Active Kids Rebate A Hit
With Families

Families across NSW are reaping the $101 billion for sport and fitness-related costs announced as part of the recent budget.

$207 million has been allocated across four years to provide all school-aged children with an ‘Active Kids Rebate’ on sporting related costs. Our Active Kids Rebate will put $10 per school aged child back into the pockets of parents to help cover the cost of getting their children involved in sport and active recreation activities.

“Regional Cultural Fund

Funding for regions is based on four categories to support the rich cultural diversity of our regions. To find out more or apply visit https://sport.nsw.gov.au.

Regional Cultural Fund

Art and culture is at the heart of every regional community. The NSW Government’s $10 million Regional Cultural Fund will support the development of arts and culture in regional areas, with up to $25 million allocated in the first round of funding.

This includes building and upgrading venues for arts and cultural activities such as art galleries, libraries, performance spaces and community centres.

Funding for regions is based on four categories to support the rich cultural diversity of our regions. To find out more or apply visit https://sport.nsw.gov.au.

Budget brings New Opportunity For Business In NSW

Small businesses will continue to receive face to face support and business advice thanks to an additional $7.5 million investment in the Business Connect Program as part of the 2017-18 Budget. This is a fantastic initiative which aims to reduce cost of living pressures for families and ensure children can attend team sports as well as school holiday sport and active recreation activities.

Families will be able to claim up to $500 per school aged child, per calendar year from 1 January 2018 for after school, weekend and school holiday sport and active recreation activities.

The Active Kids Rebate will mean savings for thousands of families and ensure children can attend team sports as well as school holiday sport and active recreation activities.

The Government’s strong economic management means real saving for families and reduced barriers to healthy activity. This is a fantastic initiative which aims to reduce cost of living pressures for families and ensure children can attend team sports as well as school holiday sport and active recreation activities.

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Families will be able to claim up to $500 per school aged child, per calendar year from 1 January 2018. Whether your active child plays sport such as netball, football or basketball, swimming classes, gymnastics or athletics, this is an innovative and exciting initiative.

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More palliative care services for regional NP

The major upgrade to Lake Cathie Public School including new classrooms will meet the increasing student enrolments in one of the fastest growing areas in the Port Macquarie electorate and is welcome news for our community.

The upgrades will help provide the quality school facilities our community needs and deserve.

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The Regional Growth Fund will deliver $1 billion to help develop transport, energy and water projects, as well as $300 million earmarked for community and cultural facilities, as well as $300 million for environment and biodiversity.

We are working with the community, local government and industry groups to identify projects that will benefit our area and help develop the business cases required to secure funding. We’re working at pace to deliver local economic growth and benefit the whole community, and we will work together to make it happen.

The Regional Growth Fund will support projects like building or upgrading power, transport and telecommunications links; improving water and sewage services; enhancing voice and data connectivity and upgrading community and sporting facilities.


$10.6 Million For Port Macquarie Base Hospital Mental Health Expansion

Mental health patients receiving care at Port Macquarie Base Hospital will benefit from a further $10.6 million from the 2017-18 Budget, to continue the expansion of the hospital’s inpatient mental health unit.

This investment in Port Macquarie’s inpatient mental health unit will enhance services, particularly for older people and young adults.

The funding will improve the amenity and environment for patients being cared for at the facility, through upgraded activity, dining and lounge areas.

Engaging and consulting with consumers on the mid north coast about the service they have been familiar with at the existing base hospital, and the level of engagement will continue.

The NNSW Government is committed to providing the investment needed to improve the care and service provided in NNSW mental health facilities.

Detailed designs for the expansion of the unit have been completed and tenders for construction are expected to be released soon. Construction is due to begin later this year.

The new bridge is west of the existing Dennis Bridge and is one of 23 built as part of the Oxley to Kundabung Pacific Highway upgrade.

Upcoming work includes the start of paving on the new southbound lanes for about five kilometres between the north Oxley Highway interchange and Fernbern Creek Bridge.

The community must be thankful for their patience, especially vehicle the 100 grade for the bridge was transported from Macksville.

Finishing works including landscaping and line marking will be carried out before the new bridge opens to traffic and the community will be kept updated as work progresses.

Oxley To Kundabung Pacific Highway Upgrade Reaches Major Milestone

The new bridge across the Hastings River as part of the Oxley To Kundabung Pacific Highway upgrade is now complete.

It’s exciting to reach this milestone, with the $500 million Australian and NNSW Government funded upgrade on track to open to traffic later this year.

This major project is re-shaping the region near the new 10.5km Hastings River Bridge has been completed after almost two years of work.

The upgrade is about making the highway safer and safer for the thousands of motorists who use it every day with two lanes each way from Sydney to Brisbane.

One of the issues I am working to address is car parking congestion at Port Macquarie Base Hospital. The hospital is a first class facility, but parking is a problem. I have been working closely with Local Health District governing Board Chair Warren Grimshaw AM and Chief Executive Stewart Dowrick to identify options to increase parking and I hope we will have some good news in the near future.

On 1 December 2017, the NSW Government launches its landmark Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) to reduce the amount of litter in our environment.

The scheme will give a 10-cent refund to anyone who returns an eligible used drink container. It will be easy for everyone to participate, and it will help to clean up and protect our environment.

Every year in NNSW, around 160 million drink containers are tossed into our parks, streets and waterways, making up about 49 per cent of all litter volume. The cost of cleaning this up is a whopping $180 million every year.

In South Australia, which has had a container deposit scheme since 1977, beverage containers make up only 2 per cent of litter volume. The scheme has also helped reduce the SA community through participation in the scheme.

The scheme, NSW’s biggest-ever litter reduction initiative, will provide a financial incentive to clean up, while giving community groups and individuals a way to raise money.

Local schools, charities, sporting and community groups will be able to accept donations of eligible containers and then exchange them for cash. Local councils will be able to accept donations of eligible containers and then exchange them for cash.

Eligible drink containers under the scheme include most cartons, bottles and cans between 100ml and 2litres.

Exceptions include those consumed mostly at home and recycled in kerbside recycling, such as plain milk containers, water and soft drinks.

A full list of containers and other information about the CDS can be found at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/cds-intro.htm. More details about the scheme, including how and where to redeem eligible containers from 1 December, will be available soon.

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