



# A MESSAGE FROM BILL SHORTEN

The Northern Territory is a place of stunning country which holds the stories of Australia's oldest living culture in its art and languages.

But I know that many Territorians are doing it tough right now.

I know this because every time I get the opportunity to spend time in the Northern Territory - whether it be meeting families in Darwin and Palmerston or while meeting with communities around the NT in Alice Springs, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Maningrida or the Tiwi Islands - middle and working class Territorians are telling me that their household budgets are under pressure.

The cost of living keeps increasing, yet wages just aren't keeping up. More and more people are having to fall back on their savings just to get by. At the same time, the Liberal Government's big cuts to hospitals, aged care, schools and TAFE are hurting people right across the community.

I want to fix that. I want to get our country's priorities back on track, starting with properly funding our schools and restoring funding to our hospitals. I also want to make sure the economy delivers real opportunities for apprentices and working people, so our country offers a fair go for all Australians.

Labor will invest in jobs and infrastructure in the Northern Territory.

This election is a choice between Labor's plan for better hospitals and better schools or bigger tax loopholes for the top end of town under the Liberals.

After six years of the Liberals' cuts and chaos, our united Labor team is ready.

**Bill Shorten**

# INVESTING IN NORTHERN TERRITORY JOBS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Labor is investing in jobs and infrastructure across the Northern Territory after six years of cuts and inaction from the Liberals.

## Upgrading Darwin Port

Labor will invest \$300 million into a new ship lift for Darwin Port.

The ship lift will see Darwin Port better able to maintain and serve Defence and ABF vessels, and ships servicing the oil and gas industries.

This will create around 100 jobs during construction of the ship lift, with many more created once it begins operation.

## Northern Territory Strategic Roads Package

The Liberals have overpromised and underdelivered because they have failed to do the proper planning for the Northern Territory. Labor will address the backlog with projects in Darwin and across the Northern Territory.

Instead of making funding promises on the never never, Labor's funding for the Northern Territory Strategic Roads Package will start flowing in the first Budget of a Shorten Labor Government.

Labor's comprehensive \$173 million Northern Territory Strategic Roads Package includes:

### ✓ Improving Roads in the Top End

- Mango Industry Strategic Roads Project – \$20 million to seal 15 kilometres of dirt roads leading to mango farms and packing sheds in the Top End; lifting productivity and driving further growth in the Territory's major horticultural sector.
- Upgrades to improve access to communities Arnhem Land – Maningrida, Ramingining and Milingimbi – \$62 million.
- Upgrading the road to Port Keats – \$20 million.

### ✓ Improving Roads in the Katherine Region

- Phelps River crossing near Numbulwar, south east of Katherine – \$10 million.
- Sandy Creek crossing near Yarralan, west of Katherine – \$3 million.

### ✓ Upgrading roads in Central Australia to improve access between remote towns and communities across the Northern Territory, so residents will have better access to health, education and community services as well as to opportunities for sport and recreation.

- Santa Teresa Road sealing Phase 1 & 2 – \$35 million.
- Papunya access upgrade – \$9 million.
- Kintore/Haast Bluff access upgrade – \$2 million.
- Utju Hermannsburg access upgrade – \$3 million.
- Alparra/Ampilatwatja (Sandover) access upgrade – \$9 million.

Labor will also invest in upgrading roads on **Tiwi Island, Central Arnhem Road, Tanami Road** and the **Buntine Highway**. Labor will also invest in improving local roads, bridges, bike paths, rest stops, electric vehicle charging stations and road safety black spots around the Territory.



# NORTHERN TERRITORY JOBS NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE

Labor is investing in new and growing industries to support jobs in the Northern Territory.

## Better Housing and More Jobs in Remote Communities

A Shorten Labor Government will tackle overcrowding, build and renovate more houses, and create more jobs across the Northern Territory, with a **ten-year \$1.1 billion commitment to remote housing**.

This will provide long-term investment in housing and jobs in remote communities all across the Northern Territory. We know that too many people in remote communities are living in inappropriate housing, with overcrowding and poor quality a major problem.

Everyone in Australia has the right to adequate and appropriate housing, and Labor will invest to ensure they do. Our investment doubles the commitment made by the Liberals – that means better housing and more jobs for people living in remote Northern Territory communities.

## Tourism

Tourism is a significant industry that thousands of workers and their families in the Northern Territory rely on. For six years, the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government has failed to support growth of this critical sector, cutting investment in domestic tourism marketing and failing to support the industry.

## Kakadu National Park

Labor will invest \$220 million in infrastructure and community development projects to dramatically improve Kakadu National Park as a tourist destination and secure the future of the township of Jabiru.

This includes:

- ✓ **\$100 million to upgrade four key access roads** in the Kakadu National Park, to allow for year-round access to key sites in Kakadu.
- ✓ **\$44 million for environmental and national park infrastructure upgrades**, including work to tackle invasive species; better fire management; and improved camping facilities and car parking.

- ✓ \$25 million for a new Kakadu visitor and world heritage interpretive centre in Jabiru.
- ✓ \$2.5 million to improve mobile connectivity in the Park, for increased visitor safety and better reception for locals.
- ✓ \$2.5 million for a new Tourism Masterplan to help ensure Kakadu remains a world tourism leader and continues to grow visitor numbers.
- ✓ \$45 million to undertake urgent asbestos remediation work in Jabiru.
- ✓ \$1 million for a new roads strategy to be developed to improve safety on the Park's remote roads.

## Regional Tourism Plan

Labor will also drive economic growth and job creation in the Northern Territory as part of our \$195 million Regional Tourism Plan. This will deliver more jobs, better attractions, better airports and smarter marketing for this critical industry.

## Northern Australia Development Fund

Labor's Northern Australia Development Fund will support projects of national economic significance in Australia's north.

Labor will allocate **\$1 billion of Northern Australian Development Fund money to tourism infrastructure**, to boost partnerships with the tourism sector and to provide incentives to business for investment in new and upgraded tourism infrastructure across Northern Australia.

Labor will also set aside **\$1.5 billion for essential pipeline infrastructure** to move gas to Darwin and the eastern markets, to support Darwin manufacturing and put downward pressure on gas prices.

Labor will ensure any gas development environmental approvals will be guided by the best independent expert science; protect water resources; and stack up environmentally.

## Defence Procurement

A Shorten Labor Government will make sure local companies get a fair chance to compete for regional Defence contracts. Defence is a major investor in the Northern Territory, and we want that investment to grow the economy and help local businesses. Labor will require major defence contractors to provide a plan for working with NT businesses and we will station a local procurement officer in the NT, to help leverage this investment.

## Supporting Recreational Fishing

Labor will invest \$40 million in recreational fishing infrastructure across Australia, with the Palmerston boat ramp receiving a significant upgrade.

## Community Infrastructure

Labor will invest over \$20 million in community projects in the Territory, including:

- ✓ **Community pool upgrades:** Improvements to a number of pools across the Territory, including:
  - \$10 million for Litchfield Aquatic Facility.
  - \$5 million for Palmerston Aquatic Centre.
  - \$5 million for Katherine Aquatic Centre.
  - \$150,000 for Wadeye pool.
- ✓ **Sporting ground upgrades:** Upgrades to Malak Oval, Fannie Bay Oval, Bagot Oval, Marrara Oval, Mt Liebig Oval, Phyllis Uren Park and Papunya Oval with new and improved female change rooms built at a number of facilities.
  - **Christmas Island:** Labor will upgrade the local skate park.
  - **Humpty Doo:** Upgrades to the Village Green playground.
  - **Cocos Islands:** Home Island old mosque upgrade.



# INVESTING IN QUALITY EDUCATION IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Labor is investing in schools, TAFE, apprenticeships and universities in the Northern Territory so that all children get a quality education that prepares them for the future.

## Two years of preschool for every child

Labor will fund and extend the national preschool program so it covers three and four-year-olds. This will benefit around 7,300 three and four year-olds in the Northern Territory.

## Schools funding

Labor will provide an extra \$14 billion over ten years to deliver the biggest school investment in Australian history which will reverse the Liberals' cuts. **Northern Territory public schools will have an extra \$41 million** under Labor's Fair Go For Schools policy in the first 3 years from 2020.

## Build better TAFE

TAFE is the backbone of our vocational education system and has a proud history skilling and re-skilling generations of Australians. The Liberals cut more than \$3 billion from TAFE, closed campuses and allowed dodgy for-profit providers to gouge the system.

Many of the fastest growing industries and sectors need TAFE-qualified workers. That's why **Labor will waive upfront fees for 100,000 TAFE students**. To make sure that TAFE is there for the next generation, Labor will invest \$200 million in TAFE upgrades and guarantee public TAFE receives at least two thirds of public vocational education funding.

## Create more apprenticeships

Going to TAFE or completing an apprenticeship is a great way to get a rewarding job and build a fantastic career. Nine out of every 10 jobs in coming years is likely to need a TAFE or university qualification.

**Labor will deliver 150,000 additional Apprentice Incentives in areas of skill shortages** – reversing the decline that has occurred under the Liberal government.

In addition, Labor will support 10,000 young Australians to do a pre-apprentice program to prepare them for an apprenticeship and provide support for 20,000 workers to retrain through an Advanced Adult Apprenticeship.

No one should be locked out of a secure and prosperous future. That's why Labor will ensure that 1 in every 10 jobs on major Commonwealth funded infrastructure and Defence projects is an apprenticeship.

### Providing pathways for Northern Territory students to get to university

Labor will allocate \$3.2 million over the next four years for mentoring and pathways programs in the 22 communities across the country, including **Nhulunbuy** and **Wuyagiba**. We will make regional hubs places that build aspiration for tertiary study and that work with communities to develop new outreach, mentoring and tutoring programs.

Labor will also invest \$2 million to support regional and remote students complete their courses at Charles Darwin University.

### More university places

The Liberals have cut \$14 million from universities in the Northern Territory. Labor will end the Liberals' cap on Commonwealth supported university places and help 200,000 more young Australians graduate from university over the next decade - including **over 2,100 students in the Northern Territory.**

### Better universities

Labor's \$300 million University Future Fund will deliver important upgrades for Northern Territory universities, including a **\$14 million investment in a Learning Lab at Charles Darwin University's** Palmerston campus, to ensure teachers in the Northern Territory are given the best possible training and support, with a particular focus on teaching in remote and Indigenous communities.



# FAIR SHARE FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY HOSPITALS

**Labor will reverse the cuts to Medicare and invest in Northern Territory hospitals, because good health care should depend on your Medicare card, not your credit card.**

The Liberals cut \$16 million from hospitals in the Northern Territory. Labor will reverse the cuts and invest in Northern Territory hospitals, including:

- ✓ **Royal Darwin Hospital:** \$15 million to upgrade the mental health facilities at Royal Darwin Hospital, including increasing the number of beds.
- ✓ **Alice Springs Hospital:** \$25.7 million to upgrade the hospital.
- ✓ **Careflight helicopter:** \$10 million to provide a second Careflight medical rescue helicopter and give the Northern Territory almost 24/7 coverage.
- ✓ **\$11 million to upgrade four Aboriginal Medical Services:**
  - Mutitjulu Health Service: \$7.5 million.
  - Mpwelarre Health Service: \$1 million.
  - Danila Dilba Health Service: \$1.5 million.
  - Galiwin'ku Health Service: \$1 million.
- ✓ **\$26.25 million to replace or upgrade four NT Government health clinics:**
  - Borroloola Health Service: \$8.5 million.
  - Gunbalanya Health Service: \$8.5 million.
  - Ramingining Health Service: \$5 million.
  - Gapuwiyak Health Service: \$4.25 million.
- ✓ **Tennant Creek Hospital:** \$3 million to upgrade the hospital.
- ✓ **A new BreastScreen mammography system for Palmerston Hospital:** \$240,000.
- ✓ **Remote Care Pathology Testing Machines in 20 remote locations:** \$500,000.

### Medicare Cancer Plan

- ✓ **Labor's \$2.3 billion Medicare Cancer Plan** will dramatically slash out-of-pocket costs for cancer patients.
- ✓ **Three new specialist nurses in locations across the Northern Territory** for lung and metastatic cancers. These nurses are specially trained to help patients and their families through their often-complex cancer journeys.
- ✓ **A Camp Quality Liaison Officer** in Darwin to support children being treated for cancer and their parents, both while they're undergoing treatment and as they go home.

## Improving the Health Outcomes of First Australians

Labor will prioritise the health and wellbeing of First Nations peoples by delivering a \$115 million package that will put First Australians at the centre of decision-making – from primary care delivery to health research.

- ✔ **\$29.6 million to reduce youth suicide and poor mental health** provided through Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. The National Indigenous Health Equality Council will also work with the National Mental Health Commission to develop an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Plan.
- ✔ **\$33 million to address rheumatic heart disease** across 25 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities: on-the-ground action including education and awareness campaigns; improved health hygiene programs; and school-based health promotion.
- ✔ **\$13 million to Close the Gap on vision loss.**
- ✔ **\$20 million for sexual health promotion** and restoring funding to the Northern Territory Aids and Hepatitis Council.
- ✔ **\$16.5 million to roll out a national Deadly Choices campaign** to promote positive health and lifestyle choices.
- ✔ **\$3 million to target health awareness** in at-risk communities.

As part of this strategy, Labor will prioritise Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations by ensuring they have a primary role in delivering culturally appropriate and regionally specific primary healthcare services, including reviewing their funding agreement with the Commonwealth.

We will put First Nations peoples in control of their own health and wellbeing by reinstating the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council (NATSIEHC), which was abolished in 2014 by the Abbott Government.

## Labor's Pensioner Dental Plan

A Shorten Labor Government will invest \$2.4 billion in a Pensioner Dental Plan – giving up to three million Australians access to free dental care and taking the next step towards Labor's vision for universal access to dental care in Australia.

Under Labor's Pensioner Dental Plan, 10,980 older Northern Territorians will be able to access \$1,000 worth of dental services every two years.

## Tackling cardiovascular disease

Labor will take on the country's biggest killer – cardiovascular disease – with a new \$170 million investment for comprehensive heart health checks that will save lives and improve the health of Australians.

## Tackling Type 1 Diabetes

Labor will provide a record boost for Type 1 diabetes research by investing \$50 million in clinical trials and supporting our best and brightest researchers in their quest for a cure for Australian children.

# A FAIR GO FOR ALL NORTHERN TERRITORIANS

**Labor's policies will help all Territorians get ahead, including our First Australians.**

## Veterans Support Hub

Labor will invest \$4.9 million to establish the **Scott Palmer Service and Veterans Support Hub** to provide support to our current and ex-serving defence personnel, first responders and their families, named after the only Territorian killed in Afghanistan.

## A Voice for First Nations people

Labor will establish a Voice for First Nations peoples and seek the support of the Australian people to have that Voice enshrined in the Constitution. A Voice will give First Nations communities in the Northern Territory a more meaningful say in issues and policy decisions that affect their lives.



## Stolen Generations Compensation

A Shorten Labor Government will establish a compensation scheme for survivors of the Stolen Generations in Commonwealth jurisdictions. The compensation scheme will provide ex-gratia payments of \$75,000 to Stolen Generations survivors who were removed from their families. Labor will also establish a Funeral Assistance Fund to provide one-off payments of \$7,000 to Stolen Generations members to assist with the cost of their funerals.

## National Healing Fund

Labor will establish a \$10 million National Healing Fund to support healing for the Stolen Generation and their families, in recognition of the inter-generational effects of forced removal

## Emergency Relief for NT families

Labor will reverse the Liberals' cuts to emergency relief services and provide over \$1 million to grassroots organisations that deliver critical services to people when they need it most.

## Supporting safer communities

Labor will invest \$1.2 million in each of **Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine – Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs** to further improve community safety as part of our National Crime Prevention Fund. Local community members will be able to decide how this money is allocated. This investment can be used for community safety infrastructure (such as lighting, CCTV or bollards) or projects run by local community organisations.

## Restoring ABC shortwave radio to the NT

Labor will provide the ABC with \$2 million in funding to help re-establish shortwave radio services across the Northern Territory.

# EASE PRESSURE ON FAMILY BUDGETS

**Labor understands that the cost of everything is going up, and cost-of-living pressure on families is growing. Labor has a plan to ease pressure on family budget.**

## Fairer tax cuts for working Australians

Labor supports the increase to the Low and Middle Income Tax Offset proposed in the Budget. However, Labor will deliver better tax cuts for 3.6 million working Australians. Under Labor, a total of 10 million Australians will receive the same or bigger tax relief.

**25,000 workers in the Northern Territory on less than \$48,000 will be better off under Labor.**

Labor can pay for better tax cuts for 3.6 million Australians – without the Liberals' cuts to schools and hospitals – because of our reform decisions to make multinationals pay their fair share and close tax loopholes used by the top end of town.

## Cutting childcare costs

A Shorten Labor Government will deliver massive cost of living relief for nearly one million families struggling with the costs of child care.

From July next year, Labor will put more money back in working parents' pockets for 887,000 Australian families – slashing up to \$2,100 per child off their annual childcare bill. Every single working family in the Northern Territory earning up to \$174,000 will get cheaper child care under Labor.



### Cap private health insurance premium increases

Hikes in private health insurance premiums put pressure on family budgets. That's why Labor will cap the annual price increases of private health insurance at 2 per cent for two years and hold a comprehensive review into the private health system, with a focus on improving affordability and value for consumers.

### Support solar and batteries, and deliver cheaper renewable energy

Labor will help Australians slash their power bills by setting a new national target of one million household battery installations by 2025 and **providing a \$2,000 rebate for 100,000 households.**

Labor will also help Australian schools cut their energy bills and access cleaner energy by establishing a Solar Schools program to help schools' access solar panels and battery storage. This will be supported by \$1 billion of Clean Energy Finance Corporation funding.

Labor's commitment to 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030 will see more renewables, cheaper power and more jobs.



# STAND UP FOR WORKERS

**Labor will improve the conditions of Northern Territory workers, including those employed in remote jobs programs.**

### Scrap the Community Development Program (CDP)

Labor will scrap the discriminatory, punitive and ineffective CDP. Labor will replace the CDP with a new program that will be co-designed with Indigenous Australians and restore the principle of community control and direction, and creates jobs with proper wages and working conditions.

### Restore penalty rates

Labor will legislate to reverse the cuts to penalty rates in our first 100 days of government. This will benefit up to 14,500 Northern Territory workers. And we will change the law to make sure they can't be cut for anyone again.

### Act on job security

We will legislate to give casual workers the right to request permanent employment after 12 months with the same employer, and provide workers with a right to challenge an employer who unreasonably refuses such a request.

### Crack down on dodgy labour hire

Labor will introduce laws to ensure that workers employed through a labour hire company get the same pay and conditions as people employed directly.

### Tradie Pay Guarantee

We will implement a Tradie Pay Guarantee to ensure subbies get paid on time, and create the Tradie Litigation Fund to ensure regulators take more dodgy bosses to court for not paying contractors.

# INVEST IN CHEAPER CLEANER RENEWABLE ENERGY

Labor has a detailed Energy Plan to deliver cheaper, cleaner power and take real action to tackle climate change.

## 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030

Under Labor, at least 50 per cent of our electricity generation will be sourced from renewable energy by 2030. This will be driven by new investment in renewable energy generation and storage.

We will transform Australia's energy supply systems - delivering more renewables and cheaper power for all Australians.

For more information about these, or other Labor policies, visit:  
[www.FairGoActionPlan.org.au](http://www.FairGoActionPlan.org.au)

