of industry-led computer recycling at the national level. Marketing, collection methods and processing have been assessed in the trial. A full report is due in mid 2003.

The Western Sydney Sustainable Energy Plan provides a framework for the development and implementation of sustainable energy initiatives across Government, industry and residential sectors in Western Sydney. It aims to identify and encourage whole of Government actions for delivering greenhouse gas emission reductions to the region.

In 2002, the Taskforce Salinity Working Group, led by the Department of Land and Water Conservation (Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources), identified two essential components of an integrated approach to help decision makers deal with salinity issues: salinity hazard mapping for the whole of Western Sydney and piezometer groundwater data logging in selected locations.

Results of the salinity hazard mapping and piezometer testing will better inform an integrated regional strategic framework for the management of the region's salinity issues.

The Western Sydney Environment Taskforce will continue to drive a cross-section of initiatives to improve the environment in the Western Sydney region.

**Graffiti** is now seen by many as a significant social and environmental problem. Since 1997, when the Graffiti Solutions Program was launched, the NSW Government has been committed to dealing with illegal graffiti. The program is based on four key elements:

- ◆ improved co-ordination between Local and State government agencies and the community;
- ◆ enforcement and monitoring of legislation; and
- ◆ partnership with industry and Local Government.

Initiatives involve a range of inter-related activities focussing on enforcement; clean up and the urban environment; an industry campaign; graffiti on public transport; and young people and community art. It also includes a Graffiti Information Website ([www.graffiti.nsw.gov.au](http://www.graffiti.nsw.gov.au)) to address community concerns about the financial and social costs of Graffiti. State Government agencies involved in the Graffiti Solutions program include the Attorney General's Department, NSW Police, the Departments of Juvenile Justice, Corrective Services, Local Government, Education and Training, the Rail Infrastructure Corporation, StateRail Authority, State Transit Authority and the Roads and Traffic Authority.

Western Sydney councils involved in the Department of Juvenile Justice Community Service Order (CSO) Clean Up Scheme include Blacktown, Penrith, Parramatta, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Burwood, and the Blue Mountains. As the scheme is proving very successful less clean up is required. Juvenile Justice's focus will be primarily on renegotiating existing partnerships to increase emphasis on preventative work.

Current council partners under Department of Corrective Services CSO/Periodic Detention Clean Up Scheme include Holroyd, Liverpool and Blacktown.

The Attorney General's Department Beat Graffiti Grants Scheme will continue through 2003-04.

Rail Infrastructure Corporation will continue to implement graffiti removal in rail corridors and other strategies such as vegetation screening in graffiti hot spots.

## **CLEAN AIR AND CLEAN WATERWAYS**

In 2003-04, an estimated **\$550,000** will be spent on the **Air Quality Monitoring Program in Western Sydney by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA)**. The EPA will allocate **Stormwater Trust grants totalling \$100,000** for stormwater remediation and associated projects. Other EPA initiatives in Western Sydney in 2003-04 include the expansion of the Government's Industry Partnership Program (IPP) for the promotion of cleaner production in an increasing range of industry sectors, including business in Western Sydney.

The Environmental Trust will provide \$2.05 million for the EPA's Clean Air Program which will continue to undertake detailed planning and implementation of projects to reduce air quality impacts in identified areas and to facilitate the upgrading of wood heaters throughout the State.

The Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) was established by the Government to reduce the level of greenhouse gas emissions in New South Wales by investing in the commercialisation and use of sustainable energy technologies. The Authority has found that most factories, office buildings, clubs, hotels and shopping centres could reduce their energy consumption by at least 20 percent by investing in cost effective energy efficiency projects. Similarly, the residential energy efficiency programs have found that the need to invest in energy efficiency, against a backdrop of increasing home size but decreasing occupancy, is becoming increasingly important. SEDA programs, covering a variety of sectors, benefit the Western Sydney area. These programs include SEDA's Government program which is assisting NSW government agencies to undertake energy saving measures to meet the Premier's energy reduction target of 25 percent by 2005-06.

In the Local Government area, SEDA is assisting councils to adopt its model Energy Smart Homes Policy for new residential developments. This policy is expected to be built into the Building Code of Australia amendments for NSW in 2004.

Approximately **\$0.1 million** of SEDA's **Residential Program** spending accrues to Western Sydney councils and households. The main tasks undertaken include the Energy Smart Homes Policy and Live Energy Smart promotions, along with community awareness events. SEDA is also developing a new greenhouse performance rating tool for existing homes.

SEDA's **Energy Smart Business Program**, with around one third of its partners with significant operations in Western Sydney, will spend in the order of **\$0.333 million** assisting these businesses to reduce their energy consumption in 2003-04. SEDA has also had substantial input into the Western Sydney Sustainable Energy Plan that is expected to be finalised in 2003-04.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources expects to spend up to **\$7 million** in Western Sydney in 2003-04, including its commitments to on-ground works programs, Natural Resource Planning, Water Management Planning, flood strategies and the operation of natural resource access and compliance in areas such as vegetation and water management.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources will support the implementation of the Hawkesbury Lower Nepean Blueprint, which sets out the priorities for action for natural resource management until 2012. The new Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Board and the development of a 3-year Investment Strategy will be supported through the provision of \$200,000 for institutional support. These are key components of the process of implementing the Hawkesbury Lower Nepean Blueprint. In addition, the Department will support the implementation of those parts of the Sydney Harbour and the Southern Sydney Blueprints that are within Western Sydney and continue to support the Sydney Harbour and Southern Sydney Catchment Management Boards.

Water management will continue to be progressed through the work of the Hawkesbury Nepean River Management Forum and the Coxs River Water Management Committee, through the allocation of \$200,000 for administrative and operational support. The Forum will report to Government in September 2003 with recommendations on the application of interim river flow objectives downstream of Sydney Catchment Authority dams. The Coxs River Water Management Committee will report to Government in October 2003 on a draft water management plan, which makes provisions for water sharing, and aquifer interference.

The Department expects to provide up to **\$130,000** to support the continued operation of the **Hawkesbury Nepean Local Government Advisory Group**. This Group provides an essential link between Local Government as key natural resource managers and State Government. Anticipated grants for Local Government totalling **\$720,000** will be directed towards on ground works that address the targets and priority actions in the Hawkesbury Lower Nepean Blueprint. These grants will attract additional funding bringing the total investment to close to **\$2 million**. Approved projects include conservation of remnant vegetation, restoration of endangered ecological communities, riparian zone restoration and regional alligator weed control. This funding will also support the continuation of the Willow eradication project which will now focus on the mainstream of the river between Penrith and Yarramundi. Earlier phases of this project have already seen the eradication of Black Willow from Cattai Creek and Colo River. An estimated further **\$63,000** could be directed to Local Government for community partnership projects attracting a further **\$63,000** in Local Government investment.

**The Hawkesbury Nepean Riverbank Management Program** is an established initiative to improve Government and community management of the river corridor. In 2003-04 this program may be extended to Brooklyn and would potentially include: **\$120,000** for on-ground works and administration; **\$30,000** for demonstration sites; **\$80,000** for continuation of the Hawkesbury Nepean River Soil Conservation Project and **\$80,000** for stream rehabilitation in the South Creek catchment.

In 2003-04 the **Hawkesbury-Nepean Integrated Water Monitoring Framework (IWMF)** will continue to integrate the water monitoring activities and information of all catchment stakeholders through the ongoing development of an integrated data management system and joint studies with local and State Government. A possible **\$250,000** may be allocated to IWMF implementation projects including further development of river health monitoring protocols and assessments for the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Blueprint. These projects will lead to catchment-wide assessment and sharing of water monitoring information for water management planning and avoid duplication of monitoring sites.

In 2003-04, the **Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources** may provide up to **\$69,000** to support its continued involvement in salinity issues in Western Sydney. **\$20,000** from the South Creek Section 10 program will also be spent on **salinity management**.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources continues to be the lead agency for coordinating the **monitoring of blue-green and marine algae**. **\$70,000** is currently directed towards supporting this activity in Western Sydney.

In 2003-04, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources will continue to support the implementation of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Floodplain Management Strategy. This is a comprehensive whole of Government strategy to recognise and respond to the range of risks associated with the serious flooding problem in the Hawkesbury-Nepean valley. The Department may allocate approximately \$300,000 to continue support for the implementation of the Strategy. A further **\$3 million** will be directed to Local Government in Western Sydney through the **NSW Floodplain Management Strategy** to attract total funding of **\$4.5 million**.

The **Natural Resource Cadetship Program** for Indigenous Students enrolled in an environmental science degree will continue to be supported with funding of approximately **\$50,000** from the joint ventures.

The **Sydney Catchment Authority** will allocate around **\$22 million** in 2003-04 for maintaining and operating infrastructure to provide bulk water to Sydney Water customers and for monitoring water quality and quantity. In addition, the Authority will allocate the following:

- ◆ \$40,000 for a septic safe project;
- ◆ \$180,000 on chemical collections;
- ◆ \$65,000 for the development of a gross pollutant trap in Katoomba; and
- ◆ \$100,000 in grants for catchment protection and improvement projects.

Other agencies which have a role in protecting the Western Sydney environment include NSW Agriculture, the National Parks Service, the Sydney Water Corporation and the Healthy Rivers Commission.

## **PARKS, GARDENS, RESERVES AND FORESTS**

In 2003-04, the **National Parks and Wildlife Service** will commit around **\$1.8 million** to **Regional Parks, National Parks and Nature Reserves** in the region. These areas are for the use and enjoyment by the Western Sydney community and include:

- ◆ **\$100,000** will be allocated for threatened species recovery planning and protection in Western Sydney. Specifically, the **Cumberland Plain Endangered Ecological Communities Recovery Planning Program** will be progressed.
- ◆ Expected expenditure in 2003-04 for ongoing improvements and maintenance in **Yellomundee Regional Park** is **\$160,000**.
- ◆ Expected expenditure in 2003-04 for ongoing improvements and maintenance of the additions to the **Blue Mountains National Park**, including **planned hazard reductions**, is **\$90,000**.
- ◆ Expected Expenditure in 2003-04 for the additions to **Blue Mountains National Parks** is **\$1.5 million** for ongoing maintenance & improvements.

The NSW Government has signed a development agreement with a joint venture (ComLand and Land Lease) to develop part of the former munitions factory site at St Marys. The joint venture will transfer 850 hectares of land to the National Parks Service after the release of the first precinct. The joint venture will provide **\$6.8 million** over approximately 15 years for the establishment of **the regional park and capital improvements**. They will also provide **\$100,000** in 2003 for the preparation of a **management plan for the regional park**.

The joint venture will also contribute funding for the development of the Eastern Precinct and transfer 3 percent of all lots to the NSW Government for the provision of affordable housing.

The proposed transfer of open space land around Doonside and Cecil Park, to National Parks Service and Councils, involves approximately 1,000 hectares at nil cost. The estimated current market value of this land is \$500 million.

**The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Capital Works Regional Plan projects** for 2003 include: **Lighthorse Park Restoration at \$453,000**; **Prospect Creek Aboriginal Heritage Trail \$165,000**; **Cabramatta and Brickmakers Creek and Adjoining Reserves – restoring foreshore environment and improving water quality \$250,000**; and **Brickmakers Creek Restoration \$100,000**.

The Department of Housing will be establishing new community gardens in Guildford, Doonside, North Toongabbie and Macquarie Fields. Landscaping traineeships will continue in 2003-04 and new work for the dole projects are planned for Parramatta, Airs, Bonnyrigg, Miller and Toongabbie.

In 2003-04, **State Forests of NSW** will spend around **\$635,000** on operations and services provided to the community at the **Cumberland State Forest** at West Pennant Hills, a recreation and forestry educational facility. Also located at West Pennant Hills is State Forests' **Research and Development Division** which will have a budget of **\$8.9 million**. The **Cumberland State Forest Retail Nursery and Management Unit**, also at West Pennant Hills, will spend **\$1 million**.

The **Sydney Catchment Authority** will allocate **\$1.1 million** in 2003-04, for the operation and maintenance of recreational facilities at the dam sites, **\$470,000 for implementation of Special Areas Strategic Plan of Management in Warragamba and Blue Mountains catchment areas**, and **\$315,000 for the Catchment Enhancement and Protection Program**.

In 2003-04, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust will allocate **\$ 5.6 million** in recurrent and capital funding to the **Mount Annan and Mount Tomah Botanical Gardens**.

The **Parramatta Park Trust** will be allocated **\$1.1 million** in 2003-04 for recurrent expenditure.

## **HERITAGE**

The historic 5.11 hectare Linnwood Estate at Guildford was formerly a truancy home for boys and State ward home for girls. Title of Linnwood Hall was transferred to the Heritage Office in June 2002. The Heritage Office has prepared and placed on public exhibition a conservation management plan and future uses plan for the estate.

Exeter Farm Cottage is a remnant of an early colonial farm estate at Glenwood. The Heritage Office's conservation management plan seeks to identify appropriate future users, and areas where additional building might occur, without compromising the heritage significance of the place. It is proposed the estate's future development will be the subject of an architectural competition as part of the Western Sydney Heritage Review project.

**\$1 million** was provided over three years to adaptively reuse the former female **orphan school building at UWS Parramatta campus, Rydalmere**. Work is expected to be completed in 2003-04. The building will be used as a major administration block for UWS with some public access, key professorial offices and support staff.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The NSW Government seeks to encourage the most efficient use of resources and to reduce environmental harm in accordance with the principles of ecological sustainable development. The second phase of the Government's waste reforms, the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001, provided for improvements to sustainable solutions associated with waste. These are a continuous decline in waste generation, the optimum recovery of resources from waste and the management, in the most environmentally responsible manner, of the waste left after recovering those resources.

During 2003-04, **Waste Service NSW** anticipates that over **\$65 million** will be spent as part of the public/private funded project in Western Sydney.

The EPA and Resource NSW are working on a three-year program targeting illegal dumping. In addition, councils will have access to \$1 million statewide to identify and clean up bushland dump sites.

The EPA is reviewing and consulting on waste regulations in concert with its review of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act in 2003. This will lead to an updated waste regulatory system that more effectively supports resource recovery and ensures appropriate environmental regulation of waste generation, transport, treatment and disposal.

Established in October 2001, **Resource NSW** has responsibility for waste management and resource recovery. Planned initiatives in Western Sydney in 2003-04 include:

- ◆ **Wood waste collection trails** from seven large Western Sydney based shopfitters and furniture manufacturers;
- ◆ **Household hazardous waste collections** in eight Western Sydney locations;
- ◆ Continuation of the **Western Sydney RID Squad program** to 2005 with annual funding for six councils at **\$45,000 each**;
- ◆ Continuation of the Office Building Recycling Program in the Parramatta CBD which is anticipated to link with a larger industry portfolio partnership for resource recovery; and
- ◆ Development of major public place waste recycling systems in conjunction with the Western Sydney International Dragway which will hold regular international, national and local events.

## **MINE REHABILITATION**

A NSW Government Environmental Trust Grant of \$631,320 was provided in 2000-01, to be used over three years, on environmental and safety improvements at the Yerranderie silver mine site. Rehabilitation works are continuing at this derelict silver mining field and they include the treatment of soil and water, placing gates over tunnels and closing shafts that pose a safety risk. A trial of remedial technologies to provide permanent environmental solutions to the problem of acid mine drainage is also a part of this project.

## 3.4 BETTER GOVERNMENT SERVICES

### PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT

Premier's Department has a number of major "place-managed" projects and regional coordination initiatives in Western and South Western Sydney.

In addition, **Premier's Department** is implementing the **Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Strategy**. This program aims to provide innovative responses to priority issues affecting communities particularly in the area of crime prevention.

The estimated budget allocation for 2003-04 for these regional initiatives will be over **\$8.8 million**.

**Regional Coordination Program (RCP)**. In 2003-04 **\$3.243 million** will be allocated to the Premier's Department for the Regional Coordination Program. The RCP is leading a strategic and results based approach to meeting the Government's commitment to regional communities.

RCP aims to improve access to Government services by coordinating delivery so as to meet the needs of individuals and communities and tackles pressing social, economic and environmental issues, making the best use of available resources. The RCP is project based and focuses mainly on specific regional issues that require a coordinated whole of Government approach.

A key strategy of the Program is to develop and maintain effective, cooperative relationships with regional and corporate agency personnel, local community organisations, local councils, and Commonwealth Government agencies so as to facilitate the coordination of Government services.

The RCP has offices in both Parramatta (Western Sydney) and Bankstown (South Western Sydney).

In 2003-04, the **Western Sydney RCP** will continue to work with government agencies and key stakeholders on multi-faceted issues and projects including:

- ◆ Implementation of the Parramatta Regional Environmental Plan (REP);
- ◆ Penrith Lakes Scheme Development;
- ◆ Integrated transport and planning initiatives;
- ◆ *Strengthening Local Communities* project development in Western Sydney; and
- ◆ Continued financial support of the *Natural Resource Cadetship Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People*.

In 2003-04, the **South Western Sydney Regional RCP** will continue to work with government agencies and key stakeholders on multi-faceted issues and projects including:

- ◆ Projects with a place focus at Airds, Cabramatta, Canterbury-Bankstown and Miller and the Youth Partnership with Arabic Speaking Communities;
- ◆ Improvement of human service coordination at regional and Local Government levels;
- ◆ Macarthur Youth Commitment to improve educational and economic outcomes for youth in the Local Government areas of Campbelltown, Camden and Wollondilly;

- ◆ Whole of Government approaches to the management of natural resource issues in the South West Sydney region; and
- ◆ Local economic development initiatives.

Place Managed Projects. Youth Partnership with Arabic Speaking Communities. The Premier announced the Partnership in July 2001 to promote the well being of young people of Arabic speaking background. \$3 million has been approved for Partnership initiatives between 2001-04.

The Partnership's priority focus is on youth and community liaison, education, parenting and sport, recreation and culture. The Partnership aims to:

- ◆ Promote the well being of young people of Arabic speaking background;
- ◆ Increase parent support and education to help them prevent risk taking behaviour;
- ◆ Provide children and young people with better learning opportunities and recreational activities for long term personal development.

A total of 15 major initiatives (covering the Liverpool, Bankstown, St George and Granville districts) are currently underway and are already producing excellent results. The **Youth Partnership** was recently recognised as a model of best practice at the Premier's Public Sector Awards where it won a gold award in the Social Justice category.

A total of **\$940,000** is approved for the Youth Partnership in 2003-04. These will include:

- ◆ Youth Liaison Teams;
- ◆ Transitions project;
- ◆ Intensive Family Support Service;
- ◆ Gateways program;
- ◆ Homework Plus.

The Partnership has an active community engagement and information strategy. Over 500 community representatives and young people have participated in community forums, consultations and reference groups.

Canterbury-Bankstown Place Project. Stage I of the Canterbury-Bankstown Action Plan commenced in 1999 and was completed in early 2001. The Place Project developed Stage II of the Action Plan over 2001 through a consultation process with more than 30 community organisations and 20 government agencies from all levels of Government. This plan will complement the work of the Arabic Youth Partnerships Project in this region, bringing a whole of Government approach to the significant issues that affect the whole community, especially in relation to young people.

Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Strategy. The \$50 million Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Strategy aims to provide innovative responses to priority issues affecting communities, particularly in relation to crime prevention. The main focus of the Strategy is on aligning current Government activities to improve community outcomes.

The objectives of the strategy are to reduce crime and anti social behaviour, improve community safety, improve health and community resilience, improve education and employment opportunities, improve local coordination and infrastructure and improve coordination of government agencies.

The Strategy is targeted towards disadvantaged communities, engages local communities in identifying priority issues and developing solutions that respond to local needs and encourages the development of partnerships between government and non-government agencies to develop sustainable solutions. A principle of the strategy is flexibility in developing solutions that meet the changing circumstances of individual communities across the State.

Initiatives developed as part of the Strategy will link to local crime prevention plans and activities developed by local councils and communities. Regional project management structures are in place in Western Sydney and South Western Sydney to implement the Strategy.

**\$19.681 million** is being provided to Western Sydney from **2001-02 to 2005-06**.

In 2003-04 the **Miller** area will receive **\$310,000**, the **Canterbury/Bankstown** area will receive **\$1.636 million** and the **Mt Druitt** area **\$5.343 million**.

The estimated total budget allocation for **2003-04** for these initiatives in Western Sydney will be **\$7.288 million**.

**Mt Druitt Community Solutions and Crime Prevention.** On 13 October 2002, the Premier announced a range of initiatives for Mt Druitt/North St Marys under the Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Strategy. The package was developed in consultation with community and government agencies around the key themes of:

- ◆ Policing/Crime Prevention;
- ◆ Children, Young People and Families;
- ◆ Education, Training and Skills for Employment;
- ◆ Community Capacity Building.

A total of **\$5.343 million** has been approved for the continuation of the projects under the **Mt Druitt/North St Marys** package in 2003-04. Additional funding and in-kind contributions from other NSW agencies or external sources complements the package.

By way of example, some of the more significant initiatives include:

- ◆ Adoption of a range of pro-active policing/crime prevention initiative;
- ◆ Innovative programs for released juvenile and adult offenders completing custodial sentences which seek to reconnect, particularly 18-25 year olds, with education and employment pathways, drug rehabilitation programs and a violence offenders recovery program based on a successful overseas model;
- ◆ Implementing a comprehensive and timely family violence response and support strategy, as well as establishing an Aboriginal Women's Safe Space and culturally appropriate Domestic Violence response;
- ◆ Extension of successful youth mentoring and peer support and youth development programs;
- ◆ Refurbishing existing community buildings to operate as Family Centred Service Hubs in three localities;
- ◆ Developing an Integrated Neighbourhood Service to enhance outreach service delivery;

- ◆ Providing training and mentoring assistance to present/emerging community leaders; and
- ◆ a range of ATSI and Pacific Islander specific initiatives to improve services and outcomes for these communities.

The Mt Druitt Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Project Team will convene appropriate representative project implementation groups and develop, with the community, appropriate broader implementation and governance arrangements in the short term, to ensure projects are appropriately delivered and, in turn, carefully monitored and evaluated.

**Canterbury-Bankstown.** In January 2003, the Premier announced a new range of initiatives for Canterbury-Bankstown under the Community Solutions and Crime Prevention Strategy. The package was developed in close consultation with community and government agencies. The key themes of this package are:

- ◆ Strengthening families;
- ◆ Supporting young people into better futures;
- ◆ Further building community harmony.

A total of **\$1.636 million** has been approved for the continuation of projects under the **Canterbury-Bankstown package in 2003-04**. The package is further supported by funding and in-kind contributions from other NSW agencies or external sources. Some of the significant initiatives are:

- ◆ Providing case management and additional training to 15-18 year olds disengaging from school, and opportunities for entrepreneurial young people to develop business and employment skills;
- ◆ Programs and support for at-risk Pacific Islander students in Years 5-9 and their families to improve education outcomes;
- ◆ The establishment of a Community Harmony Roundtable to plan and deliver community building projects;
- ◆ Increased bi-lingual case work for families affected by domestic violence, community education, and increased coordination of the responses to domestic violence by DoCS, Health, Housing, Police and NGO's.
- ◆ Extension of successful youth mentoring and youth development programs;
- ◆ The establishment of a NSW Youth Partnership with Pacific Island Communities.

The Place Project will convene inter-agency taskforce groups to steer the projects and plan strategically in relation to the broader issues they address. The projects will be carefully monitored and evaluated;

**Miller Project.** In February 2002 the Government announced the commitment of \$2.4 million over three years for a range of initiatives to address crime related issues and improve the level and integration of human services for Miller.

During 2003-04, **\$310,000** will be allocated for:

- ◆ The engagement of long term unemployed in work and training;
- ◆ Child protection and family strengthening initiatives;

- ◆ In-school and after school programs for 8-12 year-olds and their families;
- ◆ Housing client case management and development;
- ◆ Effective interventions with young repeat offenders and other at-risk young people.

Capital works which will enhance public amenity and the operating environment for service delivery are also included.

The Premier's Department is supporting and monitoring the work of Community 2168 as it coordinates working groups and lead agencies to enact the Implementation Plan from now until 2005.

## **FAIR TRADING AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

In 2003-04 the **Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal** will be funded to the extent of **\$3.32 million** in Western Sydney. The Tribunal has established a registry in Liverpool in addition to hearing venues in Campbelltown, Blacktown and Parramatta and the existing registry in Penrith. The Tribunal has recruited regionally for members and registry staff, resulting in approximately 25 registry positions and 15 member positions based in Western Sydney.

In 2003-04, the **Department of Commerce** will allocate approximately **\$720,000** to **Tenants Advice and Advocacy Services** in Western Sydney. The operating budget for the **Fair Trading Centres** located at Penrith, Liverpool, Blacktown and Parramatta will be almost **\$4.9 million**. These centres will continue to provide information and assistance on the full range of services offered by the Department, including consumer information and complaint handling relating to fair trading, home building, tenancy, and motor vehicles. The centres also provide access to business names registration, building licenses, lodgement of Tribunal applications and the Register of Encumbered Vehicles services.

Financial counselling services will continue to be funded through the Department's **Credit Counselling Program** and the **Financial Counselling Trust Fund**. In 2003-04, Western Sydney services will receive **\$330,000**.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The **State Emergency Service** will allocate **\$750,000** to continue the development of the **Hawkesbury Nepean Flood Management Plans**. The Service will allocate **\$74,000** toward the purchase of **new emergency response vehicles** in Baulkham Hills and Blue Mountains.

The **NSW Rural Fire Service**, in conjunction with Local Councils, is responsible for the management of the State's Rural Fire Brigades. In 2003-04, the Rural Fire Fighting Fund will be \$125 million of which Western Sydney will receive more than **\$13 million**. An amount of **\$6.7 million** has been provided for **the relocation of the Head Office of the Service** to Homebush Bay.

## **WORKCOVER**

In 2003-04, **WorkCover Authority** anticipates that **operational expenditure** in Western Sydney will be **\$12,438,000**. This will be primarily directed to the prevention of workplace injuries and diseases. The Authority has offices at Parramatta, Liverpool, Blacktown and Londonderry.

## **JUSTICE AND LEGAL AID**

**Community Justice Centres** (CJCs) operate a free community mediation and conflict management service throughout Western Sydney. Services are provided in every Local Government area by panels of

local mediators who respond in an “on demand” basis, utilising Government offices, courts and community centres to ensure local venues are available to access services close to where people live or work.

CJCs contribute to the safety and harmony of the communities of Western Sydney by improving individual, group and community responses to the settlement of conflict, particularly in relation to some matters before the local courts (eg. Apprehended Violence Orders), the Children’s Courts and matters referred by other Government agencies such as Community Services, Housing and Police. There is no waiting list for services and mediations are held during business hours, after hours and on weekends, 52 weeks of the year.

Part of the Attorney-General’s Department, the CJCs have a regionalised administrative structure with offices in Penrith and Bankstown, whilst the office based in Wollongong administers the services provided to the Liverpool/Campbelltown/Camden districts. 18 staff are employed to ensure the communities of Western Sydney have access to the CJCs’ services. It is estimated that expenditure on **CJCs in Western Sydney** in 2003-04 will be approximately **\$1 million**.

The **Legal Aid Commission** assists socially and economically disadvantaged people with legal problems in the criminal, family and civil jurisdictions. In 2003-04, it will allocate **\$5.3 million** for **legal aid services** in Western Sydney through its network of legal aid offices situated at Bankstown, Blacktown, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Parramatta and Penrith. In addition, the Commission anticipates expenditure of approximately **\$12.4 million** in payments to private legal practitioners and on legal disbursements in legally aided matters in the region.

In 2003-04, the Legal Aid Commission will continue funding for **Community Legal Centres** located at Campbelltown, Harris Park, the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury/Nepean and South West Sydney, to the extent of **\$1.5 million**. The Centres provide accessible community-based legal services in both generalist and specialised legal areas as well as court assistance and support to women who are victims of domestic violence. In addition, they undertake community legal education, take part in law reform activities to redress social and legal injustices and provide information, advice and casework for the socially and economically disadvantaged.

## **LAND INFORMATION SERVICES**

The **Land and Property Information NSW** will allocate a further **\$450,000** in 2003-04 for the completion of new edition topographic maps, digital topographic data and survey information for Western Sydney. In addition, **\$500,000** will be allocated to the maintenance of the **Digital Cadastral Database**.

## **DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES DRILL CORE LIBRARY (LONDONDERRY)**

The New South Wales Government has allocated an additional **\$160,000** in 2003-04 to upgrade the fire safety systems at the Department of Mineral Resources Core Library at Londonderry.

The Core Library makes a valuable contribution to the provision of comprehensive geoscience information for the State. It is one of the most modern facilities of its kind in the world and provides a vital service in the search for new mineral resources and fundamental research into the geology and mineral deposits of NSW.

The collection currently exceeds 950,000 metres of drill core, stored in 150,000 boxes. The collection of core covers mineral, coal and petroleum exploration and Government drilling programs, as well as some geotechnical drilling. The **annual operating budget** for the core **library** is **\$175,000**.

## TRANSPORT

The **State Transit Authority** (STA) operates nine bus routes in Parramatta, as well as the Liverpool-Parramatta Transitway. It provides over 2,300 services in an average week, carrying almost 120,000 people. The Transitway, operated by Western Sydney Buses, a fully owned subsidiary of STA, provides over 1,000 bus services a week between Liverpool and Parramatta. Within two months of its opening in February 2003, it is carrying 16,000 passengers a week, with patronage continuing to grow.

STA also operates a bus service between Bankstown and Canterbury. The 300 services per week carry almost 11,000 passengers.

STA also provides 18 Rivercat ferry services to and from Parramatta wharf each day which carry 11,000 passengers a week.

StateRail provides safe, reliable and clean rail services with over 10,000 passenger train services in Western Sydney each week, servicing over 81 million passenger journeys. StateRail spends approximately **\$47 million** for staff to serve at rail stations in Western Sydney.

**CHAPTER 4: OUTCOMES OF 2002-03 BUDGET INITIATIVES**

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2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTER FOR WESTERN SYDNEY</b></p> <p>The Government will provide <b>\$3.364 million</b> for the operation of the <b>Office of Western Sydney</b> in 2002-03.</p>	<p>\$3.364 million was expended by the Office of Western Sydney in 2002-03 on implementing the following initiatives in three key areas:</p> <p>1. Advancing Western Sydney as a Knowledge Region. Knowledge region initiatives have attracted widespread interest from across Australia and internationally.</p> <p>The Western Sydney Industry Awards provided recognition for businesses and the NSW Government internationally, nationally and at a regional level. Each year formal Awards functions and events attract more than 3,000 business and government leaders from across Western Sydney. The 2003 Awards attracted 188 applications across 15 categories.</p> <p>The Western Sydney IT Cluster is in its second year and has more than 200 active members including 170 Western Sydney IT companies.</p> <p>The Western Sydney Biotechnology Cluster and other Biotechnology Initiatives. The BioWest Directory and the Australian BioHub Westmead proposal recognises the regional capability of life sciences, biotechnology and emerging research, commercialisation and associated industries in the region.</p> <p>The Moving Towards the Knowledge Economy Conference. The conference attracted more than 300 leaders from business, government and universities from across Australia. At this Conference, the Premier announced the establishment of the Western Sydney IT@Zone Asia Centre in Singapore.</p> <p>2. Social Development Program. A number of OWS Social Development initiatives developed in partnership with government, industry and the community include:</p> <p>Corporate Partners for Change (CPC), a partnership with the NSW Department of Education and Training (DET) that has provided jobs and traineeships for more than 300 people from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, in growth sectors such as business administration, IT and electro-trades.</p> <p>The Women in Macarthur Photographic Project, acknowledged the skills and life changes of women who were part of the CPC initiative.</p> <p>The Women in Industry Program, a partnership with the NSW Department for Women, assisted women in industry, who have little formal training, to develop initial industry based skills.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>3. The Environment. The Western Sydney Environment Report and Strategy were endorsed by the NSW Cabinet Office, in October 1999, to provide an integrated approach to the region's environment. Under the Strategy, four action agendas were established. Key initiatives include:</p> <p>The Western Sydney Environment Taskforce was established by the Minister for Western Sydney in September 2000. The Taskforce leads the implementation of strategic initiatives to deliver integrated and improved environmental outcomes for Western Sydney.</p> <p>Highlights include the establishment of the Industry Sustainability Cluster, the Recycle IT trial, Western Sydney Sustainable Energy Plan, Western Sydney WaterLink and region wide salinity hazard mapping and piezometer testing.</p> <p>Western Sydney Environment Week involved many organisations, Western Sydney councils and residents in promoting the region's environmental achievements. 80,000 Calendars of Events were distributed to Western Sydney households via schools, community groups and Western Sydney Councils. An intensive regional media campaign supported the initiative.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>SECURING JOBS AND INVESTMENT</b></p> <p><b><i>Public Infrastructure</i></b></p> <p>The Attorney General's Department will allocate <b>\$8.665 million for court related works</b> in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>The new Metropolitan Children's Court Complex at Parramatta has been designed and the Development Application for six courts has been submitted to council. The project is in documentation stage with the tender expected in late 2003. Construction is expected to take two years. Expected expenditure for 2002-03 is \$638,000.</p> <p>Funding was approved in 2002-03 for the construction of a new two-court complex for Local Courts at Mt Druitt. Design has involved extensive community and user consultation. The Development Application is expected to be submitted prior to June 2003 with completion anticipated in 2005. Expected expenditure for 2002-03 is \$350,000.</p> <p>The two-court complex at Blacktown will be upgraded with provision of an additional courtroom and supplementary facilities. User input was sought, the Development Application will be submitted to Council and completion is expected in September 2004. Expected expenditure for 2002-03 is \$400,000.</p> <p>A new four-court complex will be built on the existing Court and Police site at Bankstown. The Development Application is to be submitted to Council and completion is planned by April 2006. Expected expenditure for 2002-03 is \$430,000.</p> <p>Funding has been received for the Child Sexual Assault Jurisdiction Pilot. It is expected that \$1.04 million will be spent in 2002-03 for the provision of equipment and refurbishing of court premises at Parramatta and Penrith to enable the Pilot to commence.</p>
<p><b>Correctional facilities</b> are to be upgraded and expanded at Windsor and Parklea with expenditure of <b>\$34.5 million</b>.</p>	<p>A 200-bed extension to Parklea was completed in February 2003. A 200-bed facility for female inmates at Windsor is under construction and due for completion in October 2003.</p> <p>Campbelltown Periodic Detention Centre was re-commissioned in October 2002.</p> <p>Mental Health Assessment Units at Silverwater commenced construction and are due for completion in June 2005.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>Over <b>\$68 million</b> will be spent on the provision of <b>major new and refurbished facilities for schools</b>.</p> <p>In addition, an estimated <b>\$36.7 million</b> will be expended on school building maintenance.</p> <p><b>\$7.8 million</b> will be spent on the development and refurbishment of <b>TAFE facilities</b>.</p> <p>The Environment Protection Authority will continue with the <b>development of a scientific laboratory at Lidcombe</b>, with expenditure of <b>\$4.24 million</b>.</p> <p>New <b>fire stations</b> at Glenhaven and Baulkham Hills will be commissioned at a cost of <b>\$3.4 million</b> and new <b>fire trucks</b> will be provided to three Western Sydney fire stations at a cost of <b>\$750,000</b>. <b>\$912,000</b> will be expended on <b>fire station maintenance</b>.</p> <p>The <b>NSW Rural Fire Service</b> will have a budget of <b>\$120.7 million</b> of which <b>Western Sydney will receive more than \$13 million</b>.</p> <p>Over <b>\$47 million</b> will be allocated for <b>health related capital works</b> including facilities at Camden, Campbelltown, the Blue Mountains, Liverpool, Penrith and Westmead.</p>	<p>Over \$70 million was spent on the provision of major new and refurbished facilities for schools in 2002-03. This includes new schools at Cecil Hills, Mount Druitt, Parklea, Kellyville, Mount Annan and Preston. Replacement schools were constructed at Seven Hills and Rouse Hill.</p> <p>\$36.7 million was spent on school building maintenance.</p> <p>\$8.8 million was spent on the development and refurbishment of TAFE facilities at Granville, Liverpool, Miller and Wetherill Park.</p> <p>The scientific laboratory at Lidcombe is now completed and operational.</p> <p>A site for the new fire station at Glenhaven has been acquired and planning is proceeding for construction. The Brigades are still negotiating with Council in a search for a suitable site for the new fire station at Baulkham Hills. New fire trucks were provided to Glenbrook, Lawson and Wentworth Falls at a cost of \$750,000.</p> <p>In 2002-03, the total allocation to Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly Councils for Rural Fire Services was \$13.1 million.</p> <p>Completed works in 2002-03 include the Fairfield/Liverpool Community Mental Health Services (Jan 2003) and the Blue Mountains Hydrotherapy Pool (March 2003). Ongoing works in 2002-03 include: the Nepean Hospital Emergency Department, Blue Mountains Hospital Redevelopment Strategy (Blue Mountains Hospital and the Acute Inpatient Unit), Springwood Hospital Theatres, Neonatal Emergency Transport, NSW Breast Cancer Centre, Western Sydney Strategy Stage 1 (Westmead/Auburn and St Joseph's Hospital), Westmead Ambulatory Procedure Centre, Liverpool Mental Health Facilities, Liverpool Data Centre, Liverpool Emergency Department and Campbelltown Hospital. Camden Hospital heritage and external works will be completed in 2003.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>Total capital expenditure by the Department of Housing in Western Sydney will be over <b>\$159 million</b>.</p>	<p>Under the Capital Works program for 2002-03 a total of \$31.2 million (\$16.2 million for public housing and \$15 million for community housing) is to be spent providing 334 newly constructed and purchased properties in Western Sydney. \$16.7 million is to be spent completing properties commenced in 2001-02.</p> <p>Under the Capital Improvement Program, over \$82 million is expected to be spent on capital improvements to 10,474 existing public and community housing stock in Western Sydney. This includes improvements to Crisis Accommodation Program properties.</p>
<p>The NSW Aboriginal Housing Office is allocating around <b>\$2.5 million in capital works</b> for the provision of new housing in Western Sydney.</p> <p><b>\$300,000</b> will be provided for the construction of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's <b>Blue Mountains Regional Office</b>, at Katoomba.</p> <p>The Sydney Olympic Park Authority allocated <b>\$13 million</b> to complete <b>re-configuration works at Stadium Australia</b>.</p> <p>PlanningNSW will spend an estimated <b>\$9 million on land purchases</b> for requirements such as transport and service corridors, regional parklands and open space reserves, for housing release areas in Western Sydney.</p> <p>PlanningNSW, in partnership with Landcom, will call select tenders for the development of the <b>Rouse Hill Regional Centre</b>, in a joint venture with the private sector.</p> <p>The Government will allocate <b>\$8.7 million</b> towards the building of a <b>new police station at Cabramatta</b> and <b>\$17.5 million</b> to relocate the Police Service's corporate headquarters to Parramatta.</p>	<p>The AHO has acquired houses in the Western Sydney area for use by Aboriginal land Councils and homeless or other disadvantaged Aboriginal people. Locations include Blacktown area (4), Liverpool area (5), Campbelltown area (5 houses and 2 additional blocks of land), Wollondilly (1 house), Parramatta (4) and Greystanes (2).</p> <p>Ten properties were upgraded in Blacktown, Glendenning, Merrylands and Granville, and work is planned for another 104 properties. Expenditure for 2002-03 is approximately \$226,000.</p> <p>No funds were expended this financial year.</p> <p>Reconfiguration works have allowed the Stadium to host AFL and cricket matches and has improved viewing proximity. The completion of the Stadium end-roofs will provide additional shelter to patrons at the Stadium.</p> <p>By end of June 2003 an estimated \$30.8 million will have been spent on land purchases in Western Sydney. From that, \$12 million will have been spent on settled land purchases, while \$18.8 million will have been spent on land compulsorily acquired.</p> <p>Tenders were called from four pre-selected firms. Negotiations will be concluded and a contract signed by September 2003.</p> <p>Work is in progress on the new Cabramatta Police Station. The new station is scheduled for completion in 2004 at an estimated total cost of \$13.85 million.</p> <p>The relocation of NSW Police Headquarters to Parramatta will be completed by 2004.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Department of Public Works and Services continued to co-ordinate the <b>Parramatta Government Property Strategy</b> and the Treasurer approved <b>\$2.3 million</b> in 2002-03 for development works.</p> <p>More than <b>\$663 million</b> will be spent on Western Sydney <b>roads and public transport infrastructure</b> in 2002-03, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$181 million</b> on new Millennium trains;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$80.8 million</b> on construction of the Liverpool to Parramatta Transitway;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$20.1 million</b> for the development and construction of other Transitways;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$63 million</b> to upgrade Windsor Road and Old Windsor Road;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$14 million</b> to widen the Great Western Highway at Lawson and Leura;</li> </ul>	<p>The new NSW Heritage Office was opened in March 2003.</p> <p>The Masterplan for the Civic Centre site has been completed.</p> <p>The Government continued to investigate long term usage of the Parramatta Hospital site.</p> <p>An estimated \$192 million will be spent in 2002-03 for 14 Millennium trains.</p> <p>\$175 million will be spent in 2002-03 on Liverpool-Parramatta T-way. Bus operations commenced on the T-way on 16 February 2003 and all works on the route will be completed in December 2003.</p> <p>The EIS for the North West T-way Network (comprising Blacktown-Castle Hill and Parramatta-Rouse Hill Links) was exhibited and comments received until 7 February 2003. The Representations report was due for submission to PNSW in June 2003, with approval anticipated in late 2003. Further property acquisition was carried out along the Links.</p> <p>The Environmental Impact Assessment for Parramatta-Strathfield T-way will commence in 2004. In the mean time, STA commenced a cross Regional bus service between Parramatta and Strathfield in December 2002.</p> <p>The remaining section of Old Windsor Road was opened to four lanes of traffic in October 2002. The intersection of Seven Hills Road and Old Windsor Road was opened to traffic in February 2003. Major works between Merryville Road and Schofields Road commenced in June 2002 and are planned to be completed in 2003. Other works on Windsor Road commenced in February 2003 between Schofields Road and Mile End Road (Rouse Hill), Showground Road and Norwest Boulevard (Castle Hill), Level Crossing Road and Henry Road (Vineyard) and Curtis Road and Pitt Town Road (McGraths Hill).</p> <p>Concept development and Environmental Assessment for Lawson Section One continued. The Concept development for Lawson Section Two commenced. The Blue Mountains City Council commenced concept design for the new Lawson shopping centre. The Concept and Environmental Assessment for Leura/Katoomba was completed. Detailed designing was commenced and acquisitions continued.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$18 million</b> to widen Hoxton Park Road between Brickmakers Creek and Banks Roads (including Transitway lanes);</li> <li>◆ <b>\$4.6 million</b> to upgrade The Horsley Drive between Elizabeth Street and Mimosa Road;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$17.8 million</b> to widen Cowpasture Road to 4 lanes between North Liverpool Road and Elizabeth Drive;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$118 million</b> for rail infrastructure maintenance throughout Western Sydney;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$4 million</b> on new rail turnback facilities in the Padstow area and on the East Hills Line;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$6 million</b> on the amplification of the Richmond rail line between Marayong and Quakers Hill;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$7.5 million</b> to improve the rail service reliability between Glenfield and Campbelltown;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$2 million</b> on investigation of the Epping to Castle Hill rail line;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$12 million</b> for train stabling and servicing facilities at Blacktown;</li> </ul>	<p>Widening work is in progress with traffic now utilising the new westbound carriageway while the eastbound carriageway and T-way lanes are constructed.</p> <p>A contract has been let for construction works. Work has commenced.</p> <p>Construction has commenced. Northbound traffic was switched onto the new northbound carriageway on 14 February 2003. The expenditure for the project has increased to \$20 million.</p> <p>The forecast remains at \$118 million.</p> <p>Work is continuing on the turnback facilities and detailed design is 80% complete, with \$1.5 million spent on this project in 2002-03. The The turnback will now be constructed at Revesby, with construction planned for 2006-07, rather than Padstow as originally proposed due to operational issues and site constraints.</p> <p>Work has been completed on budget and ahead of schedule. Expenditure for 2002-03 is forecast to be \$4.7million.</p> <p>Work in respect of the concept signalling design between Glenfield and Campbelltown is now complete. \$570,000 estimated to be spent on this project in 2002-03.</p> <p>The project is now called the North West Rail Link, and runs from Epping–Rouse Hill (Mungerie Park) via Castle Hill. The estimated expenditure for this project in 2002-03 is \$2.0 million.</p> <p>Work accomplished to date includes: the environmental study, geotechnical study, preparation of the Land Acquisition strategy, Mungerie Park Town Centre study, Network Interface and Operations Study and the Concept Station Design Study.</p> <p>Further work is planned for the remainder of the 2002-03 financial year including: corridor definition, preparation of a communications strategy and a land management strategy.</p> <p>The estimated expenditure for this project in 2002-03 is \$5.6 million. Construction is underway and is scheduled to be complete in December 2003.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$17.5 million</b> on improving access to CityRail stations at Cabramatta, Clyde, Granville, Guildford, Fairfield, Holsworthy, Marayong, Mt Druitt and Padstow and a new station at the University of Western Sydney, Werrington;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$7.9 million</b> for improved interchange facilities at a number of locations, including Mt Druitt and at various car parks, including Wentworthville;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$4.6 million</b> for new rail cars to service outer suburban areas, including the Blue Mountains;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$5.8 million</b> to construct the Parramatta to Granville cycleway; and</li> <li>◆ <b>more than \$79 million</b> on road maintenance, traffic management and road safety works.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, work will be undertaken on the Parramatta station interchange, as part of the Parramatta Rail Link project.</p> <p>The <b>Waterways Authority</b> will spend <b>\$120,000</b> on a small boat storage, service and launching area at Homebush Bay; on wharf maintenance at Parramatta and Rydalmere; and on a public pontoon at Windsor.</p>	<p>The estimated expenditure for this project in 2002-03 is \$16.4 million. Works have been completed at Holsworthy, Marayong, Fairfield, Clyde and Padstow. Construction is in progress at Cabramatta, Guildford, Granville, and Mt Druitt with anticipated completion dates at these sites between late 2003 and mid 2004. Planning and design work is underway for the new station at UWS, Werrington.</p> <p>The Holsworthy Interchange &amp; car park is now complete. The design/construct contract was awarded by SRA for Mt Druitt in February 2003. The design of the car park is currently being finalised with expected construction commencement in October 2003 for Wentworthville. Work is also being undertaken on Emu Plains Car Park. Estimated expenditure on these facilities in 2002-03 is \$3.9 million.</p> <p>A contract was awarded on 13 February 2003. The forecast for 2002-03 is \$26 million. Planning and design works are underway.</p> <p>Construction of bridges and structures commenced April 2002. Change of scope to include a low level bridge over Duck River and connectivity to the Parramatta-Liverpool Cycleway at Church Street, approved July 2002 with completion expected June 2003.</p> <p>Maintenance works to specified standards for arterial roads and traffic facilities will be undertaken during 2002-03. The traffic management and road safety programs of works and initiatives will be achieved including works for bus priority, pedestrian facilities, intersection improvements and incident management systems and operations.</p> <p>During 2002, the masterplan for the Parramatta Transport Interchange was launched and the concept designs were developed. These works are valued at \$110 million and involve the upgrade of Parramatta Station and an interchange serving the Transitway and local bus services.</p> <p>\$120,000 has been spent by the Waterways Authority on the production of a masterplan for the development of the Homebush Bay West small boat facilities. Construction will commence in late 2003.</p> <p>Approximately \$45,000 was spent on maintenance of the ferry and commuter wharves at John Street, Rydalmere and Charles Street, Parramatta to improve wharf safety.</p> <p>A \$10,000 Waterways Asset Development and Management Program grant was used to re-instate the public pontoon at the Windsor Boat Ramp. Installation was completed in March 2003.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Government has allocated <b>\$16.2 million</b> for the <b>construction of a drag racing facility at Eastern Creek</b>.</p> <p>PlanningNSW will also spend <b>\$1.7 million</b> to meet the operating costs of the <b>Penrith Lakes Regatta Centre</b>.</p> <p><b>\$1.5 million</b> was allocated for the upgrade of seating at <b>Parramatta Stadium</b>.</p> <p>As part of its WaterPlan 21, <b>Sydney Water</b> will spend more than <b>\$160 million</b> on a water and sewer infrastructure program in Western Sydney in 2002-03 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upgrading approximately 40 sewage pumping plants (<b>\$36 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Upgrading and amplification of sewage treatment plants and transfer pipes in the George's River Catchment (<b>\$28 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Providing sewerage services to 2,250 properties in The Oaks/Oakdale and Mulgoa/Wallacia/Silverdale villages (<b>\$8 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Providing sewerage services to 3,000 properties in the Blue Mountains (<b>\$10 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Upgrading and amplification of the Penrith, West Camden and Richmond sewage treatment plants (<b>\$39.8 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Renewal of water mains (<b>\$15 million</b>);</li> <li>◆ Relining and renewal of sewer mains (<b>\$21.3 million</b>); and</li> <li>◆ Improving the reliability of sewerage treatment plants (<b>\$11 million</b>).</li> </ul>	<p>Construction commenced on the drag race facility. Lease negotiations are progressing toward a scheduled opening in early 2004.</p> <p>Around \$1 million was spent by the first quarter of 2003 on the Regatta Centre including new all-weather grandstand roof and an additional cycle-track. This has attracted major triathlon events to Western Sydney.</p> <p>The upgrade will provide better comfort and safety for the patrons. The fully seated venue will be more attractive to potential hirers.</p> <p>In 2002-03, Sydney Water, as part of its WaterPlan 21, is spending \$150 million upgrading and maintaining water and sewer infrastructure in Western Sydney. The key outcomes of this investment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Completion of the \$16 million amplification and upgrade of the Rouse Hill sewage treatment plant to accommodate growth (\$1.2 million);</li> <li>◆ Completion of the \$21 million upgrade of St Marys sewage treatment plant to produce pathogen free biosolids (\$3 million);</li> <li>◆ Upgrading and amplification of sewage treatment plants and transfer pipes in the George's River Catchment (\$34 million) to meet growth;</li> <li>◆ Commencement of construction on the upgrade and amplification of Penrith sewage treatment plant and the transfer of flows from Glenbrook STP to Penrith STP (\$14.5 million) to meet growth and improve effluent quality;</li> <li>◆ Undertaking preliminary works for the upgrade of West Camden and Richmond sewage treatment plants (\$0.6 million) to meet growth and improve effluent quality;</li> <li>◆ Completing the upgrade of 26 sewage pumping stations to reduce the risk of dry weather sewage overflows (\$16 million);</li> <li>◆ Continuing construction work to provide sewerage services to approximately 1,170 properties in The Oaks and Oakdale villages (\$15.6 million);</li> <li>◆ Continuation of a program to provide sewerage services to 3,000 properties in the Blue Mountains (\$4.5 million);</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The <b>Sydney Catchment Authority</b> will continue the \$150 million <b>Warragamba Dam</b> major upgrade in 2002-03 with expenditure in the order of <b>\$20 million</b>.</p> <p>The Authority has allocated around <b>\$19 million</b> for the <b>renewal of capital assets</b> at Warragamba Dam, Warragamba Pipelines, Blue Mountains Dams, metropolitan dams, upper canal and Prospect Reservoir.</p> <p><b>Integral Energy</b> will invest <b>\$95 million</b> on <b>capital projects</b> in Western Sydney in 2002-03.</p> <p><b>EnergyAustralia</b> will be expending <b>\$4.5 million</b> in 2002-03 on electricity distribution capital works in the Bankstown and Auburn local government areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Provision of augmented water infrastructure in the Carnes Hill area (\$7.5 million) to meet growth;</li> <li>◆ Renewing water mains (\$19 million);</li> <li>◆ Relining and renewal of sewer mains (\$18.5 million); and</li> <li>◆ Improving the reliability of sewage treatment plants (\$5 million).</li> </ul> <p>The cost of this project has been budgeted at \$150 million. \$4 million is expected to be spent this year.</p> <p>The Sydney Catchment Authority allocated, and is on track, to spend \$21 million on capital asset renewal at these sites.</p> <p>The Bow Bowing Zone Substation Augment is scheduled for completion in 2003 at a cost of \$4.5 million.</p> <p>The North Richmond Zone Substation Augment which will provide back up electricity supply to the North Richmond Zone is expected to cost \$3.4 million and be completed in 2004.</p> <p>The Lennox third transformer and 33kB busbar will provide relief to the Parramatta CBD. The project commenced in 2002 and is scheduled for completion in 2004 at an estimated cost of \$4 million.</p> <p>Glenmore Park Zone Substation Augment (\$3.7 million) and Blacktown Transmission Substation Augment (\$2.8 million) are expected to be completed in 2004.</p> <p>A number of ongoing projects costed at over \$85 million will provide benefits for the Western Sydney region.</p> <p>EnergyAustralia carried out works to improve the reliability and security of the electricity distribution system. The projected expenditure for the end of 2002-03 is \$5.7 million.</p>
<p><b>Landcom</b> will spend <b>\$6 million</b> on <b>infrastructure development for industrial land sites</b> at Smeaton Grange and Ingleburn.</p>	<p>Landcom released strategic industrial land at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Ingleburn – 35 sites totalling 20 hectares were sold providing potential for 300 jobs and economic benefit. Infrastructure expenditure will be approximately \$4 million; and</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Landcom</b> will create approximately <b>820 home sites</b> in Western Sydney with expenditure of around <b>\$29 million</b>.</p> <p>A further <b>\$5 million</b> has been allocated by <b>Landcom</b> to continue water sewer and trunk drainage <b>infrastructure for the Rouse Hill Regional Centre</b>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Smeaton Grange – 30 sites totalling 8 hectares have been developed. Infrastructure expenditure will be approximately \$2 million in 2002-03. A further 100 hectares remains to be developed over the next four years.</li> </ul> <p>Landcom will have created approximately 988 homesites in Western Sydney with total expenditure in the order of \$52 million.</p> <p>The \$16 million amplification and upgrade of the Rouse Hill sewage treatment plant has been completed by Sydney Water.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>State and Regional Development and Tourism</b></p> <p>The <b>Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board</b> will be funded by the Department of State and Regional Development to the extent of <b>\$100,000</b> in 2002-03.</p> <p>Over <b>\$500,000</b> will be made available to eligible small and medium sized firms in Western Sydney through the <b>Small Business Expansion</b> and <b>High Growth Business Programs</b>.</p> <p>In 2002-03 the Department of State and Regional Development anticipates that approximately <b>\$500,000</b> will be provided to Western Sydney projects through the <b>Industries Assistance Fund</b>.</p>	<p>The Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board was given \$100,000 for administration costs for the 2002-03 financial year. The Board also received \$194,797 from the Regional Development Board program for individual projects including the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Hawkesbury Harvest Paddock to Plate business development and regional branding project;</li> <li>◆ Blue Mountains Advantage business and Environmental Accreditation project;</li> <li>◆ Premier's State of the Region Address – a major business networking event for the region; and</li> <li>◆ Creation of up-to-date Economic Development Profiles for the 14 Local Government Areas of Western Sydney.</li> </ul> <p>From July 2002 to March 2003, \$496,297 was provided to individual small to medium firms located in Greater Western Sydney through Small Business Development Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 23 companies were assisted to undertake 25 projects through the High Growth Business Program (\$175,178)</li> <li>◆ 21 IT companies were assisted to undertake 23 projects through the Small Business Expansion Program (\$113,260)</li> <li>◆ Eight companies were assisted to undertake eight projects through the Aboriginal Business Program;</li> <li>◆ Six companies were assisted to undertake eight projects through the Bio Business Program (\$86,336)</li> <li>◆ Eight companies were assisted to undertake 13 projects through the Export Opportunities Program (\$49,500) and</li> <li>◆ Six companies were assisted to undertake eight projects through the Australian Technology Showcase Program (\$51,398).</li> </ul> <p>From July 2002 to March 2003, four companies in Greater Western Sydney received \$531,032 through the Industries Assistance Fund.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Department will also provide small business advice to new business starters and newly established businesses through <b>Small Business Advisory Centres</b> at Blacktown, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Parramatta and Penrith, at an estimated cost of <b>\$400,000</b>.</p> <p>The Government is committed to spending \$16 million to 2004 on the <b>redevelopment of Katoomba and the major tourism attraction, the Echo Point Lookout</b>. Estimated expenditure for 2002-03 is <b>\$4.9 million</b>.</p> <p>In 2002-03, Tourism New South Wales will fund <b>Western Sydney tourism development</b> to the extent of <b>\$338,000</b>.</p>	<p>Over the 2002-03 financial year, \$394,000 was provided to five Small Business Advisory Centres servicing Greater Western Sydney to provide advice and information to new business starters and newly established businesses.</p> <p>From July 2002 to March 2003, expenditure on these redevelopments was \$5.84 million.</p> <p>In 2002-03 Tourism New South Wales expenditure for Western Sydney was \$407,000. This provided for tourism development support, public relations campaigns and promotions in NSW, Melbourne, Brisbane, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, UK, North America and New Zealand.</p>
<p><b>Skills Development and Resources</b></p> <p>Total operating costs for the <b>Western and South Western Sydney TAFE Institutes</b> and the Bankstown, Padstow and Lidcombe colleges within the <b>Southern Sydney TAFE Institute</b> are forecast at around <b>\$280 million</b> in 2002-03.</p> <p>An estimated <b>\$10 million</b> will be available to support <b>Industry Training Programs</b> in Western Sydney during 2002-03 within the Department of Education and Training's <b>Industry Training Service Centres</b> located at Bankstown, Liverpool and Parramatta.</p> <p>An additional <b>\$15 million</b> will be made available statewide for teacher quality and supply initiatives, e.g. teacher scholarships, retraining and accelerated teacher training programs.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, \$288.3 million was spent on operating costs for TAFE Institutes in Western Sydney.</p> <p>An estimated \$10 million was spent to support Industry Training Programs in Western Sydney during 2002-03 through the various programs delivered by the Program Field Units within the Department of Education and Training's Industry Training Service Centres located at Bankstown, Liverpool and Parramatta.</p> <p>205 applicants accepted scholarships in 2002. By 30 May 2003, 42 had completed training and been appointed to schools, including schools in Western Sydney; and 150 offers for the teacher education scholarship program have been made. Teachers who completed retraining programs, and trainees from the accelerated teacher training program were appointed to schools in Western Sydney and other areas in NSW in 2003.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Information Technology</b></p> <p>The Office of Information Technology will conduct a number of whole-of-government information and communications technology programs. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Connect.nsw</b></li> <li>◆ <b>ConnectingBusiness</b></li> <li>◆ <b>Better Service Delivery Program</b></li> </ul>	<p><i>connect.nsw</i> focuses on strategic, whole of government initiatives that bring about significant service delivery reform.</p> <p>The <i>connect.nsw</i> funding program continued to support agency, multi agency and government wide initiatives that deliver integrated e-Government services. To date, the funding program has supported more than 100 projects delivering a comprehensive range of online services for students, teachers, job seekers, young people, women, seniors, business and the general community.</p> <p>Two “e-community” demonstration projects were implemented in the Cranebrook and Toongabbie public housing estates. These projects provide access to the internet, online information and e-mail for residents through their television receiver, rather than a personal computer.</p> <p><i>bookshop.nsw</i> was established to allow NSW residents to purchase and download free government publications via the internet.</p> <p>Phase 1 was completed in the first half of 2003 and has enabled almost 500,000 business proprietors and around 7,500 licensees of motor dealerships, travel agencies and pawn broking and second-hand dealerships to lodge and pay their business registration and licence renewals via the new Online Licence Renewal Service.</p> <p>During 2002-03, the ReferralLink and ServiceLink applications were developed and trialed.</p> <p>Progressive implementation of PCs, communications and internet access, training and ServiceLink and ReferralLink applications for non-government organisations commenced. The application process for participation by non-government organisations in the program was commenced in Western Sydney.</p> <p>DoCS Metro South West Region is participating in stage 1 of the Better Service Delivery Program. A Regional Assessment Panel has been established and briefings for the community have been set up and invitations sent.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>NSW ICT Skills Action Plan</b></li> </ul>	<p>A Community Education Awareness Program, where a resource, <i>its about your career</i>, has been produced for</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>◆ <b>ServiceNSW</b></p>	<p>students and Career Advisers demonstrating how technology is used in a variety of industries. This resource is complemented by a multi media resource produced by students that looks into the various aspects of developing ICT and how young people are exploring this using commonly available technology.</p> <p>ServiceNSW is the NSW Government portal, providing links to government information and services. In 2002, ServiceNSW won the NSW Premiers Gold Award for “Best Practice in eGovernment”. ServiceNSW has been continually enhanced and now includes an <i>events.nsw</i> portal, a “one stop” portal to major events in New South Wales.</p>
<p><b>Agriculture</b></p> <p>Research, advisory, education and regulatory services will continue to be provided to the Western Sydney agricultural industries by NSW Agriculture staff based at Windsor (District Office), Camden (Elizabeth Macarthur Agriculture Institute), Richmond (Organic Waste Recycling Unit), Flemington (Regulatory Office) and Gosford (Horticultural Research and Advisory Station and Centre for Greenhouse Agriculture). The regional budget is <b>\$31.5 million</b>.</p>	<p>The expenditure of \$31.5 million in the Western Sydney Region has provided benefit to the general community by maintaining an environmentally sustainable future in the Sydney basin, while producing over \$1 billion worth of agricultural products a year.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Arts</b></p> <p>The Ministry for the Arts will allocate <b>\$500,000</b> for <b>Western Sydney Capital Infrastructure</b> and <b>\$1 million</b> for implementation of the <i>Strategy for the Arts in Western Sydney</i>.</p>	<p>Expenditure in 2002-03 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Four grants for capital infrastructure projects including the completion of the Blacktown Arts Centre, and the upgrade of the Fairfield School of Arts for Powerhouse Youth Theatre for Fairfield Council;</li> <li>◆ 17 grants to local government for arts development projects employing artists and arts workers;</li> <li>◆ \$30,000 to WSROC to continue a public art co-ordination project;</li> <li>◆ \$70,000 to Information and Cultural Exchange for the third edition of Artfiles a directory on Western Sydney artists and arts organisations;</li> <li>◆ \$250,000 to employ arts professionals in major venues funded through a special capital fund of \$14.9 million in 2001-02; and</li> <li>◆ Three Western Sydney Artists Fellowships.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Energy Exploration</b></p> <p>Sydney Gas has lodged a Development Application and an Environmental Impact Statement for the commercial production of coal-seam methane in the Camden and Wollondilly local government areas and PlanningNSW has prepared an assessment report for consideration by the Minister for Planning.</p>	<p>The Minister for Planning granted Sydney Gas development consent on 23 July 2002 for the commercial production of coal-bed methane in the Camden and Wollondilly local government areas.</p> <p>The Minister for Mineral Resources granted a Petroleum Production Lease for this area on 2 September 2002 and a further small Production Lease adjacent to the first one on 10 October 2002. Sydney Gas has commenced drilling and testing on its Stage II exploration area to the east of the production leases.</p>
<p><b>Living Centres Program</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the <b>Metropolitan Living Centres</b> expects to spend <b>\$836,200</b> on job creation, strong communities and sustainable growth programs in the Greater Homebush and the Parramatta to Chatswood Rail Corridor areas.</p>	<p>The Living Centres Teams in Greater Homebush and Chatswood-Parramatta Rail Corridor have worked with councils, communities, landowners and other stakeholders on a range of projects and initiatives which have increased employment opportunities, maximised opportunities for sustainable redevelopment and building vibrant communities.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES</b></p> <p><b>Health</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the Government plans to spend <b>\$1.4 billion on better health services</b> in Western Sydney. Recurrent funding for the Area Health Services will be: Western Sydney almost \$620 million; South Western Sydney \$552 million; and Wentworth \$227 million.</p> <p>Expenditure on <b>major new capital projects</b> commencing in 2002-03 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Nepean Hospital Emergency Department Redevelopment and Extension, \$1.8 million;</b></li> <li>◆ <b>Liverpool Hospital Emergency/Trauma Department Expansion, \$1.4 million; and</b></li> <li>◆ <b>Blue Mountains Hospital Clinical and Inpatient Units Redevelopment, \$1 million.</b></li> </ul> <p>The Asset Acquisition Program provides for the continuation of major upgrading/redevelopment works and major projects to proceed to contract in 2002-03, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Continuation of <b>the Macarthur Sector Strategy</b>: redevelopment of Camden Hospital; upgrading of Campbelltown Hospital; and a child care centre in Camden/Wollondilly, <b>\$16 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>Revised 2002-03 funding to health services in Western Sydney provides for over \$1.4 billion: Western Sydney Area Health Service - \$650 million; South Western Sydney Area Health Service - \$582 million; and Wentworth Area Health Service - \$241 million.</p> <p>Planning is complete and the contract for internal demolition and erection of the extension structure has been let. The project will meet increasing service needs and accommodate expanded acute and paediatric treatment areas, a short stay observation ward and administrative and public facilities. The estimated total cost is \$8.6 million, with completion expected in 2005.</p> <p>This project, currently in documentation phase, will increase the service capacity to treat emergency department cases. The estimated total cost is \$9.1 million, with completion anticipated in 2004.</p> <p>Design is in progress. The project will include consolidation and upgrading of ward areas including paediatrics and maternity, new dental unit, upgrade of outreach and clinical support services, engineering works, car parking, fire safety upgrade and construction of a new helipad. This project has been integrated in the Blue Mountains Redevelopment Strategy at an estimated total cost of \$11.4 million. Completion is expected in 2004.</p> <p>Two major hospital components are complete, including new building works at Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals. Provision of a Family Care Service is still to commence. Refurbishment at Campbelltown is progressing and expected to be fully completed by 2005. Other completed elements of the Strategy include: new Community Health Centres at Rosemeadow and Tahmoor, refurbishment of Campbelltown Child Health Centre, and provision of a community transport service.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Liverpool Mental Health Facilities, \$4 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>This project is currently in documentation stage with tenders for construction to be invited in 2003. This project will deliver inpatient services for the Liverpool area and increased ambulatory mental health services for adults, children, adolescents and the aged. The estimated total cost is \$25.9 million, with expected completion by June 2005.</p> <p>Expansion of the existing Liverpool Data Centre is being undertaken at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Blue Mountains Acute Inpatient Unit, \$2.5 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>Design is in progress to establish a 15 bed acute mental health inpatient unit on the Blue Mountains Hospital campus. The project has been integrated with the Blue Mountains Hospital Redevelopment Strategy. The project is expected to be completed in 2004.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Blue Mountains Hospital Hydrotherapy, \$400,000;</b></li> </ul>	<p>Construction of the hydrotherapy pool is complete, and was recently commissioned. \$0.9 million has been allocated for 2002-03; with a total cost of approximately \$1.5 million.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Fairfield/Liverpool Community Mental Health Services, \$1.6 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>The new facility was commissioned in January 2003. \$2 million has been allocated for 2002-03, with a total cost of approximately \$3.4 million. The new facility provides primary care services to the community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Neonatal Emergency Transport, \$4.3 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>Construction is in progress, and due for completion in November 2003. The new facility will provide basing facilities for the Newborn &amp; Paediatric Emergency Transport Service (NETS) and the helicopter provider, as well as a helicopter landing pad and hangar facilities at Westmead. \$5 million has been allocated for 2002-03, with an estimated total cost \$6.5 million.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Westmead Ambulatory Procedures Centre, \$3.3 million;</b></li> </ul>	<p>The Construction tender has been let to undertake works for the establishment of a new endoscopy suite, day surgery and peroperative suite, and pre-admission clinic. Completion is expected by June 2004, with the estimated cost of \$6 million.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Westmead Hospital Breast Centre, \$2.4 million; and</b></li> </ul>	<p>Construction works are in progress. The estimated total cost is \$3.8 million, with completion expected in August 2003.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Western Sydney Strategy (Westmead/Auburn Hospitals), \$7.1 million.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Planning design is in progress for the first stage redevelopment of Westmead and Auburn Hospitals. Psychogeriatric services will also be expanded at St Joseph's Hospital. Completion is due in 2007. \$8.8 million has been allocated for 2002-03, with the estimated total cost at \$178.5 million.</p>
<p>NSW Health will provide recurrent funding to maintain and expand specialised health services in Western Sydney, including:</p>	

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Mental Health Services, \$150 million;</b></li>   <li>◆ <b>Mental health assessment units</b> at the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre and Mulawa Correctional Centre, <b>\$700,000;</b></li>   <li>◆ <b>Dental Services</b> will be allocated an estimated <b>\$33 million;</b></li>   <li>◆ The <b>Rehabilitation and Extended Care Program</b> will be allocated an estimated <b>\$183 million;</b></li>   <li>◆ The <b>Intensive Care Plan</b> at Westmead and Liverpool hospitals, <b>\$3.4 million;</b></li>   <li>◆ <b>Emergency Department Services</b> will receive an additional <b>\$2.7 million</b> per annum; and</li>   <li>◆ The <b>Westmead Millennium Research Institute</b> will receive <b>\$1 million.</b></li> </ul>	<p>During 2002-03, the number of full time equivalent clinical staff rose by 50 and 48 additional high-level supported accommodation places were provided in Western Sydney. Six new beds were opened in Cumberland Hospital, four new Child and Adolescent beds opened in Redbank House and another ten-bed Child and Adolescent Unit opened in Campbelltown.</p> <p>In 2002-03, funds totalling \$0.7 million were provided to Corrections Health Service for the joint operation of two mental health assessment units with the Department of Corrective Services.</p> <p>Funding for Dental Services reflects an increase of \$6.9 million since 1999-2000. Service provision per annum has increased from 303,000 occasions of service to 447,000 over that period.</p> <p>Expenditure on this program has been applied to improve or maintain the well-being and independent functioning of people with disabilities or chronic conditions, the frail aged and the terminally ill.</p> <p>\$4.2 million per annum has been allocated to allow the operation of additional tertiary intensive care beds (Westmead Hospital and Liverpool Hospital) and assist in managing statewide intensive care capacity.</p> <p>Emergency Departments within Western Sydney received an additional \$2.7 million per annum to assist in improving patient care, patient flows and waiting times as well as access to hospital beds for those that require ongoing care. \$5.5 million has been allocated as part of the Rapid Emergency Assessment Team and Emergency Medicine Unit projects.</p> <p>\$1 million capital funding has been allocated to the Westmead Millennium Research Institute as part of the Phase 2 development of the Westmead Research Hub. This project will increase the physical space available for conducting research.</p> <p>Before this project can commence, it is necessary to create a business and project plan and to develop the Research Hub more generally. The capital funds will be rolled over to 2003-04. NSW Health is providing \$0.250 million per annum for three years, commencing this financial year to support the initial business and project planning and implementation stages of the Hub.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Ambulance Service</b> expenditure in 2002-03 is estimated at <b>\$36 million</b>.</p>	<p>The NSW Ambulance Service operates 21 stations, employs 483 staff and utilises 108 front-line and specialised vehicles to serve the Western Sydney community.</p> <p>A statewide review of Ambulance operations was completed in 2001. Resulting from this review, the Service has introduced a series of roster reforms which are designed to better match resources to demand. These include the introduction of Rapid response paramedics; skill mixed crews, which in effect will increase the number of ambulances in which a paramedic is rostered. Rapid response crews have commenced in the Western Sector of Sydney with further rapid response crews planned for the South Western sector in 2003-04. It is planned to increase staff numbers by an additional 22 ambulance officers within Western Sydney with training provided from May 2003.</p> <p>The Service is currently progressing with the feasibility studies for replacement station(s) in the Campbelltown/Eaglevale area. The current site is no longer seen as viable given the growth patterns of demand within the area. Further planning of this project will continue into 2003-04.</p>
<p><b><i>Education and Training</i></b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the Department of Education and Training estimates that in Western Sydney it will commit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Approximately <b>\$1.63 billion</b> in <b>operating costs for primary and secondary schools</b>;</li> <li>◆ Over <b>\$68 million</b> on major <b>school capital works projects</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$36.7 million</b> on <b>school building maintenance</b>;</li> <li>◆ Approximately <b>\$280 million</b> in <b>operating costs for TAFE Institutes</b>; and</li> <li>◆ <b>\$7.8 million</b> for the <b>development and refurbishment of TAFE facilities</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>In 2002-03, the Department spent approximately \$1.74 billion in operating costs for over 220,000 students in Western Sydney's government primary and secondary schools.</p> <p>Over \$70 million was spent on major capital works projects for schools in Western Sydney.</p> <p>\$36.7 million was spent on school building maintenance.</p> <p>In 2002-03, \$288.3 million was spent on operating costs for TAFE Institutes in Western Sydney.</p> <p>\$8.8 million was spent for the development and refurbishment of TAFE facilities.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Department will continue its <b>Computers in Schools Program</b>, which has provided schools in the Western Sydney area with more than <b>\$43.7 million</b> of computer equipment.</p> <p><b>\$6 million</b> will be provided to schools and TAFE colleges for the provision of <b>e-mail and a range of internet and collaborative services for students and teachers</b>.</p> <p>Schools in the region will be provided with a <b>Computer Co-ordinator's Grant of \$5.6 million</b> and a <b>Technology Grant of \$4.1 million</b>.</p> <p><b>\$843,500</b> will be allocated to the <b>Technology in Learning and Teaching (TILT) Program</b>.</p> <p>Over <b>\$17.1 million</b> will be made available for the <b>Back-to-School Allowance</b>.</p> <p>Over <b>\$36 million</b> will be provided for literacy and numeracy strategies as part of the <b>State Literacy and Numeracy Plan</b>.</p>	<p>The total value of computer equipment supplied to schools in Western Sydney for the Computers in Schools initiative, has now reached \$55.8 million.</p> <p>Piloting in schools and TAFE has highlighted issues which are progressively being addressed. This has put the project behind schedule and it is now projected that the majority of expenditure estimated to be incurred in Western Sydney for 2002-03, will not occur until 2003-04. Expenditure in 2002-03 is now estimated at \$500,000.</p> <p>The implementation of high-speed telecommunications services in Western Sydney commenced in Term 4 of 2002. All facilities are to receive their initial upgrading to high-speed services by the end of the 2003 calendar year. The schools in the Western Sydney area were provided with a Computer Co-ordinator's Grant of \$5.6 million and Technology Grants of \$4.1 million to assist in the employment of staff and the purchase of computer related materials.</p> <p>A total of \$923,910 was allocated for the TILT program (\$496,160) and TILT Plus program (\$427,750) in 2002-03.</p> <p>Over \$17 million was made available for Back-to-School Allowance payments to families in Western Sydney in 2002-03 to help them in meeting the costs of schooling their children.</p> <p>Over \$36 million was provided for the 2002-03 literacy and numeracy strategies in schools throughout Western Sydney as part of the State Literacy and Numeracy Plan, of which a significant component was the Reading Recovery Program.</p> <p>Examples of strategies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The professional services of K-8 literacy and mathematics consultants, working with teachers to ensure the continuity of students' literacy and numeracy development from Stages 1 to 4;</li> <li>◆ The Counting On program addressed the needs of students with difficulties with mathematics; this program operated in 27 secondary schools and 67 related primary schools in 2002;</li> <li>◆ The Count Me In Too program provided \$950,000 in support of professional development primary teachers in teaching numeracy;</li> <li>◆ In 2002-03, \$493,765 was allocated to 110 targeted</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>primary schools to assist students requiring additional support;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Eight Linkages consultants managed and supported 48 Linkages initiatives which involved approximately 200 primary and secondary schools and support teachers of students in Years 5–8 to ensure that students’ literacy and numeracy development was maintained and extended;</li> <li>◆ Forty-eight secondary schools in the Western Sydney region implemented the TAFE peer tutoring program in 2002. A further 17 secondary schools were funded to begin implementing the program; and</li> <li>◆ The Consistent Teacher Judgement program was implemented in 2002-03, with funding of more than \$180,000 to Western Sydney schools.</li> </ul>
<p><b>\$150,000</b> will be provided to the <b>Parents as Teachers Program</b> at Sadleir and Madang Avenue (Mount Druitt) Public Schools.</p> <p><b>Reading Recovery</b> is an early intervention program for students who after one year of school, are experiencing difficulties learning to read and write. It is anticipated that \$6 million will be allocated to greater Western Sydney for Reading Recovery in 2002-03</p> <p><b>\$400,000</b> will be made available to pilot the <b>Primary Connect</b> project for vulnerable young people in the Fairfield and Macquarie Fields communities.</p> <p><b>\$7.1 million</b> will be provided to <b>socio-economically disadvantaged schools</b> in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>This program increases parents’ knowledge of child development and the appropriate ways to stimulate their children's intellectual, language, social and motor development. Developmental problems are identified early; child abuse and neglect is prevented. Parent-child interactions are enhanced and family relationships strengthened. Strong partnerships between parents and schools are developed.</p> <p>In 2002, 275 teachers across 219 Greater Western Sydney schools supported 2,415 students within the Reading Recovery Program.</p> <p>The Primary Connect project supports and strengthens the relationships and connection between vulnerable children and their families, peers, schools and communities; it increases the capability of communities to identify, prioritise and plan responses to the needs of vulnerable children. Services are accessed by vulnerable children at risk of harm from drug abuse.</p> <p>The Priority Schools Funding Program (PSFP) provided additional support to assist school communities to improve students’ literacy and numeracy achievements and participation. Approximately \$7.2 million was provided in targeted funding to 132 socio-economically disadvantaged schools in Western Sydney. These schools were supported by an additional 108 teachers. In addition, \$100,000 was provided to school districts in Western Sydney to implement literacy, numeracy and participation initiatives involving networks of schools. More effective partnerships were developed between schools and their communities.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Other initiatives</b></p> <p>Additional funds will be provided to support students and their communities in Western Sydney in response to Government commitments and targeted programs.</p>	<p>2002-03 programs included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 13 Summer Schools for students from low socio-economic status communities were delivered by TAFE NSW over 14 days in January, 2003. TAFE colleges in the Campbelltown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Bankstown and Blacktown school districts provided activities with a vocational focus such as ICT (Information and Communications Technology), Automotive and Tourism (Operations). 195 students from Western Sydney received this accredited training and received a scholarship payment of \$500. More than \$325,000 was allocated to this initiative, largely from industry sponsorship. The Ready for High School program provided \$15,000 for Western Sydney students (going from Year 6 to Year 7) from low socio-economic status backgrounds, to improve their literacy, numeracy and computing skills over the summer vacation;</li> <li>◆ Approximately \$24,000 was provided as part of <i>Study Plus</i> for initiatives in Western Sydney that support talented students from low socio-economic status backgrounds to undertake challenging experiences in English or mathematics;</li> <li>◆ Approximately \$16,000 was provided to schools to provide extra support during a vacation period for students moving from Year 10 to Year 11 who were experiencing difficulties in their studies, particularly in English, mathematics and computing;</li> <li>◆ Approximately \$651,700 was provided to selected districts in Western Sydney for initiatives that support the retention, participation and completion of school to Year 12 of young people at risk. These initiatives include <i>Plan-It Youth Community Mentoring Program</i>, <i>Gateways Program</i> and <i>Homework Plus Program</i> within the <i>Youth Partnership with Arabic Speaking Communities</i>, <i>Gateways: Community and Learning Networks</i>, and <i>Bridging the Gap</i> program.</li> <li>◆ 249 students from 18 schools were helped by 250 trained community mentors to plan their education, training and employment pathways.</li> <li>◆ 425 students at risk of dropping out of school and/or of drug misuse from 12 schools in the Fairfield district, were case managed and mentored through the Gateways program to support their retention and completion of school.</li> <li>◆ 52 Arabic speaking students “at risk” were referred to</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>the Gateways component of the Youth Partnership with Arabic speaking communities for case management and mentoring support. 17 Homework Plus centres were established across four school districts to support the literacy and numeracy development of identified students in Years 7 to 10. Over 900 students attended the Homework Plus centres in 2002.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 48 young people at risk of leaving school before Year 10 were supported with employment, education and training pathways through the Bridging the Gap initiative.</li> <li>◆ The <i>After Hours HSC Coaching</i> program allocated a total of \$135,000 to 27 high schools in Western Sydney to provide extra tuition in HSC subjects to educationally disadvantaged students.</li> </ul>
<p>The <b>Student Assistance Scheme</b> provides financial support to those students in greatest need. It is expected that over <b>\$1.4 million</b> will be distributed in 2002-03.</p> <p><b>\$312,000</b> will be allocated for the <b>TAFE Youth at Risk Program</b> in the region.</p> <p>An estimated <b>\$600,000</b> will be provided to schools in Western Sydney to enable Years 9 to 12 students to <b>develop individual school to work plans</b>.</p>	<p>The Student Assistance Scheme provided financial support of over \$1.4 million to Western Sydney schools in 2002-03.</p> <p>In 2002-03, \$303,232 was expended under the program in Western Sydney as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$96,209 by Western Sydney Institute of TAFE for Outreach Off-Campus Certificate of General and Vocational Education for Early School Leavers (Blue Mountains), Sudanese Youth at Risk (Blacktown), TafeLink (Richmond), Mums on the Move (Richmond) and Child Studies Youth (Baulkham Hills);</li> <li>◆ \$108,966 by South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE for Minto Youth off the Streets (Macquarie Fields), Maximiss (Miller), Granville Alternative TAFE Education (GATE) for Gals and Guys (Granville) and Alternative Learning for Young People (Campbelltown); and</li> <li>◆ \$98,057 by Southern Sydney Institute of TAFE (Lidcombe, Padstow and Bankstown) for Job Skills for Wood Trades (Lidcombe College), Exploring Work Skills Options (Lidcombe).</li> </ul> <p>Students in Years 9-12 have developed school-to-work plans, and are able to track and record their employment-related skills. Schools are providing students with more information on future employment options and pathways.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>\$200,000</b> will be provided to nine Western Sydney school districts to implement locally devised strategies to <b>improve the work readiness of students</b>.</p> <p><b>\$50,000</b> will be provided to support the organisation of <b>interactive career expos</b>.</p> <p><b>\$500,000</b> will be provided for <b>work placement co-ordination programs</b> for students undertaking HSC VET courses.</p> <p>Around <b>\$4.1 million</b> will be expended by schools in Western Sydney under the <b>Vocational Education and Training in Schools Program</b> for the provision of vocational training by both TAFE and private providers.</p> <p>The <b>TAFE NSW Scholarship Scheme</b> will support further study to all young people who have successfully completed vocational education and training courses as part of their HSC over Years 11 and 12.</p>	<p>Students in Western Sydney government schools are better prepared to participate in workplace learning programs.</p> <p>Professional development activities for teachers focusing on the implementation of work readiness programs and resources have been provided.</p> <p>Additional funding has been provided to support the Lighthouse Project in Western Sydney (targeting <i>at risk</i> students).</p> <p>Development of Statewide work-ready support materials targeting students with disabilities, parents, community members, employers and workplace supervisors.</p> <p>Over 3,500 Year 10 students in Western Sydney experienced the enterprising, education and training pathways presented by local “role model” speakers at eight Jobs Alive motivational career events.</p> <p>All students in Western Sydney government schools will have access to locally organised career expos offering accurate advice from industry representatives about employment and training opportunities.</p> <p>The VET work placement program is strategically managed to support business/industry participation. Local community partnerships have been developed to support structured work placement.</p> <p>In 2002-03, approximately \$4.3 million was distributed to schools in Western Sydney under the program which enabled school students to receive TAFE credentials with pathways to further study and employment, while also gaining credit under the new HSC structure.</p> <p>Almost 800 scholarships were offered to applicants for the 2003 period.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>\$290,000</b> will be available to students in government secondary schools in Western Sydney to undertake <b>study of languages overseas</b>.</p> <p>Additional statewide funding will be provided in 2002-03 for <b>Network Bandwidth</b> comprising <b>\$31 million in recurrent funding and \$25 million in capital funding</b>.</p> <p>The <b>Department of Housing</b> is working with TAFE to provide pre-vocational <b>training in the building industry</b> for up to 20 residents in Toongabbie and <b>landscaping traineeships</b> are being offered to residents through the <b>Community Renewal Strategy</b>. The Department's <b>Live 'N Learn Foundation Project</b> will provide opportunities for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to access secure housing linked to training and work.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, an amount of \$198,200 or approximately 22 percent of available funds, was allocated to 201 students from 20 secondary schools in Western Sydney to undertake intensive language study overseas.</p> <p>In 2002-03, funding for 2.6 new community language teacher positions has been made available to government primary schools in Western Sydney. \$2,600 has been allocated to schools to assist with the purchase of resources. In Western Sydney there are 27,493 students in 65 primary schools (140.4 teacher positions) who are learning a community language. This represents almost 50 percent of the total teacher positions in the K-6 Community Language Program.</p> <p>The implementation of high speed telecommunications services in Western Sydney commenced in Term 4 of 2002. High speed telecommunications services have been selected for all schools and TAFE colleges, enabling all facilities to receive their initial upgrading to high speed services by the end of the 2003 calendar year.</p> <p>The Miller Campus of the Live and Learn Foundation has commenced operation, providing opportunities for 29 young people. Premier's Department and the Department of Housing have contributed \$750,000 towards upgrading of the property and establishment costs. Management services are being provided by Wesley Mission.</p>
<p><b>Women</b></p> <p>The Department for Women will provide services for women in Western Sydney, including: a Women's Information Referral Service; a Website providing information on current activities of the Department; Women's Gateway, a portal enabling women to access information for their needs via the Internet; and the services of one officer specifically to undertake the Department's commitment to Western Sydney.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, the Department for Women provided a number of services for women in Western Sydney on an ongoing basis. The Women's Information and Referral Service provided free, confidential and culturally sensitive information and referral for women and their families. The Department's website and the Women's Gateway portal continued to provide information on the current activities of the Department and to provide links on issues of importance to women.</p> <p>Women's access to Information and Communication Technology continued to be a focal point of the Department's work with women in Western Sydney.</p> <p>e-summer schools are a joint NSW Government and Industry initiative based on a USA program. The NSW Program targets students from disadvantaged areas and</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>provides them with an ICT learning experience that will encourage further ICT study and hopefully lead to female students choosing to pursue a career in ICT. In 2003, the Program broadened to include horticulture, automotive, tourism, hospitality, visual arts and ICT summer schools. DFW continues to sponsor the Program and has a specific interest in encouraging girls' participation in non-traditional areas such as ICT and automotive courses.</p> <p>In 2003, Summer Schools were held at the Granville (ICT), Campbelltown (ICT), Wetherill Park (ICT, Automotive), Miller (ICT), Blacktown (ICT, Automotive), Nepean (Visual Arts), and Mt Druitt (ICT) Colleges of TAFE.</p> <p>The Department contributed to the development of the Older Women Online Strategy, which was initiated by the Premier's Department and aims to increase the availability and adoption of communication and IT by older people in NSW. The Department allocated \$100,000 from the Women's Grants Program in 2001-02 to establish two pilot projects, including one in Western Sydney. The Local Community Services Association (LCSA) received \$50,000 to target older women from diverse cultural backgrounds in the Western Sydney region. The <i>Hands On</i> project conducted Information Technology training and skills development for older women living in the Auburn-Liverpool-Fairfield-Parramatta-Holroyd areas. The project trained older women to become mentors/trainers in their own communities and established ongoing community IT access points to facilitate women's use of IT. 125 women participated; 24 women gained the skills to facilitate local learning opportunities; seven locally based centres gained Community Access Computers where women can freely access IT; and over 30 organisations worked (and are continuing to work) in partnership to achieve project aims.</p> <p>The Department for Women and the Premier's Council for Women provided \$10,000 in cash towards the <i>Western Sydney IT Start Up Award 2002</i> which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Assist entrepreneurs in Western Sydney to start-up a new business venture;</li> <li>◆ Encourage, promote and support research and development, innovation and the commercialisation of new ideas and technologies; and</li> <li>◆ Promote and foster entrepreneurship.</li> </ul> <p>The Award was for a business owned and operated by a woman working in Western Sydney. Kim Aubrey was the winner of the <i>IT Woman of the Future 2002</i> Award for her <i>Living Memories</i> business which takes photographs, documents, art work and/or literature and turns them into a</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>unique digital format on computer CD.</p> <p>The Department for Women aims to increase women's participation in leadership and decision-making roles. One area of focus is to increase the number of women elected to local councils. As part of the campaign to encourage women to stand for election for the 2003 local government elections the Department for Women designed an information kit - "<i>Hands Up for Women in Council</i>"- to provide practical advice and information for women who may be considering standing for election and to assist women once newly elected.</p> <p>The Department for Women also led the development of a 10-Point Plan towards best practice in local councils. Designed to encourage greater participation by women in local government, the Plan aims to encourage councils to adopt principles and strategies, which may help overcome women's under-representation in councils' decision-making processes, including mentoring, induction, and recognition of family and other responsibilities. Women from Western Sydney have taken an active part in the project, with Parramatta City Council involved in the ten-point plan, and councillors from Blacktown, Auburn, Penrith, Bankstown, Camden and Liverpool contributing to the information kit.</p> <p>The Department supported young women's access to opportunities through the Girl Savvy workshop program educating, inspiring and motivating young women about the importance of being economically empowered and financially independent. Seventy girls attended a workshop at Rooty Hill, mentored by local professional and businesswomen with further workshops planned for Mt Druitt.</p> <p>The contribution women make to the diversity and capacity of the region was showcased in a photographic project developed in partnership between the Department for Women and the Office of Western Sydney. Fifteen women who are graduates of the Office of Western Sydney's Corporate Partners for Change Program and employed as nurse-assistants in the aged care industry participated in the photo-narrative project – Women of Macarthur Celebrating Change. Two images of each woman, one in a work and one in a home context, document their diversity and ability to manage change at a community and personal level. A selection of photographs was exhibited at Customs House, Circular Quay, in early March 2003 as part of the <i>Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Lives Photographic Exhibition</i> for International Week for Women. The complete Women of Macarthur photographic project will be exhibited in Western Sydney later in 2003.</p>
Other programs which will assist women in	

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>Western Sydney in 2002-03:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Department of Health will provide approximately <b>\$10 million</b> for <b>Women's Health Services</b>, e.g. <b>breast screening and assessment service (\$4 million)</b>; projects to encourage women to have <b>regular pap smears (\$300,000)</b>; <b>support to non-government organisations</b> to be expended on a range of women's health services (<b>\$4.7 million</b>); training, <b>health promotion</b> and co-ordination (<b>\$600,000</b>); NSW <b>Education Program on female genital mutilation (\$200,000)</b>; and improved <b>safety for women</b> and innovative service delivery <b>health models for Aboriginal women (\$97,000)</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>NSW Health has an ongoing commitment to providing high quality services in response to women's health needs in Western Sydney. As part of this commitment NSW Health provides leadership in women's health policy development and implementation, provides funding and works in partnership with South Western Sydney Area Health Service, Western Sydney Area Health Service and Wentworth Area Health Service to maintain the infrastructure required to address the needs of women in Western Sydney. NSW Health also provides significant funding and works in partnership with a number of non-government organisations to improve the health outcomes of the Western Sydney women.</p> <p>In 2002-03 NSW Health provided over \$11 million for women's health initiatives in Western Sydney:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$4.8 million was utilised by BreastScreen NSW for breast cancer screening and assessment services for women in Western Sydney. Approximately 68,000 screening mammograms were carried out on women over 40 years of age in Western Sydney compared with 65,000 in 2001-02;</li> <li>◆ \$300,000 was allocated for projects to encourage women in Western Sydney to have regular pap smears every two years;</li> <li>◆ \$5 million recurrent funding was provided to non government organisations to deliver a range of health services to women in Western Sydney including cancer prevention, counselling, sexual health services and anti-violence strategies and support. (Non Government Grant Program);</li> <li>◆ A further \$500,000 was provided to fund a number of non government organisations to deliver a range of health services to improve health outcomes of women in Western Sydney, including improving of birthing outcomes for Aboriginal women. (Women's Health Strategy);</li> <li>◆ \$550,000 was provided to South Western Sydney Area Health Service, Western Sydney Area Health Service and Wentworth Area Health Service to fund health services and to maintain the infrastructure to address the health needs of women in Western Sydney. This included \$200,000 provided for the Female Genital Mutilation Program. (Women's Health Strategy);</li> <li>◆ \$253,000 was provided to fund innovative projects to build strong partnerships in the community, to enhance social networks and build community capacity that allows women in Western Sydney to develop skills and capabilities and facilitates cooperation and participation to improve their health outcomes. This included: Drugs in pregnancy consumer consultation project \$82,000, Support opportunities for young women who are</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>mothers and girls aged 12-20 years: a model for the Macarthur \$106,400, Evaluation of the “Strengthening support networks for women in socially disadvantaged communities project” \$30,000, and the Blacktown teenage pregnancy initiative \$35,000 (Women’s Health Strategy).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Department of Community Services will continue to provide joint Commonwealth/State funding for services to meet the needs of Western Sydney women in 2002-03 including: more than <b>\$5.4 million</b> for 18 refuges for <b>women escaping domestic violence</b> and almost <b>\$1 million</b> for six <b>Women’s Housing Programs</b>.</li> <li>◆ The Department of State and Regional Development has allocated <b>\$18,000</b> for its <b>Women in Business Mentor Program</b>.</li> <li>◆ The Legal Aid Commission will fund the <b>Women’s Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme</b> in Western Sydney to the extent of more than <b>\$900,000</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>DoCS Metro South West region funds nine refuges for women escaping domestic violence at \$2.98 million and five Women’s Housing Programs at \$736,044.</p> <p>From July 2002 to March 2003, \$31,005 was allocated for the Women in Business Mentor Program for the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mentoring programs held in Parramatta and Campbelltown, \$24,2000; and</li> <li>◆ Four free business skills workshops for women in Parramatta, \$6,805.</li> </ul> <p>The Commission provided funding to WDVCA Schemes in the Bankstown, Blacktown, Blue Mountains/Lithgow, Harris Park, Hawkesbury/Nepean, Liverpool/Fairfield, Campbelltown, Parramatta/Ryde and Penrith/Mt Druitt areas, totalling \$970,000.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Services for children and families</b></p> <p>The <b>Families First Strategy</b>, is designed to extend the parenting skills of parents with children under eight years of age. In 2002-03, allocations for prevention and early intervention services to support families will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$4.71 million</b> in South Western Sydney;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$1.81 million</b> in the Penrith, Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury regions; and</li> <li>◆ <b>\$1.02 million</b> in Cumberland/Prospect.</li> </ul>	<p>In the Nepean region, the following strategies have been implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Early intervention workers are being employed in Hawkesbury, the Blue Mountains and the Nepean (\$340,000 recurrently) and managed by local Family Support Associations;</li> <li>◆ The implementation group has sort expressions of interest for one-off grants of up to \$50,000 each totalling \$200,000 for the community organisations to promote the importance of a child's early years;</li> <li>◆ Preparation of a Learning and Development Strategy to support service providers develop skills in prevention and early intervention has commenced;</li> <li>◆ A Networking Project to assist service providers to improve practice and to coordinate service delivery for shared clients has been initiated;</li> <li>◆ Demographic research to identify priority communities and initiate local community plans for 4 local areas has been undertaken;</li> <li>◆ The research project 'Supporting Families – Understanding the Needs of Parents and Carers'. The report was launched by Minister Tebbutt on 14 March 2003. The outcomes of the consultations with parents and service providers will inform the Families First Framework for Nepean;</li> <li>◆ Families First Cumberland/Prospect has completed its initial planning phase and begun purchasing new and expanded services and research projects. Accordingly, expressions of interests have been called for nine major new projects including a Parent Support project. It is anticipated that full expenditure of \$870,000 will be achieved across the Cumberland/Prospect networks within the Metro West Region;</li> </ul> <p>In 2003-04 the Families First budget will increase to \$1.97 million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A project with local families and service providers has been completed across the Nepean that identified their needs for information and support. Information collected is being utilised to inform further Families First planning in Nepean 2003 -2004 (\$57,000);</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Wentworth Area Health Service is reviewing its home visiting program and addressing current service models to include families not currently accessing services (\$215,000);</li> <li>◆ One-off service grants to assist non government and local government agencies are being provided to promote an awareness of the importance of children's early years and to assist parents develop or enhance the local service network (\$190,000); and</li> <li>◆ The service network is being enhanced by improving collaboration and coordination between services (\$75,000);</li> </ul> <p>In the Cumberland /Prospect region, the following plans are being implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Western Sydney Area Health Service (WSAHS) is reviewing prenatal services and developing a sustained home visiting program (\$70,000);</li> <li>◆ The WSAHS is running a project to improve support to Aboriginal families by enhancing existing prenatal and home visiting services (\$82,000 recurrent);</li> <li>◆ Parents' need for information is being identified and a system developed to coordinate parenting groups across five local government areas in the Cumberland/Prospect region (\$80,000);</li> <li>◆ A service network structure is being developed at a local government area level to further enhance the referral and planning process (\$60,000);</li> <li>◆ Early intervention family support workers specifically for newly arrived families in Australia are being employed in Auburn and Blacktown (\$120,000 recurrent);</li> <li>◆ Culturally appropriate strategies to link families of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds to the community are being established (\$200,000); and</li> <li>◆ Community Hubs (in Granville and Riverstone) and Schools as Community Centres (in North Auburn and The Meadows Primary School) are being established (\$214,000).</li> </ul> <p>In the South Western Sydney region, the following strategies are being implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Funding to the Volunteer Home Visiting and Family Work services in the Macarthur area, Bankstown,</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>Liverpool and Fairfield, is being continued (\$1.9 million). These services provide in home support to families to assist reduce isolation, link families with other supports in the community and provide information on parenting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Funding has been provided to expand supported playgroup opportunities, providing play opportunities for children and information and support for parents, for families across South Western Sydney (\$595 000); and</li> <li>◆ Schools as Community Centres projects to support parents raising children and develop local support networks have been funded to the extent of \$414,800 at Rosemeadow, Fairfield, Bonnyrigg, Cabramatta, Canley Vale and Ashcroft.</li> </ul> <p>Also in 2002-03, the Better Futures Regional Strategy has been developed with a demonstration project at the Werrington Youth Service to be established to focus on supporting young people into high school, assisting families to care for their teenagers and provide recreational opportunities (\$143,000 per year for two years).</p>
<p>The <b>Primary Connect Project</b>, to enhance the capacity to intervene early with children and young people “at risk” before their problems become entrenched, will be piloted at Macquarie Fields and Fairfield, with funding of <b>\$400,000</b>.</p> <p>The Department of Community Services has three offices in Western Sydney and in 2002-03 their <b>operating expenditures</b> will be: <b>Penrith \$1.016 million; Parramatta \$1.631 million; and Campbelltown \$2.807 million.</b></p> <p>The Department of Community Services will provide a range of services through the <b>Community Services Grants Program</b> in 2002-03 with expenditure of <b>\$23.16 million</b>. The program assists and supports disadvantaged people to maintain their independence and enhance their quality of life.</p>	<p>Positive relationships and connections between vulnerable children and their families, peers, schools, and communities are promoted and supported.</p> <p>The capacity of communities to identify the needs of vulnerable children is increased.</p> <p>Services are accessed by vulnerable children at risk of harm from drug abuse.</p> <p>Metro South West Regional Office has recently relocated from Campbelltown to Bankstown. Operating expenditure for the Regional office is \$4.16 million.</p> <p>The Reform Framework for the CSGP has been successfully implemented in DoCS’ Metro West Region including the completion of Service Specifications of 100% of projects by end May 2003. The CSGP is providing support to disadvantaged people through 4 sub-program streams via 235 community based projects. These include 5 Child Protection projects; 105 Community Development projects; 51 Family and Individual Support projects and 74 Youth Services.</p> <p>Across DoCS’ Metro South West Region, \$13.46 million has been provided for 172 projects. These are categorised in the following program descriptions:</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Child Protection \$546,496;</li> <li>◆ Community Development \$4.2 million;</li> <li>◆ Family and Individual support \$5.87 million;</li> <li>◆ Youth Services \$2.83 million.</li> </ul> <p>DoCS has been working with its community partners to work in line with the newly developed CSGP Framework.</p>
<p>The <b>Supported Accommodation Assistance Program</b> is a joint Commonwealth/State Program. The program aims to provide transitional supported accommodation and related support services to help people who are homeless. The Department of Community Services' program allocation in 2002-03 will be <b>\$19.78 million</b>.</p> <p>The <b>Out-of-Home Care Program</b> provides essential foster and residential care services to support and care for children and young people who are no longer able to live at home with their family. Funding in 2002-03 for this program in Western Sydney will be <b>\$8.471 million</b>.</p>	<p>The SAAP IV Implementation Plan for DoCS' Metro West Region is continuing across the Region, based on a scheduled release of new growth funds. SAAP service specifications continue to be negotiated between SAAP agencies and DoCS to collaboratively plan for service provision against the SAAP IV Service Framework. The program continues to provide a continuum of care in accommodation to women, families and young people through the ongoing operation of 60 projects.</p> <p>The Metro West Region program has successfully provided support and accommodation for women, women with children, single men and youth in the Region. These services were provided under 5 separate sub programs. These comprised 13 Women's Emergency Services, 26 Youth Support Accommodation projects, 6 Youth Social Justice Strategy projects, 11 General Supported Accommodation, 2 case management and 2 Women's Housing projects. Total funding committed for 2003/04 is \$12.7 million in Metro West.</p> <p>Across DoCS Metro South West Region \$10.2 million has been provided for 43 projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Drug Summit GITS \$167,184 (as mentioned previously in Drugs &amp; Alcohol Services);</li> <li>◆ General Supported Accommodation \$1.49 million;</li> <li>◆ Women's Emergency Accommodation \$2.98 million;</li> <li>◆ Women's Housing \$736,044;</li> <li>◆ Youth Social Justice Strategy \$554,033;</li> <li>◆ Youth Services Accommodation \$4.27 million.</li> </ul> <p>\$202,000 recurrent funding has been allocated to the Region to enhance service provision in line with SAAP IV.</p> <p>\$242,000 non-recurrent funding will be allocated by 30 June 2003 to enhance viability issues for SAAP services in the area.</p> <p>The Out-of-Home Program funds provide a range of services in Metro West region. These comprise a combination of preventative services, residential, foster care, adoption and group home services. During 2002-03, organisations based in the Metro West Region were allocated \$7.52 million dollars and 20 projects were funded.</p> <p>There are approximately 1,478 children and young people in the Department's care in Metro West in foster care,</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>kinship care and residential arrangements. Recruitment and Training of Muslim foster carers has been maintained. In the past year 60 additional carers have been recruited.</p> <p>Agreements have been entered into with Out of Home Care organisations to provide fee-for-service arrangements for individual clients in line with current DoCS Out of Home Care policy. Agreements have been developed outlining expected costing and service outcomes. Requirements for individual assessment have been introduced to ensure that appropriate purchasing of fee-for-service occurs to best assist clients.</p> <p>In DoCS' Metro South West Region there are 9 funded Out of Home Care projects, funded at \$1.79 million, for 2003-4.</p>
<p>Funding through the <b>Children's Services Program</b> assists communities to provide childcare and related services. The Department of Community Services licenses and monitors child care services. In 2002-03, the Department will provide <b>\$20.167 million</b> in funding for 464 Children's Services projects in Western Sydney.</p> <p>The <b>After School Youth Service</b> at Penrith, Mt Druitt and Bankstown provides safe and supportive places for young people after school. <b>\$620,000</b> has been allocated for this initiative in 2002-03.</p>	<p>Within DoCS' Metro West Region, the program has successfully provided over 290 childcare and related services. These have included 22 Early Childhood projects, 216 Pre-Schools and Day Care Centre projects and 52 Vacation Care projects. Total funding committed for 2003-04 is \$ 13.09 million.</p> <p>The SCAN (Scheme for Children with Additional Needs) strategy in Metro West is being implemented. Brokerage for the project in Metro West is through ACCESS Children's Support. SCAN provides eligible service providers with resources to assist children with additional needs to access quality early childhood experiences.</p> <p>Across the Metro South West Region, \$8.25 million has been provided to 173 projects. The area licences and monitors a range of children's services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Early childhood \$913,185;</li> <li>◆ Pre Schools \$7.12 million;</li> <li>◆ Vacation Care \$215,062.</li> </ul> <p>In DoCS' Metro South West Region, \$208,897 was provided for After School Youth Service with 1 project in Bankstown called HomeBase Café. The project is auspiced by Bankstown City Council and has a tri-partnership arrangement with the local PCYC and the Multicultural Youth Service in Bankstown. This year the project was awarded the Multicultural Marketing Awards sponsored by the Community Relations Commission. The project was also nominated for the NSW Premier's Public Sector Award.</p>
<p>The Department of Community Services will allocate <b>\$860,000</b> to strategies that <b>strengthen the links between families and their communities.</b></p>	<p>\$3.2 million has been allocated to Families First programs in Western Sydney for 2003-04.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The 2002-03 expenditure for Western Sydney <b>Community Services Centres, Joint Investigation Teams and Intensive Support Services</b> will be <b>\$33.774 million</b>.</p> <p>The Department of Community Services' Helpline is a statewide centralised Intake Centre and is located in Western Sydney. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2002-03, funding of <b>\$15.7 million</b> has been allocated for the <b>operation of the Helpline</b>.</p> <p><b>\$140,000</b> will be allocated for <b>Youth Support Workers</b> in Auburn, Campbelltown, Parramatta and Liverpool for vulnerable young people in the 12 to 17 age range and their families.</p> <p>The <b>Commission for Children and Young People</b> will continue to co-ordinate the employment screening process on people who will be working with children and young people in Western Sydney and will continue its research and inquiry activities into issues impacting on the safety, welfare and well-being of children and young people.</p>	<p>These centres and services will continue to be funded in 2003-2004.</p> <p>Further CPI increases raised budget from \$15.7 million to \$17.4 million. Helpline forecast for expenditure to end of June 2003 will be \$16.2 million.</p> <p>The Auburn-Parramatta Youth Support Worker Project was established in 2002 in the Cumberland Network, part of DoCS Metro West Region. It is currently providing assistance for the most disadvantaged youth in that community. This project was initially set up for 3 years and has recently being made recurrent. From 2003/4, the Auburn-Parramatta Youth Support Worker project will therefore now receive \$75,770 per annum.</p> <p>In DoCS Metro South West Region, \$143,080 was provided for 2 projects in Campbelltown and Liverpool. These projects provide case management and group work to vulnerable young people.</p> <p>In 2002-03 screening was extended to include relevant Apprehended Violence Orders.</p> <p>As at 31 March 2003 the Commission and the Approved Screening Agencies had processed 211,000 screening requests across NSW. Projected annual screening request for 2002-03 are 253,000.</p> <p>The Commission continued its research and inquiry activities into issues impacting on the safety, welfare and well being of children and young people. This included a collaborative research project with the University of Western Sydney.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The <b>Attorney General's Department</b> will commit <b>\$382,000</b> to continue the operation of the Youth Drug Court at the Children's Courts in Campbelltown and Cobham at Werrington.</p> <p>The <b>Department of Juvenile Justice</b> has allocated the following funds to ensure the continuation of its core business initiatives in Western Sydney:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Juvenile Justice Centres</b> (Cobham at Werrington and Reiby at Airs in Campbelltown) and a new Young Women's Facility at Lidcombe)- <b>\$15.54 million</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>Juvenile Justice Community Services</b> at Blacktown, Campbelltown and Fairfield provide the courts with alternatives to custody - <b>\$4.2 million</b>;</li> </ul>	<p>For the six months ending 31 December 2002, 19 people entered the Youth Drug Court Program. For the same period, seven people ended their involvement, five (or 71 percent) of these successfully completed the Program. It is anticipated that the total allocation of \$382,000 for 2002-03 will be spent.</p> <p>To address concerns regarding the low rates of Program entry, the eligibility criteria were changed at the end of 2002, increasing the Program catchment's area, and allowing Magistrates to require young persons to undertake Program assessment if they appear to have a drug and/or alcohol problem. The impact will be assessed and reported to Cabinet.</p> <p>The Youth Drug Court Pilot is being fully evaluated. The results are expected to be released late in 2003.</p> <p>Estimated expenditure of \$4.2 million is expected in 2002-03 primarily due to delays in the tendering process for the Reiby, Cobham, and Lidcombe Centres. The expenditure shortfall will be made up over the following two years. The current capacity at Cobham and Reiby Centres of 80 will grow to 135 following completion of the upgrades. The new Young Women's facility at Lidcombe will house 46 detainees on completion.</p> <p>The courts can direct young people completing community-based orders to be supervised through staff of the Department. Community-based orders may be supervised by staff from either or both a Juvenile Justice Community Services office and the Intensive Program Unit. In 2002-03 the Department will have supervised approximately 265 young people from Western Sydney serving community-based orders.</p> <p>An estimated \$4 million will be spent in 2002-03 through Juvenile Justice Community Services offices to provide supervision and casework services for young offenders on community-based court orders and to provide reports to the Courts for sentencing purposes. Support is also provided to assist young offenders in custody reintegrate into the community.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Intensive Programs Unit</b> at Blacktown provides specialist counselling and development programs as an alternative to detention - <b>\$1.04 million</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>Youth Justice Conferencing Services</b> at Campbelltown, Blacktown, Fairfield and St Marys provide the courts with further alternatives to detention - <b>\$850,000</b>;</li> </ul>	<p>Estimated expenditure of \$1 million will be spent in 2002-03 providing counselling services covering general counselling, alcohol and drugs counselling, and violent offender and anger management programs to young offenders on community based court orders and conditional release from detention.</p> <p>Estimated expenditure in 2002-03 of \$950,000 will result in approx 530 referrals being processed in the Western Sydney Area. This translates into some 450 conferences for approximately 490 juvenile offenders. Approximately 70 percent of these conferences include police and victim participation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Community-Based Support Services</b> - to provide appropriate services to its clients, their families and the community in Western Sydney - <b>\$800,000</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>Youth Drug Court Pilot Program</b> based at Liverpool to provide diversionary programs to assist young offenders who are eligible for Youth Drug Court participation - <b>\$700,000</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>Metropolitan Regional Office</b> based at <b>Werrington</b> co-ordinates all Department of Juvenile Justice Services in the metropolitan area - <b>\$1.82 million</b>; and</li> <li>◆ <b>Juvenile Transport Services</b> at Campbelltown and Werrington - <b>\$510,000</b>.</li> </ul> <p>The Department of Education and Training will continue the <b>Schools as Community Centres Program</b> in Western Sydney with expenditure of <b>\$420,000</b>.</p>	<p>Estimated expenditure in 2002-03 of \$1.05 million will be spent in funding ten community organisations to provide a range of services for approximately 600 juvenile offenders and their families. Services cover pre-employment skills training, accommodation support, post release support, and local offender initiatives.</p> <p>Estimated expenditure of \$600,000 in 2002-03 will see some 65 young offenders participating in the program.</p> <p>Estimated expenditure of \$2.5 million in 2002-03 is to cover regional management and administration. This amount also covers ten services provided by community organisations for bail hostels, post release support, youth accommodation, local Aboriginal initiatives, family visits, life employment skills, and five graffiti clean up projects.</p> <p>Estimated expenditure of \$470,000 in 2002-03 will cover court supervision and transport services for juvenile detainees attending Cobham and Campbelltown Children Courts. Approximately 2,200 instances of services for court supervision and detainee transfers will be provided in 2002-03.</p> <p>The Schools as Community Centres projects in Western Sydney have been successful in facilitating an interagency approach to service planning and delivery. Significant projects implemented include early childhood health activities, play activity groups, English classes for parents, supported playgroup and community celebrations (e.g. Harmony day). This program has established links with local families, schools, Community Health Services, Health and Housing, multicultural organisations, and local government.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The <b>School Student Transport Scheme</b> provides subsidised travel to and from school for eligible students on government and private bus, rail and ferry services. The estimate for 2002-03 for the carriage of school children living in Western Sydney is <b>\$57.5 million</b>.</p>	<p>The 2002-03 estimate remains at \$57.5 million.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b><i>Services for older people and people with disabilities</i></b></p> <p>The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care anticipates that expenditure in 2002-03 in Western Sydney for the <b>Home and Community Care Program</b>, the <b>Disability Services Program</b> and <b>Ageing initiatives</b> will be more than <b>\$142 million</b>.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, Home and Community Care (HACC) funding for Western Sydney will be approximately \$64.1 million.</p> <p>The bulk of these funds are anticipated to be expended for funding the following services across the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$14.7 million for the Nepean area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5.5 million for at-home assistance, maintenance</li> <li>• \$4.5 million for support and respite</li> <li>• \$3.9 million for home nursing and personal care</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ \$21.9 million for the Cumberland/Prospect area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6.5 million for at-home assistance, maintenance</li> <li>• \$5.9 million for support and respite</li> <li>• \$8.6 million for home nursing and personal care</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ \$27.6 million for South West Sydney area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10.9 million for at-home assistance, maintenance</li> <li>• \$8.5 million for support and respite</li> <li>• \$6.7 million for home nursing and personal care</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Funding for Services through the Disability Services Program (DSP) will total \$209 million. The funds are being used mainly to provide the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$35 million for the Nepean area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2.4 million for community support;</li> <li>• \$7.5 million for community access and employment;</li> <li>• \$4.5 million for support and respite;</li> <li>• \$15.3 million for residentials and hostels; and</li> <li>• \$2.9 million for group homes and other accommodation support.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$93 million for the Cumberland/ Prospect area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$9.7 million for community support;</li> <li>• \$21.9 million for community access and employment;</li> <li>• \$11.4 million for support and respite;</li> <li>• \$18.3 million for group homes and other accommodation support; and</li> <li>• \$24.5 million for residential and hostels.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ \$80.5 million for South West Sydney area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10.9 million for community support;</li> <li>• \$21.8 million for community access and employment;</li> <li>• \$10.3 million for support and respite;</li> <li>• \$18.7 million for residential and hostels; and</li> <li>• \$16.7 million for group homes and other accommodation support.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>\$4.5 million has been allocated to community transport operators in NSW in 2002-03 through the Community Transport Program Funding has been allocated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$1.1 million for the Nepean area</li> <li>◆ \$1.3 million for the Cumberland/Prospect area</li> <li>◆ \$1.8 million for the South West Sydney area</li> </ul>
<p>In 2002-03, <b>\$199 million</b> has been allocated Statewide to subsidise <b>pensioner concession travel</b> on CityRail and State Transit services. Additionally, \$42 million has been allocated for the provision of subsidised <b>pensioner travel on Countrylink services</b>.</p> <p>Services provided by Statewide private transport operators have been allocated <b>\$35.5 million</b> in 2002-03 towards <b>subsidised pensioner travel</b>.</p>	<p>These schemes are demand based. Current estimates for transport schemes for pensioners and welfare beneficiaries for CityRail and State Transit services is \$193 million. The forecast for Countrylink is \$39 million.</p> <p>This scheme is demand based, with the forecast for 2002-03 is \$33 million.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The <b>Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme</b> provides taxi travel at a half rate subsidy to those who are unable to use public transport because of a qualifying severe and permanent disability. <b>\$14 million</b> has been allocated for the scheme Statewide in 2002-03.</p> <p><b>\$3.8 million</b> has been allocated in Western Sydney for <b>community transport projects</b> which address specific transport needs of frail aged, people with disabilities and their carers and disadvantaged people.</p> <p>The Department of Local Government will pay <b>\$12.7 million</b> to Western Sydney councils in 2002-03 under the <b>Subsidies for Pensioner Concessions Program</b> for rate rebates to pensioners.</p>	<p>This scheme is demand based, with the forecast for 2002-03 is \$14 million.</p> <p>2002-03 forecast expenditure in Western Sydney for community transport funding is expected to be \$4.2 million, with funding coming from the Home and Community Care (HACC) program, Community Transport Program (CTP) and Area Assistance Scheme (AAS). As a result of the funding, it is anticipated that in excess of 290,000 passenger trips will be provided under these schemes.</p> <p>The Department of Local Government paid \$12.3 million to the 14 Western Sydney local councils for rate rebates to pensioners</p>
<p><b>Aboriginal people</b></p> <p>The Department of Aboriginal Affairs' <b>Major Grants Program</b> provides financial assistance to indigenous people and organisations that wish to implement innovative programs that will address the socio-economic disadvantage of members of the Aboriginal community.</p> <p><b>Aboriginal Health Services</b> will be allocated <b>\$2.9 million</b> in 2002-03. Non Government Organisation grants of approximately <b>\$1 million</b> will also be made to Aboriginal Health Services.</p>	<p>There were no successful applications from Western Sydney in 2002-03. The Department of Aboriginal Affairs will continue to provide the Grants Program with the aim of addressing socio-economic disadvantage.</p> <p>Excluding the effect of services provided that are available to the community at large, revised Health Service expenditures for 2002-03 amount to \$2.3 million. In addition, grants of approximately \$1 million were made to non-government Aboriginal community controlled health organisations to provide services to the local Aboriginal communities including AIDS education, public health programs, drug and alcohol counselling, dental services and pre and ante natal programs.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The NSW Aboriginal Housing Office is undertaking a number of initiatives impacting on Western Sydney in 2002-03, such as the Homelessness Pilot Project; training and sustainable employment opportunities for Aboriginal people; and a community development project in the Toongabbie Public Housing Estate.</p> <p>In July 2001, the NSW Government launched Better Futures: An Action Framework for Vulnerable Young People in New South Wales. Its central messages are that all young people should have the opportunity to lead rewarding and positive lives and that there are practical things that government, families and communities can do, working together, that can be helpful in minimising risk for vulnerable young people. Statewide, <b>\$1.3 million</b> has been allocated in 2002-03 for the implementation of the <b>Better Futures Regional Strategy</b> and a significant portion of these funds will be spent on disadvantaged communities in Western Sydney.</p> <p>Statewide, the Cabinet Office's Office of Children and Young People will allocate <b>\$1.9 million</b> to the <b>Aboriginal Communities Regional Strategy</b> in 2002-03. The strategy has been designed to help meet critical needs of Aboriginal children and young people, their families and carers.</p> <p>The <b>Environment Protection Authority</b> will allocate <b>\$60,000</b> to the <b>Western Sydney Aboriginal Education Stormwater Project</b>.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, \$225,878 was spent on AHO initiatives up to March 2003. The AHO has acquired houses in the Western Sydney area for use by Aboriginal Land Councils, and homeless or other disadvantaged aboriginal people. Locations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Blacktown area (6 houses), Liverpool area (5 houses);</li> <li>◆ Campbelltown area (5 houses and 2 additional blocks of land); and</li> <li>◆ Wollondilly (1 house), Parramatta (4 houses) and Greystanes (2 houses).</li> </ul> <p>Ten properties were upgraded in Blacktown, Glendening, Merrylands and Granville, and work is planned for another 104 properties.</p> <p>\$737,000 was allocated for community and organisational development through the Sydney Region.</p> <p>In 2002-03, the Better Futures Regional Strategy has been developed with a demonstration project at the Werrington Youth Service to be established to focus on supporting young people into high school, assisting families to care for their teenagers and provide recreational opportunities (\$143,000 per year for two years).</p> <p>DoCS Metro South West Region has participated in the roll out of one-off funding for services to the Aboriginal community to provide Vacation Care Programs during the Christmas school holidays. Negotiations have begun with the local land councils to identify Aboriginal community needs for recurrent funding under this strategy. A DoCS community Program Officer is working closely with The Cabinet Office in the implementation of this Strategy.</p> <p>Initial social research has been conducted into Aboriginal issues and stormwater management. Pilot education projects are being carried out with Aboriginal communities in Campbelltown, Blacktown and Richmond. The Department supported the training of three cadets through the cadetship program on 2002-03.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The <b>Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources</b> will expend more than <b>\$47,000</b> on training programs for Indigenous people.</p>	<p>The Western Sydney Area Assistance Scheme funded projects in Western Sydney targeting Aboriginal people specifically, during the 2002 – 2003 financial year was to the value of \$433,000 (Macarthur was \$47,000).</p>
<p><b><i>The Casino Community Benefit Fund</i></b></p> <p><b>Services to counter gambling-related problems</b> in the Western Sydney community will be continued in 2002-03 through the provision of almost <b>\$1.9 million</b> in grants from this fund.</p>	<p>Grant payments for the Western Sydney community in 2002-03 increased to more than \$2.2 million.</p> <p>New or enhanced information, counselling and other support programs or services have been established to counter gambling-related problems in the Western Sydney community and to provide community benefit.</p> <p>Local committees are continuing to prioritise expressions of interest across Western Sydney to community groups to promote the well-being of families and communities – funded through the Casino Community Benefit Fund.</p>
<p><b><i>Housing</i></b></p> <p>In addition to the capital housing allocation in 2002-03 to the Department of Housing, allocations have been made for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 260 short term leased public housing properties - \$2 million;</li> <li>◆ 200 new community housing short and long-term leased properties - \$770,000;</li> <li>◆ The Department estimates that 4,100 Western Sydney households will be newly assisted in public housing and some 13,100 households will be assisted with some of the costs of private rental. This includes private rental subsidies to approximately 300 people living with specific needs such as those with disabilities and people with HIV/AIDS;</li> <li>◆ Assistance to homeless people in Western Sydney - \$412,000; and</li> </ul>	<p>As part of the Anti-Drug Strategy in Cabramatta DoCS has allocated funding to approximately \$90,000 for establishment costs for people with drug and alcohol issues that are accessing 40 leases in the area from Department of Housing. This service ensures people leasing the accommodation have adequate furnishings, linen, etc.</p> <p>\$0.9 million is expected to be spent on providing 160 new short term leased properties for public housing.</p> <p>A further \$0.2 million will be spent acquiring 113 new leases within the community housing sector, including three for crisis accommodation and a further 33 properties for housing people with high level support under a joint project with NSW Health.</p> <p>During 2002-03, the Department's housing assistance programs are expected to provide assistance to 10,960 households with some of the cost of private rental. In addition, assistance was provided for private rental subsidies to approximately 203 households with specific needs such as those with disabilities and people with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>\$412,000 was allocated for the Homeless Action Team (HAT) across metropolitan Sydney.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>◆ <b>Community Renewal Initiatives</b> involving intensive Tenancy Management projects and Housing and Community Assistance Programs.</p> <p><b>PlanningNSW</b> will commit <b>\$873,000</b> to continue planning investigations and development co-ordination for the provision of increased stocks of <b>land for greenfields housing</b> in Western Sydney and <b>\$42,500</b> under the Local Government Housing Initiatives Program to undertake a <b>Regional Housing Strategy</b> for Auburn, Bankstown, Fairfield and Parramatta Councils.</p> <p>In addition <b>PlanningNSW</b> will spend more than <b>\$1.2 million</b> in 2002-03 under the <b>Urban Improvement Program</b> for projects with Western Sydney councils.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Advisory Centres operate at Cranebrook, Toongabbie and Telopea. These Centres bring government and community representatives together to develop service strategies. Community 2168 Board developed services for residents in the 2168 postcode.</p> <p>\$1.5 million was committed for 2002-03.</p> <p>The Department of Urban and Transport Planning will have spent more than \$1.2 million in 2002-03 under the Urban Improvement Program for projects with Western Sydney Councils.</p> <p>This will achieve better planned town centres integrated with public transport and responsive to community needs in Merrylands, Bonnyrigg, Guildford and Narellan.</p> <p>A new town square will be constructed in Katoomba and design plans prepared for new public spaces in Cabramatta and Auburn. The projects will deliver outcomes that reflect the unique cultural identity of these areas and improve the provision of facilities to the people of Western Sydney.</p>
<p><b>Sport and Recreation</b></p> <p>A total of <b>\$550,000</b> has been allocated to the Western Sydney and South Western Sydney Regional Academies of Sport and the NSW Institute of Sport.</p> <p>In addition, the Department of Sport and Recreation will spend <b>\$397,000</b> on programs and services in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>The South West Sydney Academy of Sport became an incorporated community based organisation during the year. The Western Sydney Academy will progress to incorporation in 2003-04. These academies serviced over 280 athletes during 2002-03.</p> <p>The NSWIS continued to provide elite sport programs to athletes from Western Sydney and NSWIS athletes made use of several Western Sydney venues for training and competition purposes.</p> <p>\$498,000 was spent on programs in Western Sydney. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ \$110,000 for Swimsafe – Learn to Swim, Aquafitness and school swimming programs;</li> <li>◆ \$45,000 for introductory opportunities and vacation Sports Programs;</li> <li>◆ \$36,000 for Coach Education, Sports Development and</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	Sportslink; ♦ \$20,000 for Aboriginal initiatives; ♦ \$20,000 for teacher training; ♦ \$151,000 for Mt Druitt Community Solutions; ♦ \$37,500 for Canterbury/Bankstown Community Solutions; and ♦ \$78,500 for Arabic Youth Leadership and other Arabic Programs.
Around <b>\$850,000</b> has been allocated for the <b>development of sporting facilities</b> in Western Sydney under the Capital Assistance Program.	\$971,480 was allocated to Western Sydney through the 2002-03 Capital Assistance Program for the upgrade and improvements to sporting and recreation facilities. Electorate allocations was as follows: ♦ Auburn \$45,000; ♦ Bankstown \$45,990; ♦ Baulkham Hills \$37,655; ♦ Blacktown \$45,025; ♦ Blue Mountains \$45,055; ♦ Cabramatta \$35,302; ♦ Camden \$45,080; ♦ Campbelltown \$45,500; ♦ East Hills \$48,906; ♦ Fairfield \$48,000; ♦ Granville \$44,405; ♦ Hawkesbury \$43,073; ♦ Liverpool \$45,000; ♦ Londonderry \$36,000; ♦ Macquarie Fields \$36,500; ♦ Mt Druitt \$45,555; ♦ Mulgoa \$43,443; ♦ Parramatta \$45,400;

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Penrith \$20,000;</li> <li>◆ Riverstone \$44,000;</li> <li>◆ Smithfield \$45,086;</li> <li>◆ The Hills \$41,707; and</li> <li>◆ Wentworthville \$39,798.</li> </ul>
<p>Some <b>\$70,000</b> will be allocated to the <b>Police and Community Youth Clubs</b> in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>\$35,807 was allocated to three PCYCs in Western Sydney for programs targeting youth at risk. Funding was provided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Bidwill/Mt Druitt PCYC \$14,520;</li> <li>◆ Bankstown PCYC \$10,287; and</li> <li>◆ Penrith PCYC \$11,000.</li> </ul> <p>An additional \$30,000 was allocated to PCYC's in Western Sydney for programs for Arabic Youth.</p>
<p><b>Public Safety</b></p> <p>The <b>NSW Police Western Sydney</b> budget, including recurrent funding for salaries and capital and minor works, will be around <b>\$249 million</b>. Initiatives which will have an impact in Western Sydney include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Police training facilities</b> in Western Sydney;</li> <li>◆ The <b>Ethnic Community Liaison Officer Program</b>;</li> </ul>	<p>Total recurrent funding of approximately \$291.8 million was provided for Local Area Commands within Western Sydney in 2002-03.</p> <p>The Continuing Education Directorate (CED) operates primarily from Westmead at the University of Western Sydney.</p> <p>The CED manages 82 training and development programs across three locations including Westmead and Parramatta.</p> <p>The CED develop, deliver and evaluate educational courses, programs and professional development strategies addressing operational competencies and the specialist training needs of sworn officers.</p> <p>This Program continues to enhance access to NSW Police services for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Recruitment action to provide additional ECLOs is in progress, or has been completed, at Campbelltown, Macquarie Fields and Blacktown Local Area Commands.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The <b>Workplace Training Program</b>; and</li> </ul>	<p>Two Workplace Cultural Diversity Trainers have been employed by NSW Police to work closely with the</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>◆ The <b>Police and Community Program</b>.</p> <p>The Government is implementing Glenbrook related rail safety improvements, including delivery of a train visibility monitoring system throughout the rail network.</p> <p>State Rail will continue security measures for trains and stations including <b>security guards on CityRail</b> trains, <b>high intensity lighting</b> and <b>closed circuit TV cameras</b>.</p> <p>The Attorney General's Department will provide around <b>\$300,000</b> to support <b>Crime Prevention Plans</b> of Western Sydney councils including Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Parramatta, Blacktown, Penrith and Blue Mountains.</p> <p>In 2002-03, the <b>Motor Accidents Authority</b> will provide funding for <b>road safety and rehabilitation projects</b> in Western Sydney and will undertake a <b>Child Pedestrian Project</b>, aimed at reducing the number of accidents involving children aged from five to ten years.</p>	<p>Innovative Models for Police and Community Training Program (IMPACT) to address the diversity training needs of operational police at Local Area Commands.</p> <p>This program is now referred to as the IMPACT program. IMPACT projects have been conducted (or are in progress) at Parramatta, Flemington and Cabramatta Local Area Commands.</p> <p>IMPACT provides locally based projects to enhance police understanding of diversity issues and improve local communities' understanding of police roles.</p> <p>In response to the findings of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Glenbrook Rail Accident, the Government initiated a \$1 billion four-year improvement package in 2001. Provision is made for the continued implementation of this package which includes the replacement of old infrastructure; new major track construction aimed at increasing flexibility and responsiveness of the system; and new trains for CityRail's metropolitan and outer-suburban operations.</p> <p>The Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) program included the installation of closed circuit TV, improved lighting, associated power supply upgrades, help points and Group Remote Monitoring Locations. This program includes all 301 CityRail stations. \$3.6 million was spent in 2002-03 on the installation of help points completed in October 2002.</p> <p>To boost safety on trains 300 transit officers will be employed by the end of June 2003, with an additional 200 transit officers progressively deployed up to December 2004. This will bring the number of transit officers patrolling trains and stations to 500.</p> <p>Over \$268,000 was provided to support the implementation of crime prevention plans for Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Penrith, Blue Mountains, Bankstown and Fairfield councils with negotiations continuing with Parramatta City Council to endorse their Crime Prevention Plan.</p> <p>The Authority provided approximately \$1.57 million in 2002-03 for rehabilitation and road safety programs in Western Sydney. Examples of project outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Occupational therapists are trained to research and appraise research evidence;</li> <li>◆ The effects of spinal manipulative therapy versus</li> </ul>
	<p>exercise for chronic lower back pain are investigated;</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Equipment is purchased for brain injury units at Liverpool and Westmead and for educational and development programs;</li> <li>◆ The Operation Westsafe program increases public awareness of road safety and detection of traffic infringements; and</li> <li>◆ NSW Youth Week to increase youth awareness of road safety.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Corrective Services</b></p> <p>Approximately <b>\$168.9 million</b> has been allocated for recurrent expenditure in Western Sydney in 2002-03 for the <b>containment and care of inmates</b>, for the <b>Probation and Parole Service</b> and for <b>Attendance Centres</b>.</p>	<p>The amount to be expended in 2002-03 by the Department of Corrective Services is approximately \$173 million.</p>
<p><b>Supporting Cultural Diversity</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the <b>Community Relations Commission</b> will provide grants from the <b>Community Development Grants Program</b>.</p> <p>The Commission works closely with the NSW Police in the development and implementation of the <b>Police and Community Training Program</b>.</p> <p><b>\$150,000</b> was allocated for the provision of <b>interpreting services</b> at the Cabramatta Local Area Command to ensure the non-English speaking public have easy access to the services of NSW Police.</p> <p>Statewide in 2002-03, some <b>\$86 million</b> will be spent by the Department of Education and Training under the <b>Non-English Speaking Background Program</b>. \$3 million will be expended on the <b>New Arrivals Program</b> and nearly \$4 million will be provided for the <b>Multicultural Education Plan</b>. Major proportions of these programs will be implemented in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>Under its Community Development Grants, 28 community agencies based in Western Sydney were funded by the Community Relations Commission for development of projects and services totalling \$234,435.</p> <p>The Police and Community Training Program is now part of the Innovative Models for Police and Community Training (IMPACT) program. IMPACT provides locally based projects that enhance police understanding of cultural diversity issues and improve local communities' understanding of police roles.</p> <p>This funding provides a range of language services relevant to the needs of the non-English speaking public. Programs aim to enhance access to awareness and education services provided by NSW Police. This includes interpreting and translation of printed information.</p> <p>In 2002-03, students and their families in Western Sydney benefited from the NESB program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Approximately 535.6 equivalent full-time English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching positions in schools;</li> <li>◆ Approximately \$3 million for the New Arrivals programs for school students from language backgrounds other than English;</li> <li>◆ Approximately 80,055 students supported in post intensive ESL programs;</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Approximately 3,536 newly arrived students supported in intensive ESL programs;</li> <li>◆ Nine Intensive English Centres for secondary age ESL new arrivals students;</li> <li>◆ Nine Multicultural/ESL consultancy positions across Western Sydney; and</li> <li>◆ Funding for ESL projects in schools and in Training and Development</li> </ul> <p>Under the Multicultural Education Plan funding was made available for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Eight Community Information Officers working across Western Sydney;</li> <li>◆ On site and telephone interpreter services for schools;</li> <li>◆ Grants to schools to support NESB parent participation;</li> <li>◆ Programs to support refugee students and their families;</li> <li>◆ Funding to support anti-racism programs in schools; and</li> <li>◆ \$36,000 to support anti-racism training programs.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Community Development</i></b></p> <p>Funding to community organisations for social and community development projects by PlanningNSW, under the <b>Western Sydney and Macarthur Area Assistance Schemes</b>, is expected to be <b>\$4.9 million</b>.</p>	<p>The funding rounds for the Western Sydney Area Assistance Scheme and the Macarthur Area Assistance Scheme have just concluded.</p> <p>The respective Regional Advisory Committees have made their recommendations: in Western Sydney the projects recommended for approval are drawn from 11 Local Government Areas and total \$1.23 million. In Macarthur they are drawn from three Local Government Areas and total \$170,978.</p> <p>The Minister has made announcements offering funds to 29 organisations in Western Sydney and nine in Macarthur.</p> <p>Meanwhile the Department of Urban and Transport Planning continues to provide recurrent funding in 2002-03 for projects whose funding period commenced in the past few years: in Western Sydney 35 projects will be funded at a total of \$208,000. In Macarthur six projects will be funded at \$213,664.</p> <p>The Minister will be announcing the opening of the next</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	funding round in 2003.
<p><b>PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the operating budgets in Western Sydney for the <b>Environment Protection Authority</b> and the <b>Department of Land and Water Conservation</b> will be <b>\$17.2 million</b> and <b>\$7 million</b>, respectively.</p> <p>The NSW Government has implemented a Statewide <b>Graffiti Solutions Program</b>.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, the Department continued to support partnerships with the community to achieve better management outcomes for natural resources. These partnerships were supported through: the Hawkesbury Nepean Local Government Advisory Group advising the government on the development of the Hawkesbury Lower Nepean Blueprint and Catchment Investment Priorities; the Hawkesbury Nepean River Management Forum recommending to government an environmental flow regime for the Hawkesbury Nepean River system; and the Coxs River Water Management Committee developing a water sharing and aquifer management plan.</p> <p>The three blueprints that cover Western Sydney were endorsed by Cabinet as Policy documents and have been released as final documents. The Hawkesbury Nepean, Sydney Harbour and Southern Sydney Catchment Management Boards have begun the task of implementing these Blueprints with the development of Investment Strategies.</p> <p>Since establishing the Graffiti Solutions Program in 1997, the Government has worked with local councils to develop programs to reduce graffiti, such as the Juvenile Justice, Corrective Services, CSO Clean Up Scheme; and the Attorney-General's Department's Beat Graffiti Grants Scheme.</p> <p>Building on the Beat Graffiti Scheme's significant youth development outcomes, a Beat Graffiti Traineeship Program was developed to provide customised training to graffiti artists and financial support to Councils to engage these artists to deliver anti-graffiti workshops in their local area. Trainees from Hawkesbury, Blacktown, Baulkham Hills, Holroyd and Campbelltown Councils received training to implement anti-graffiti programs for "at risk" youth in their respective areas.</p>
<p>The Attorney General's Department will be providing Beat Graffiti grants to councils, Police and Community Youth Clubs and other local community organisations in the region.</p>	<p>The Government, in the 2002-03 budget, announced ongoing funding for the successful Beat Graffiti Grants Scheme, of \$365,000 per annum for the next four years.</p> <p>The Beat Graffiti Grants Scheme provides funding for creative community based projects including legal art and other graffiti prevention projects. To steer young people away from graffiti vandalism, projects have been funded in the Baulkham Hills, Parramatta, Blacktown, Holroyd, Auburn, Bankstown, Liverpool, Campbelltown and Blue Mountains Council areas.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Western Sydney Environment Strategy</b></p> <p><b>Western Sydney Environment Week</b></p> <p><b>2003 Western Sydney Environment Calendar</b></p> <p><b>Western Sydney Environment Taskforce</b></p>	<p>Western Sydney Environment Week is coordinated by the Office of Western Sydney. 130 community events were held in June 2002. Environment week attracted thousands of participants from the community, business, local councils, State Government agencies and other stakeholder organisations.</p> <p>An initiative of the Office of Western Sydney, the Calendar is generated via an art competition based on environment themes, by primary school students from across the Western Sydney region. It is aimed at celebrating and promoting the role of schools in protecting and enhancing the environment. 80,000 calendars were distributed to Western Sydney households via schools, community groups, and Western Sydney Councils.</p> <p>The Taskforce was established by the Minister for Western Sydney in September 2000. It is one of four key action agendas endorsed by the NSW Cabinet. The Taskforce leads the implementation of strategic initiatives to deliver integrated and improved environmental outcomes for Western Sydney. The Taskforce and its working groups bring together high-level representatives from more than 50 organisations representing three levels of government, national environmental industry associations, research institutes and the community. The Taskforce has been highly successful in mobilising resources and support from state and commonwealth government agencies, industry bodies, research institutes and environment organisations to develop and deliver innovative initiatives addressing water, energy, waste, salinity, industry and research priorities for the region.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>The Industry Sustainability Initiative</b></p> <p><b>Western Sydney Sustainable Energy Plan</b></p> <p><b>Salinity management projects</b></p> <p><b>Water related projects</b></p>	<p>The Industry Sustainability Initiative (ISI) is part of a series of programs developed through the Western Sydney Environmental Taskforce to encourage improved environmental management in the region. It is designed to help the region's industry move towards more sustainable outcomes.</p> <p>Companies in the ISI Program undertook audits of their environmental practices and developed tangible initiatives to improve environmental performance, corporate social responsibility and economic efficiency.</p> <p>The ISI Program has initiated a knowledge sharing framework for changing the environmental performance of Western Sydney businesses.</p> <p>The companies participating in the ISI pilot generated savings of up to \$170,000. The first Cluster commenced in April 2003.</p> <p>The Plan provides a framework for the development and implementation of sustainable energy initiatives across government, industry, and residential sectors in Western Sydney.</p> <p>These projects included the development of salinity hazard mapping for Western Sydney and piezometer groundwater data logging in selected locations. Results of the salinity hazard mapping and piezometer testing will better inform an integrated regional strategic framework for the management of the region's salinity issues.</p> <p>The Western Sydney WaterLink project provides web-based information on water related projects in Western Sydney by State agencies and local councils.</p> <p>WaterLink is generating greater awareness of the water initiatives undertaken by government and industry in the region. It is helping to identify gaps and potential synergies across current initiatives, which could result in new Western Sydney Environment Taskforce initiatives.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Clean Air and Clean Waterways</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, an estimated <b>\$520,000</b> will be expended on the <b>Air Quality Monitoring Program</b> in Western Sydney by the Environment Protection Authority.</p> <p>Initiatives of the Environment Protection Authority will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Stormwater Trust grants totalling <b>\$2.5 million</b> in Western Sydney for <b>stormwater remediation</b> and associated projects;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$100,000</b> on measures to <b>reduce water pollution</b> in the South Creek catchment; and community education to market gardeners on <b>reducing diffuse pollution to South Creek</b>;</li> <li>◆ continuation of the <b>Market Gardening in a Cultural Diverse Society Project</b>; and</li> </ul>	<p>The Air Quality Monitoring Network in Western Sydney is continuing to gather information from air quality measurements. It provides accurate and timely information for planning decisions and to improve air quality.</p> <p>Several outstanding results were achieved through projects which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Stormwater pollution audits being conducted. These targeted nursery and landscaping businesses in the Blue Mountains area, raising awareness and helping to minimise the impact of stormwater on a World Heritage area; and</li> <li>◆ Construction of a stormwater pollution device and conduct of a multifaceted education campaign. This focused on industry awareness, schools education and residential action to help minimised pollution flowing into the Nepean river. Two programs, one to demonstrate techniques of Water Sensitive Urban Design principles, and the other to develop the capacity of councils in the Sydney Region to implement Water Sensitive Urban Design principles for stormwater managers at all levels of council in NSW.</li> </ul> <p>EPA has completed scheme design and has commenced site selection and stakeholder engagements (including with NESB landholders). EPA has also completed a prototype diffuse water pollution estimator to evaluate environmental outcomes to be achieved.</p> <p>Workshops were held with NESB grower groups in collaboration with NSW Agriculture and the University of Western Sydney to discuss pesticides record keeping requirements and pest control issues. As part of this program, translated guidance material was developed for NESB growers, including a bilingual sample record keeping form and folder. Information days were also held at Flemington Markets and translated advertisements placed in the ethnic media.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>◆ Continuation of the <b>Blue Mountains Urban Run-off Control Program</b> with an allocation of <b>\$1 million</b> to control stormwater impacts and to address environmental concerns such as soil erosion, siltation, seed disbursement and pollution of the natural water course.</p> <p>The Environment Protection Authority has obtained \$2.05 million from the Environmental Trust for a <b>Clean Air Fund</b>.</p> <p>The Department of Land and Water Conservation will:</p> <p>◆ Provide <b>\$840,000</b> on grants for local government for on-ground natural resource improvement projects;</p> <p>◆ Allocate <b>\$200,000</b> for administrative and operational support to the Hawkesbury Nepean Local Government Advisory Group and the Hawkesbury Nepean River Management Forum;</p>	<p>In 2002–03 approximately 1,000 growers have been trained in SmartTRAIN or Chemcert, and smaller numbers have completed the Freshcare course. Vietnamese and Cambodian growers have accessed NHT funding for water and soil management projects and the Vietnamese are also starting a project to educate growers about environmental management.</p> <p>Completion of community education programs, bush regeneration, rehabilitation of degraded lands, the Springwood Lot 2 wetland project and promotion of the weed mapping (Blue Space) project.</p> <p>The Clean Air Program includes a Local Air Improvement Program (LAIP) providing grants to local councils to reduce air pollution. In Western Sydney in 2002-03 the following projects received funding under the LAIP :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Parramatta City Council for a construction dust assessment and reduction pilot program;</li> <li>◆ Parramatta City Council for a Local Council Clean Green Guide to Small Plant – Off-road mechanical plant equipment performance; and</li> <li>◆ Penrith and Holroyd City Councils for woodsmoke education campaigns.</li> </ul> <p>Grants totalling \$632,000 were provided to Local Government including \$56,000 for community partnership grants. These projects will assist ten Western Sydney Councils undertake projects such as erosion control in Yosemite Catchment; riparian zone restoration in Menangle Creek; restoration of endangered ecological communities at Freemans Reach and control of alligator weed.</p> <p>A \$90,000 budget was allocated to provide direct operational and community member support for Forum business meetings and work plan implementation. \$110,000 went towards direct operational support for LGAG meetings and operations including the assessment of applications for local government and community partnership grants.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Over <b>\$300,000</b> will be spent on information management within Western Sydney including the completion of a model data management system with the Environment Protection Authority and the Sydney Catchment Authority.</li>   <li>◆ Fund <b>\$30,000</b> for the provision of <b>investigation and management tools for salinity</b>;</li>   <li>◆ Undertake various initiatives within the <b>Hawkesbury Nepean Riverbank Management Program</b> which aims to improve the management of the river corridor east to Wisemans' Ferry; and</li>   <li>◆ Allocate around <b>\$68,000</b> on <b>blue-green and marine algae management</b>.</li> </ul> <p>Anticipated expenditure by the <b>Sustainable Energy Development Authority</b>, principally through the <b>Energy Smart Business</b> and <b>Residential Energy Programs</b>, is <b>\$600,000</b>.</p>	<p>The Integrated Data Management System project advanced the development of a model for web-based data exchange and data standards consistent with CANRI (Community Access to Natural Resource Information). The multi-agency Integrated Water Monitoring Framework (IWMF) advanced case studies with local government including ongoing monitoring of 15 recreational water quality sites (January to April) involving ten Western Sydney Councils and four State organisations.</p> <p>The SCA is also advancing the Catchment Information System (CIS) in consultation with IWMF/IDMS project team.</p> <p>Local government and agency staff were trained in salinity management. The Map of Salinity Potential in Western Sydney was completed. Monitoring of salinity continued with quarterly collection of data from ten piezometers. A document "Salinity Processes in Western Sydney" was published.</p> <p>\$240,000 was invested in on ground works within the program area through the Riverbank Management Program and associated s.10 Soil Conservation Project. 43 riverbank rehabilitation projects have been funded in this year alone. All government funds spent on the ground are matched by landholder in-kind contributions to double this investment.</p> <p>This year 5.6km of riverbank rehabilitation was commenced, 5.9km fenced from cattle and weed control undertaken on 3.9km of riverbank, and almost 40,000 tube stock were planted.</p> <p>The Department continued to support the Metropolitan South Coast Regional Algal Coordinating Committee. As the lead agency it issued weekly media alerts, produced algal warning signs and further developed a contingency plan and training.</p> <p>At February 2003, the Energy Smart Business Partners, with significant operations in Western Sydney, were saving around \$6.5 million and 86,800 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, which is equivalent to 19,200 cars being taken off the road.</p> <p>Residential Programs</p> <p>Twelve of Greater Western Sydney's fourteen local councils have joined SEDA's Energy Smart Homes Program and are requiring minimum home energy rating requirements for new homes and significant alternations. Nine councils have the full Energy Smart Homes Policy, and three have adopted the building envelope component.</p>
<p>The <b>Sydney Catchment Authority</b> will</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the full \$21 million will be expended</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>allocate around <b>\$21 million</b> in maintaining and operating infrastructure to provide bulk water to Sydney Water and other customers and for monitoring water quality and quantity.</p> <p>In addition, the Authority will allocate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$125,000 for Environmental Assessment of Sites and Infrastructure Projects;</b></li> <li>◆ <b>\$188,000 for the Streamwatch Program;</b></li> <li>◆ <b>\$100,000 to fund the Mobile Education Unit;</b></li> <li>◆ <b>\$100,000 in grants for catchment protection and improvement projects;</b></li> <li>◆ Around <b>\$20,000</b> towards restoring the stormwater damaged riparian zone in Macraes Paddock in Upper Kedumba River Catchment at Katoomba; and</li> <li>◆ <b>\$65,000</b> for the development of a <b>gross pollutant trap in Katoomba.</b></li> </ul> <p>The Waterways Authority will allocate <b>\$700,000</b> towards the <b>remediation of the eastern side of Homebush Bay.</b></p>	<p>on this project.</p> <p>\$140,000 has been expended on this project to date.</p> <p>\$180,000 has been spent on this program.</p> <p>\$100,000 has been provided for this program.</p> <p>Deferred</p> <p>\$35,000 has been spent in 2002-03.</p> <p>This project has been deferred to 2003-04 due to extended negotiation with Blue Mountains Council.</p> <p>\$2.1 million has been spent in 2002-03 on the preparation of an environmental impact statement, risk assessments, consultancy and other initial stages of the remediation of the eastern side of Homebush bay.</p>
<p><b><i>Parks, Gardens, Reserves and Forests</i></b></p> <p>The National Parks and Wildlife Service will commit around <b>\$5 million</b> to <b>Regional Parks, National Parks and Nature Reserves</b> in Western Sydney. These include:</p> <p><b>Western Sydney Regional Park, Horsley Park - \$400,000;</b></p> <p><b>Rouse Hill Regional Park - \$300,000;</b></p>	<p>Area available for public use has been increased and improvements to security infrastructure have been completed.</p> <p>Visitor facilities have been maintained and enhanced and heritage management undertaken. The 100 space car park has been completed.</p>
<p><b>Leacock Regional Park, Casula - \$70,000;</b></p> <p><b>William Howe Regional Park, Narellan</b></p>	<p>Facilities and bushland have been maintained.</p> <p>Funding has been provided for security maintenance and</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Vale - \$82,000;</b></p> <p><b>Lower Prospect Canal - \$2 million;</b></p> <p><b>Yellomundee Regional Park - \$500,000;</b></p> <p><b>Blue Mountains National Park, Lower Mountains - \$400,000;</b></p> <p><b>Blue Mountains National Parks and Nature Reserves, \$1.5 million and</b></p> <p><b>Cumberland Plain National Parks and Nature Reserves, \$500,000.</b></p> <p>An additional 70 hectares will be added to the <b>Mulgoa Nature Reserve.</b></p> <p><b>\$100,000</b> will be allocated for <b>biodiversity surveys and threatened species recovery planning and protection</b> in Western Sydney.</p> <p>The Exhibition of a Strategic Plan for a <b>World Heritage Visitors Centre at Bilpin</b> is proposed during 2002-03.</p> <p>The Sydney Olympic Park Authority is preparing a Plan of Management for the Millennium Parklands and Bicentennial Park in 2002-03.</p>	<p>fire management, and visitor facility.</p> <p>The Canal cycle way was completed in March 2003.</p> <p>\$280,000 was spent on Park planning. A draft management plan was prepared for public release. Community stakeholder consultation was carried out.</p> <p>A ranger was appointed. Road works, signage, park fencing and fire planning were carried out. The community was consulted on Park works on an ongoing basis. Expenditure was \$290,000.</p> <p>Maintenance and improvement works are ongoing.</p> <p>Work involved the management and conservation of Cumberland Plain National Parks and Nature Reserves, Western Sydney Regional Park, Rouse Hill Regional Park, Leacock Regional Park, and William Howe Regional Park.</p> <p>Additions to Mulgoa Nature Reserve are ready to proceed.</p> <p>The Recovery Plan for <i>Acacia pubescens</i>, a threatened plant species occurring in Western Sydney, as finalised and released.</p> <p>The Native Vegetation Mapping of the Cumberland Plain, Western Sydney was completed and distributed to public authorities. A comprehensive inter-agency socio-economic impact assessment of the draft Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan was commenced.</p> <p>Planning continued for the World Heritage Visitor Centre, community and stakeholder consultation was carried out and the site chosen. Negotiations were held with RTA. The Visitor Orientation Plan was exhibited, touring group maps distributed and guide books prepared. An economic benefits project was progressed and a draft plan commenced.</p> <p>The Parklands at Sydney Olympic Park, which include Bicentennial Park, are to be managed under a Plan of Management. Following extensive public exhibition, the Plan was approved by both the Minister for the Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Michael Egan, and the Minister for the Environment, Bob Debus on 28th January 2003. The Plan is the operational detail of the concept plan for the Parklands.</p>
	<p>It was developed with the Authority by a distinguished group of parkland designers and operators. It is expected that visitation will reach three million within five years. To provide the amenities and programs for visitors, the</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>A further 250 hectares will be added to the proposed regional park on the former <b>ADI site at St Marys</b>.</p> <p>PlanningNSW will exhibit the draft <b>Penrith Lakes Regional Environment Plan</b> in December 2002.</p> <p>A grant of <b>\$100,000</b> will be provided towards a joint management program to address issues impacting on 2,000 hectares of regional open space land within the Campbelltown City Council area, owned by PlanningNSW, and adjacent to the western side of the Georges River.</p> <p>State Forests of NSW will spend around <b>\$628,000</b> on operations and services provided to the community at the <b>Cumberland State Forest</b>, West Pennant Hills. Also at this location is <b>State Forests' Research and Development Division</b> which will have a budget of <b>\$7.9 million</b>. The <b>Cumberland State Forest Retail Nursery and Management Unit</b> will spend <b>\$850,000</b>.</p> <p>The <b>Sydney Catchment Authority</b> has allocated <b>\$115,000</b> for the operation of its recreational and conference facilities at the Warragamba, Cataract and Avon Dam sites.</p>	<p>Government has allocated \$24 million for Capital Works over the next four years. An additional \$1 million per year will provide for programs such as education, nature tours, cycling, walking, picnicking, exhibitions, concerts and seminars. The Parklands will become one of Sydney's very special places.</p> <p>The State Government and the Comland/Lend Lease joint venture have signed the Development Agreement for the site. ComLand will transfer 850 hectares of land to the National Parks and Wildlife Service when the Minister for Planning releases the Eastern Precinct for residential development. The joint venture will also give \$7 million to the State Government for the establishment and management of the regional park and special uses corridor.</p> <p>The draft ammendment Regional Environment Plan Number 11, is being finalised to be ready for public exhibition in the latter half of 2003.</p> <p>The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources will provide up to \$100,000 per annum to assist Campbelltown City Council to maintain regional open space along the Georges River. In 2002, funding assisted in road closures, rubbish removal and weed management for lands owned by PlanningNSW.</p> <p>State Forests of NSW will have spent approximately \$618,500 on operations and services provided to the community at the Cumberland State Forest, West Pennant Hills. Also at this location is State Forest's Research and Development Division which will have spent approximately \$7.6 million in 2002-03.</p> <p>The Cumberland State Forest Retail Nursery and Management Unit spent approximately \$926,000 in 2002-03.</p> <p>\$1 million has been spent against this project.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust will allocate <b>\$5.6 million</b> in recurrent and capital funding to the <b>Mount Annan</b> and <b>Mount Tomah Botanical Gardens</b>.</p> <p>The <b>Parramatta Park Trust</b> will be allocated <b>\$1.1 million</b> for recurrent expenditure.</p>	<p>In 2002-03, \$139,000 was spent on the installation of low volume irrigation systems in the Mount Annan Botanic Garden to reduce water use. A climate control system was also installed (\$27,264) in the research glasshouses to automate cooling and humidity. Other projects improved the onsite septic systems (\$56,000) and addressed accommodation deficiencies (\$17,253) for horticultural and scientific officers.</p> <p>At the Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, approximately \$79,000 was spent in 2002-03 on the final stage of upgrading effluent treatment on site.</p> <p>Low water use systems were installed in the toilets and ageing Infrastructure was replaced. Work was also completed on construction of a kiosk developed in response to visitor demand.</p> <p>\$1.937 million is forecast for recurrent expenditure by the Parramatta Park Trust on the management and conservation of historic Parramatta Park. Core programs implemented were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Horticultural and landscape management;</li> <li>◆ Conservation of historic sites, gatehouses, dairy precinct and monuments;</li> <li>◆ Visitor services, including the Burramatta Visitor Centre, corporate and group venue hire;</li> <li>◆ Provision of sport and recreation facilities for sporting clubs, schools and groups; and</li> <li>◆ Events including Australia Day Celebrations, Loy Krathong Thai Festival, Besant Mela Indian Spring Carnival, RTA Cycle Sydney, Summer Down Under Wheelchair Race, Walk Against Want, Back to Little Coogee Beach.</li> </ul> <p>Over 1.1 million people visited the park in 2002-03.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Heritage</b></p> <p>The historic 5.11 hectare <b>Linnwood Estate</b> at <b>Guildford</b> is to be made accessible to the community and the title is to be transferred from the Department of Community Services to the Heritage Office.</p> <p>The <b>Heritage Office</b> has spent <b>\$4.5 million</b> to adaptively use the former <b>Old Kings School at Parramatta</b> as an office headquarters.</p> <p>The <b>Heritage Office</b> gave funding of <b>\$5,000</b> to continue a pilot project providing a <b>Natural Heritage Adviser to Campbelltown City Council</b>.</p> <p>Heritage Office provided <b>\$300,000</b> over three years for the <b>Hawkesbury Hospital at Windsor</b> adaptive reuse.</p> <p>Heritage Office provided funding over three years to Parramatta City Council to implement the <b>Harris Park Cultural Landscape master Plan</b> in signage, walking track works, and landscaping.</p> <p>Heritage Office funding of <b>\$50,000</b> was provided to Bankstown City Council for <b>shop conservation works on the main street of Bankstown</b>.</p> <p>Heritage Office funding of <b>\$10,000</b> was provided to the Anglican Parish of <b>Windsor</b> for conservation works to the <b>stables of St Mathew's rectory</b>.</p>	<p>Land title was transferred from the Department of Community Services to the Heritage Office in June 2002. The Heritage Office is maintaining and managing Linnwood in caretaker mode until appropriate new users and financially viable future uses are found. The Office has placed a conservation management plan and future uses plan on public exhibition. Public open days were held in October 2002 and February 2003, and others are occurring monthly. A community group, Friends of Linnwood is managing occasional hiring by other organisations. More than 300 people have visited the site since October 2002.</p> <p>Works to adaptively reuse the site were completed and the Heritage Office moved in December 2002. An Official opening day was held on March 12 2003, and open days for the public were held on 16 March and 13 April 2003. The latter open day was part of the Heritage Festival. More than 500 people have visited the site since it was opened. Tanner architects and the Heritage Office were awarded a Heritage Award from Parramatta City Council for the works. The site includes an extensive library of heritage resources which is open to the public and heritage consultants by arrangement.</p> <p>The natural heritage advisor to Campbelltown City Council has provided valuable advice on works to achieve better management and interpretation of bush tracks and reserves, better outcomes to reduce the impacts of development on remnant vegetation and ecological features of the area.</p> <p>Works to adaptively reuse the former hospital were completed in the 2002-03 year for community and commercial issues.</p> <p>Project works will be substantially completed by 30 June 2003. These include a pathway linking Hambleton Cottage and Experiment Farm, reinstating a historically appropriate garden setting for Hambleton Cottage, traffic calming, new signage and interpretation. These will improve access to and use of the area and enrich the understanding of its history for tourists and residents.</p> <p>Conservation works to shops were completed over the 2002-03 year.</p> <p>Conservation works to the stables were completed over the 2002-03 year.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Heritage Office has spent around \$3,000 in providing a <b>workshop</b> day in Parramatta in 2002 to provide training for Western Sydney Councils' <b>staff</b> on the use of <b>delegated powers of the Heritage Council</b>.</p> <p>PlanningNSW will provide funding for various projects in Western Sydney that have historical significance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$250,000</b> to complete conservation of "<b>Glenalvon</b>" in <b>Campbelltown</b>;</li> <li>◆ <b>\$650,000</b> to Baulkham Hills Shire Council for the conservation of the <b>Bella Vista farm</b> and landscape; and</li> <li>◆ Approximately <b>\$750,000</b> to the <b>heritage asset portfolio in Western Sydney</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>The workshop was highly successful, attracting a large number of representatives from a range of Western Sydney Councils. Delegated decisions on minor works have started to be put into practice by some Councils to date, and the number of these is anticipated to rise in the future.</p> <p>Funding for 2002-03 was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Glenalvon – additional \$250,000 (total \$750,000) to Campbelltown City Council, restoration was completed and Council will accept the transfer;</li> <li>◆ Bella Vista – additional \$650,000 (total \$1 million) to Baulkham Hills Shire Council; and</li> <li>◆ Work is also proceeding on the \$750,000 heritage asset portfolio in Western Sydney. Significant conservation planning work was undertaken in 2002-03. This program will be progressively implemented over the next few years.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Waste Management</i></b></p> <p><b>Waste Service NSW</b> anticipates that it will expend <b>\$65 million</b> in Western Sydney.</p> <p>PlanningNSW will provide land, via a lease, for an <b>extension to the Waste Management Centre</b>.</p> <p>Planned waste management and resource recovery initiatives of <b>Resource NSW</b> in 2002-03 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>\$60,000</b> on the development of <b>wood waste facilities</b> at Kemp's Creek, Schofields and Camden;</li> <li>◆ <b>Recovery of paper and cardboard wastes</b> from office buildings in the Parramatta and Liverpool central business districts;</li> </ul>	<p>In 2002-03 Waste Service NSW expended close to \$65 million in Western Sydney.</p> <p>A lease has been executed with Waste Services NSW for the extension of the Eastern Creek Waste Management Centre.</p> <p>Resource NSW resources were provided to facilitate the development of a 5,000 tonne per annum supply contract at Kemp's Creek; develop markets for timber reuse at Schofields and initiate trials to recycle particle board and produce wood flour at Camden.</p> <p>The Office Building Recycling Program concentrated in the Parramatta CBD had an increase in recycling rates of 25 percent in one major office block.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A <b>public place recycling program</b> will be extended to major rail stations and transport interchanges including the main Western, Bankstown and East Hills lines;</li>   <li>◆ <b>Household hazardous waste collections;</b></li>   <li>◆ A three year program targeting <b>illegal dumping</b>. In addition, councils will have access to \$1 million Statewide to identify and clean up bushland dump sites. A further \$600,000 will be available to improve sites and deter dumping; and</li>   <li>◆ An updated waste regulatory system that supports resource recovery and ensures appropriate environmental regulation of waste generation, transport, treatment and disposal.</li> </ul>	<p>The design of recycling bins and site assessments of transport interchanges were completed. The project has been deferred while State Rail addresses security issues.</p> <p>During the reporting period, Resource NSW has contributed \$25,000 and has worked with Parramatta Park Trust in the development and installation of a new waste and recycling system for the Park.</p> <p>Collections to remove historic stocks of problematic household chemical waste from the waste stream, were arranged during 2002-03 for Auburn, Ashfield, Hawkesbury and Parramatta.</p> <p>Two rounds of Clean Up and Deterrence Grants were offered to metropolitan councils. Grants totalling \$322,784 were taken up by nine Western Sydney councils.</p> <p>The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy was released in February 2003. The Strategy was developed following comprehensive consultation with the NSW community, industry, community groups, environment groups, individuals and government. The Strategy presents a framework for action. It is designed to guide all sectors of the community in identifying priorities for action and opportunities for partnerships that will help to achieve these targets.</p>
<p><b><i>Mine Rehabilitation</i></b></p> <p>A NSW Government Environmental Trust grant of \$631,320 will be used over three years on <b>environmental and safety improvements at the Yerranderie mine site.</b></p>	<p>During 2002-03, bushfires followed by heavy rains delayed access to the site for several months. The metallurgy study has been completed which has highlighted essential variations to the project process and timeline. Completion date has been extended to July 2004.</p> <p>A number of environmental studies have been completed to date. These include a European heritage management plan, bat survey, safety and risk assessment, acid mine drainage assessment and preliminary aboriginal heritage assessment. Methods of safely fencing and gating mine workings have been designed through the results of these studies. Works to improve safety at the site commenced in the first half of 2003 calendar year and will continue into 2003-04.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>BETTER GOVERNMENT SERVICES</b></p> <p><i>Premier's Department</i></p> <p>The allocation by the Premier's Department for <b>“place-managed” projects, regional co-ordination initiatives</b> in Western Sydney will be <b>\$3.95 million</b>.</p>	<p>Community Solutions Strategies – the key package elements are: children, youth and families; education, training and skills; community capacity building; specific ATSI/Pacific Islander initiatives; and the Mt Druitt Family Violence Response and Support Strategy.</p> <p>The Premier's Department has a number of Place Management Projects in place in DoCS' Metro South West Region. These are:</p> <p>Miller Task Force – Community 2168- A multidisciplinary team has been established between DoCS and NSW Health, as the lead agencies, to address domestic violence, mental health and drug and alcohol issues for children and families in Miller. \$260,000 is being funded for this Strategy from the Premier's Department. The Team is called the Green Valley Domestic Violence Team.</p> <p>DoCS' Metro South West Area contributed \$20,000 to the 2168 Board to assist it to implement identified strategies in the 2168 Plan.</p> <p>Miller Project. Unemployed people from the area are being involved in local works through <i>Working Proudly</i>. Work on the PCYC has commenced. Primary Connect is working to facilitate better connection between families and schools and improve educational outcomes. Policing strategies have contributed to a marked decrease in crime.</p> <p>Canterbury-Bankstown Domestic Violence Team – DoCS will host a multi-agency team to provide services to the community and lead change to promote a coordinated approach by non government services and government agencies in responding to domestic and community violence. Funding of \$790,009 over 2 years is available for this purpose.</p> <p>Pacific Islander Student and Family Support Project – DoCS will purchase services from the community through an expressions of interest process to provide services to children, young people and their families who are from a Pacific Island background. The project will provide support and a community development strategy to build capacity of children and young people in school years 5-9, their families, schools and communities to enhance the young people's sense of well being and educational outcomes. \$107,500 was spent on the project in 2002-03.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
	<p>Arabic Speaking Youth Partnership –</p> <p>A partnership between community and government agencies in Canterbury – Bankstown focuses on the needs of the Arabic speaking young people and their families in the area. DoCS has participated in the Partnership by way of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Parenting Magazine focusing on teenagers translated and printed in Arabic. 20,000 copies have been produced.</li> <li>◆ Intensive Family Based Counselling services. DoCS is currently progressing an Expression of Interest process to identify the auspice for the project,</li> <li>◆ Community Program Officer – Transitions. This project has a total funding of \$150,000 per year for 2 years. A program officer has been employed by DoCS to provide services at Condell Park High School to assist young people and their families transition from primary to secondary school.</li> </ul> <p>A range of urban amenity/safety improvements to identified risk areas and a range of innovative and linked crime prevention, young people and family support and early intervention projects will seek to strengthen the community and reduce crime.</p>
<p><b><i>Fair Trading and Consumer Protection</i></b></p> <p>The <b>Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal</b> will be funded to the extent of <b>\$3 million</b> in Western Sydney.</p> <p>Approximately <b>\$700,000</b> will be allocated to the <b>Tenants Advice and Advocacy Services</b> in Western Sydney.</p> <p>The operating budget for the <b>Fair Trading Centres</b> located at Penrith, Liverpool, Blacktown and Parramatta, will be almost <b>\$4.6 million</b>.</p>	<p>It is estimated that total expenditure in Western Sydney for the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal will be \$3.2 million.</p> <p>Western Sydney Tenants' Services received \$482,091, South West Sydney Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service received \$265,199 and the Southern Sydney Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service received \$325,299. These grants total \$1.07 million</p> <p>Approximately \$4.7 million was spent in 2002-03.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>The Department will also provide grants through the <b>Property Services Grants Program</b> for projects in Western Sydney, which enhance the relationship between the property services industry and their customers.</p> <p>Funds will be allocated to the Western Sydney <b>Home Building Grants Program</b>, for education and training initiatives or research projects.</p> <p>Financial counselling services in Western Sydney will continue to be funded through the Department's <b>Credit Counselling Program</b> and the <b>Financial Counselling Trust Fund</b>, at an estimated cost of <b>\$321,000</b>.</p>	<p>\$19,920 was provided for the Development and Implementation of Income Valuation Methods for Rural Valuation Practice Project at the University of Western Sydney, and \$66,000 was provided for the Bachelor of Business (Property Economics) Stage 4 program. These grants total \$85,920.</p> <p>Lidcombe-Building Apprentices Training Limited received \$250,000.</p> <p>\$337,381 in grants was allocated in 2002-03:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Creditline Fairfield \$57,765</li> <li>◆ Creditline Penrith \$21,208</li> <li>◆ Macarthur Legal Centre \$25,048</li> <li>◆ Mission Australia-Campbelltown \$36,016</li> <li>◆ Bankstown Family Support Service \$34,340</li> <li>◆ Creditline Penrith-Outreach Richmond \$22,510</li> <li>◆ Creditline –Outreach Quakers Hill \$22,510</li> <li>◆ Creditline Macarthur \$21,176</li> <li>◆ Moneycare Lethbridge Park \$27,800</li> <li>◆ Moneycare Parramatta \$27,800</li> <li>◆ Ryde/Eastwood Financial Counselling Service- Auburn/Lidcombe \$24,038</li> <li>◆ Ryde Eastwood Financial Counselling Service - Granville \$17,170</li> </ul>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Emergency Services</b></p> <p>The Department of Land and Water Conservation will allocate <b>\$300,000</b> to develop Floodplain Management Plans under the <b>Hawkesbury Nepean Floodplain Management Strategy</b>.</p>	<p>\$220,000 was provided under the NSW Government's Floodplain Management Program and the Commonwealth Government's Natural Disaster Risk Management Strategy area to assist in developing floodplain risk management plans.</p>
<p>The <b>State Emergency Service</b> will allocate <b>\$125,000</b> to emergency services in Bankstown, Fairfield and Auburn for the <b>purchase of emergency response vehicles</b> and for <b>building improvements</b>. In addition, <b>\$150,000</b> will be expended on the provision of <b>protective clothing and safety equipment</b> for Western Sydney volunteers.</p> <p>The <b>NSW Rural Fire Service</b> will have a budget of \$120.7 million of which Western Sydney will receive more than <b>\$13 million</b>.</p>	<p>\$125,000 was expended on subsidies for emergency rescue vehicle and building improvements to volunteer unit premises. Approximately \$180,000 was expended on protective clothing and safety equipment.</p> <p>Western Sydney Councils received more than \$13 million from the Rural Fire Service in 2002-03.</p>
<p><b>Industrial Relations and WorkCover</b></p> <p>The Department of Industrial Relations will continue to provide assistance to individual employers and employees with workplace difficulties and inquiries through both its <b>Western Sydney Contact Centre at Parramatta</b> and <b>South Western Sydney Contact Centre at Bankstown</b>.</p>	<p>The Western Sydney Contact Centre covers approximately 300 workplaces. Programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Education compliance campaigns in the Parramatta, Epping, Mount Victoria, Springwood, Blackheath, Blacktown, Penrith areas; and</li> <li>◆ Industry sampling compliance campaigns in the Mount Victoria, Springwood, Blackheath, Blacktown and Penrith areas.</li> </ul> <p>The South Western Sydney Contact Centre covers approximately 300 workplaces. Programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Education compliance campaigns in the Campbelltown, Roselands and Bankstown areas; and</li> <li>◆ Industry sampling compliance campaign in the Roselands, Macarthur Square and Camden areas.</li> </ul> <p>As at 31 December 2002, Compliance Services Division has conducted 242 workplace investigations and 175 general inspections of workplaces.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p>In 2002-03, the Department will be focusing its activities on providing assistance to both outworkers and businesses, particularly in the home-based clothing sector in Western Sydney.</p> <p>The Department's <b>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Workplace Services Unit</b> will continue to assist ATSI employers and employees in Western Sydney.</p> <p>The Department's <b>Workplace Advice Unit</b> will assist Western Sydney employers and employees to improve work relations, develop best practice initiatives in workplace policies and procedures and promote harmony and productivity in the workplace.</p> <p>In 2002-03, the Department of Industrial Relations estimates that it will expend <b>\$2.5 million</b> in recurrent funding to support its services in Western Sydney.</p>	<p>The Ethical Clothing Trades Council is supported in encouraging retailers and manufacturers of clothing to become active participants in the voluntary Homeworkers Code of Practice for manufacturers and the Retailer's Ethical Code of Practice.</p> <p>The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Unit collaborated with Centrelink and NSW Police to educate juvenile offenders on their rights at work. It also participated in a series of activities co-ordinated by Centrelink as part of Youth Week 2003.</p> <p>In 2002-03 the Department provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 22 public seminars and workshops for 224 participants from small-medium sized employers in Western Sydney;</li> <li>◆ Four free information sessions for 60 TAFE students in Western Sydney; and</li> <li>◆ Two in-house workshops for up to 60 employees of organisations located in Western Sydney.</li> </ul> <p>The Unit is also a sponsor of the Baulkham Hills and Blacktown Business Enterprise Centre (BEC), a non-government and non-profit organisation which provides business advisory and support services to small and medium sized businesses located in Western and North Western Sydney. Sponsorship is in the form of services to the value of \$9,350.</p> <p>In 2003-04, the Department of Industrial Relations estimates that it will expend \$2.4 million in recurrent funding to support its services in Western Sydney.</p>
<p>In 2002-03, <b>WorkCover Authority</b> anticipates that <b>operational expenditure</b> in Western Sydney will be <b>\$11.47 million</b>, primarily directed to the prevention of workplace injuries and diseases.</p>	<p>WorkCover Authority's operational expenditure in 2002-03 in Western Sydney was estimated as \$12.06 million primarily directed to the prevention of workplace injuries and diseases.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b><i>Justice and Legal Aid</i></b></p> <p><b>Community Justice Centres</b> continue to contribute to the safety and harmony of the communities of Western Sydney by improving individual, group and community responses to resolution of conflict. The estimated expenditure on these Centres in 2002-03 is approximately <b>\$1 million</b>.</p> <p><b>Legal Aid services</b> to Western Sydney are provided through a network of legal aid offices and the Legal Aid Commission has allocated <b>\$13.4 million</b> for these services. In addition the Commission anticipates expenditure of around <b>\$5.8 million</b> in payments to private legal practitioners and on legal disbursements in legally aided matters in the region.</p>	<p>Community Justice Centres provide services across all local government areas in Western Sydney. CJs work in close partnership with local courts to provide free, accessible mediation and conflict management services. Mediation services are provided for people seeking Apprehended Violence Orders or involved with Small Claims at the Courts, eg Penrith and Bankstown. The administrative office for the Sydney region is to be relocated from Sydney to Bankstown in June 2003. The anticipated expenditure for 2002-03 will be around \$1.5 million.</p> <p>The Commission allocated expenditure of approximately \$12.9 million (State and Commonwealth funding), and anticipates the provision of approximately 59,000 in-house legal aid case, duty, advice and information services, to the year end 2002-03.</p> <p>In addition, the Commission anticipates payments of approximately \$11.7 million to private practitioners, to the year end 2002-03 and the provision of approximately 12,000 assigned legal aid Case and Duty services.</p>
<p><b>Community Legal Centres</b> provide accessible community-based legal services. The 2002-03 allocation for the centres in Western Sydney is <b>\$680,000</b>.</p>	<p>The Commission provided State funding to CLC's in the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury/Nepean, Campbelltown, Mt Druitt, Merrylands, South West Sydney and Harris Park areas, totalling \$1.1 million.</p>
<p><b><i>Survey Services</i></b></p> <p>The Department of Information Technology and Management's Land and Property Information NSW will allocate a further <b>\$350,000</b> in 2002-03 for the completion of <b>new edition topographic maps, digital topographic and survey information</b> for Western Sydney. In addition, <b>\$480,000</b> will be allocated to the <b>Digital Cadastral Database</b> maintenance and <b>\$100,000</b> for the <b>aerial photography</b> of the "burnt" areas within Western Sydney following the January 2002 bushfire crisis.</p>	<p>To support land development and planning initiatives approximately 1,500 state survey marks were established, eight topographic maps were published and 300,000 changes and additions were made to the digital cadastral and topographic databases.</p> <p>1,000 aerial photographs plus related image products were supplied to Emergency Services to assist with bushfire emergencies in the Penrith and Blue Mountains area.</p>

2002-2003 INITIATIVE	OUTCOME
<p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>In 2002-03, the State Rail Authority will spend approximately <b>\$61 million</b> on the <b>operation and maintenance of railway stations</b> in Western Sydney. \$6.3 million will be expended on improved passenger information systems on CityRail stations, including Western Sydney.</p> <p>Early in 2003, State Transit will commence operating on the Liverpool to Parramatta Transitway through a wholly-owned subsidiary corporation, using low-floor, wheelchair accessible, air-conditioned buses powered by compressed natural gas.</p> <p>Transport NSW is developing a <b>Customer Charter</b> to cover standards such as on time running, safety, accessibility and cleanliness.</p>	<p>The estimated expenditure for 2002-03 is \$64 million. In 2002-03 passenger information systems have been commissioned at Granville, Blacktown, Liverpool, Parramatta and Campbelltown, at a cost of \$1 million.</p> <p>The service began operations in February 2003.</p> <p>NSW Transport Customer Commitment released on transport websites in early 2003 with translations available in six community languages other than English.</p> <p>This initiative represents the first truly cross-portfolio commitment to customers of its kind and also includes the private bus sector with the participation of the Bus &amp; Coach Association.</p> <p>The NSW Transport Customer Commitment will be monitored by the cross-portfolio Customer Relations Working Party.</p>