



Dominic Perrottet
Treasurer

MEDIA RELEASE

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RATINGS AGENCY NOTES STRONG FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOLLOWING 2019-20 BUDGET

The NSW Government has been recognised for its “strong financial management” following the release of the 2019-20 Budget on Tuesday.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet handed down a Budget with a surplus of \$802 million projected for 2018-19 and surpluses averaging \$1.7 billion over the four years to 2022-23.

Ratings agency S&P Global noted the Government’s ability to continue delivering surpluses despite the current economic headwinds.

“Despite downward revisions to transfer duty revenue and goods-and-services tax grants from the Commonwealth government, and some new spending measures in health and education to meet election commitments, we expect NSW to continue to post solid cash operating surpluses,” S&P Global said.

“The NSW government has announced various savings measures, including reductions in back-office employee numbers. NSW’s strong financial management is evidenced by its commitment to keep annual expense growth lower than long-term average revenue growth over the next four years.”

Moody’s noted NSW’s large and diversified economy and that the State’s debt metrics “are expected to benefit from growth in the NSW Generations Fund (NGF)”.

The NGF is a new sovereign wealth fund which is designed to guard against intergenerational budgetary pressures and help keep debt sustainable in the long term for the State.

The fund is projected to grow to more than \$28 billion over the next decade, helping further strengthen the State’s balance sheet.

The State Budget included a record \$93 billion investment in infrastructure, support for drought-affected communities, tax cuts and further cost of living relief to families.

“Once again we have delivered for the people of NSW with a strong Budget doing what we said we would during the election campaign,” Mr Perrottet said.

“Meanwhile Labor remains adrift at sea without a captain, led by the temporary, disposable, acting, interim, deputy leader Ryan Park.”

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