NSW is Australia’s premier state. Boasting abundant natural beauty and diverse communities, we are the nation’s leading economy – which allows us to provide high quality public services and infrastructure, while protecting those most vulnerable in our society. But we should never rest on past accomplishments. We are determined to keep delivering for the people of NSW and to make our great state an even better place to live. Which is why our next step forward is not just one, but thirty: thirty reforms to grow the economy, deliver infrastructure, and improve health, education and other services across NSW. Twelve of these are my personal priorities.

International experience suggests that, just like running a successful business, you need to set priorities in order to achieve results. And what gets measured, gets managed.

I am committed to not just setting priorities, but delivering on them. Together with my colleagues we will be working across government to achieve the results that will make this state better for all of our citizens.

Mike Baird
NSW Premier

Premier’s Priorities

Creating jobs

150,000 new jobs by 2019

NSW leads the nation on key economic indicators, but there is more that can be done to attract new jobs and businesses to our great state. To help create 150,000 new jobs over the next four years, we have established Jobs for NSW, an initiative that uses private sector expertise to develop better incentives for businesses to create jobs. We will also drive new employment across the state by extending payroll tax rebates, providing incentives for non-payroll tax paying businesses to recruit, and creating jobs and apprenticeships for the construction sector through infrastructure investment.

Building infrastructure

Key infrastructure projects to be delivered on time and on budget across the state

Our growing population continues to place pressure on our existing infrastructure. Over the next 15 years, NSW will require infrastructure to support 40 per cent more train trips, 30 per cent more car trips and 31 per cent more households. This government has an ambitious infrastructure investment program to address these needs. It will ensure NSW residents have the best transport, water, education, health, sports and arts infrastructure. Construction has already begun and we will ensure our infrastructure agenda is delivered not just on time, but on budget as well.

Reducing domestic violence

Reduce the proportion of domestic violence perpetrators re-offending within 12 months by five per cent

Domestic violence has significant immediate and long-term impacts on its victims, the majority of whom are women and children. It is a leading contributor of ill health and premature death for women under 45 years, outstripping any other health risks for women in this age group. Domestic violence has one of the highest re-offending rates so we will focus our efforts on repeat offenders to reduce the rate of re-offending. This will better protect victims by predicting and preventing violent behaviour.

Improving service levels in hospitals

81 per cent of patients through emergency departments within four hours

Timely access to care in emergency departments can lead to better health outcomes for patients and reduce or avoid hospital stays. Every year, the number of people accessing emergency departments increases, with more than one in five adults and one in four children presenting at least once a year. We are expanding our Whole of Hospital and Integrated Care Programs to ensure that more people receive appropriate treatment within four hours of presenting to hospital in NSW, while maintaining the safety of patients and staff.
Premier’s Priorities

Tackling childhood obesity
Reduce overweight and obesity rates of children by five per cent over 10 years
Children who are overweight or obese are more likely to have poor health and wellbeing outcomes, compared with healthy children. They are also more likely to carry their excess weight into adulthood, placing them at increased risk of developing chronic diseases later in life. In 2014, more than one in five children were estimated to be overweight or obese. Reducing the rate of overweight or obese children by five per cent over the next 10 years will result in at least 62,000 fewer children being overweight or obese. Childhood obesity is a complex issue, which is why we are taking a whole-of-government, systematic approach to supporting children and families to be healthy and active.

Driving public sector diversity
Double the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in senior leadership roles, and increase the proportion of women in senior leadership roles to 50 per cent in the government sector in the next 10 years
Diverse workforces are more innovative, productive and better able to deliver high-quality services. We will increase the numbers of women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in senior leadership roles within the government sector. This will ensure that we capitalise on the diverse talents available and that the sector better reflects the community that it serves.

Improving education results
Increase the proportion of NSW students in the top two NAPLAN bands by eight per cent
Students with strong literacy and numeracy skills are more likely to remain at school longer, complete their Higher School Certificate and continue on to tertiary education. We have already put in place innovative reforms to improve the quality of teaching in schools and improve outcomes for all students across the state. These changes focus on enhanced professionalism, increased local authority and improved accountability, as well as additional Gonski funding distributed to schools. Together, these reforms are giving every NSW school the tools they need to help our students achieve their best.

Protecting our kids
Decrease the percentage of children and young people re-reported at risk of significant harm by 15 per cent
Improving the welfare and wellbeing of children and young people not only leads to better life outcomes for them, but is also our moral responsibility. The child protection system should support children and families to keep children safe and reduce the risk of them being harmed again. Reducing levels of re-reporting of children and young people at risk will demonstrate that our child protection system is becoming increasingly effective. It will indicate that children are safer and in a more stable family and general environment.

Faster housing approvals
90 per cent of housing development applications determined within 40 days
Increasing the amount of available housing is a priority for the Government. Reducing timeframes for development applications gives certainty to the market, instils confidence and increases housing supply. This makes it easier for people to find or build homes to suit their lifestyles and helps grow the economy, including additional employment opportunities for builders and tradespeople.

Reducing youth homelessness
Increase the proportion of young people who successfully move from Specialist Homelessness Services to long-term accommodation by 10 per cent
The rate of homelessness in NSW has been increasing, with young people among the most likely to experience, or be at risk of, homelessness. Homelessness, and particularly chronic long-term homelessness, has significant impacts on the ability of young people to fully participate in society, to access education and training, and to maintain physical and mental health. The Government will work with the non-government and not-for-profit sectors to support the most vulnerable young people to maintain stable accommodation and break the cycle of chronic homelessness.

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Keeping our environment clean
Reduce the volume of litter by 40 per cent, by 2021
Littering harms ecosystems and our natural environment, and is linked to anti-social behaviours. The NSW community consistently identifies littering as an area of environmental concern. NSW will overtake Victoria as the least littered state in Australia if we reduce our volume of litter by a further 40 per cent by 2020. A new container deposit scheme and other waste management initiatives will reduce littering, increase recycling, and help us reach this target.

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### State Priorities

#### Strong budget and economy
- **Making it easier to start a business**
  - **Make NSW the easiest state to start a business**
  - Business start-up investment creates jobs, boosts productivity and stability, and ensures the Government can fund services and infrastructure for the community. A significant cause of concern and cost for new and existing businesses across the country is that regulatory requirements are overly complex and poorly understood. To create a business-friendly environment for NSW entrepreneurs, the Government will continue its efforts to reduce barriers, costs and complexity and make regulation obligatory easier to understand and implement.

- **Encouraging business investment**
  - **At the leading Australian state in business confidence**
  - Strong business confidence enables NSW to attract and grow businesses, creating jobs and prosperity to improve living standards. NSW has historically performed well on business confidence measures and, at the mining boom peak, we will aggressively position the state as the country’s leading state for business growth and investment. Our focus will be to improve the ease of doing business and continue our historic levels of infrastructure investment and maintain fiscal discipline to provide certainty to business and improve business conditions.

- **Boosting apprenticeships**
  - **Increase the proportion of people completing apprenticeships to 65 per cent by 2019**
  - Completing an apprenticeship or traineeship is about building a career in a highly skilled economy. The Government’s focus is to make NSW the state with a lasting legacy of a highly skilled workforce who received on-the-job training. This legacy will be built by increasing the number of people completing their apprenticeship and going on to a rewarding career. The NSW Government is already working with a number of initiatives including working with infrastructure contractors, registered training organisations and other stakeholders to encourage apprenticeship completions.

- **Reducing road fatalities**
  - **Cutting road fatalities by at least 30 per cent from 2011**
  - The Government is committed to making NSW the safest in the country. While NSW has seen significant improvements in the level of road trauma over time, road crashes are still a leading cause of death for people under 44 years of age, costing the community around $5 billion each year. Each year we are working to reduce road fatalities and ensure our roads are safe for future generations. The Government’s Road Safety Plan 2021-26 will continue to keep people safe on our roads.

#### Better government services
- **Improving Aboriginal education outcomes**
  - **Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in the top two NAPLAN bands for reading and numeracy by 5 per cent**
  - The Government wants all NSW school students to reach their potential, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Currently, these students are under-represented in the top two NAPLAN bands and this needs to change. The Government has introduced reforms to help ensure more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students perform better at school. These reforms include the Connected Communities program which builds partnerships between the school, the community and government agencies to improve indigenous education outcomes, and needs-based school funding, which provides additional resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to ensure they have the support they need.

- **Better government digital services**
  - **70 per cent of government transactions to be completed via digital channels by 2019**
  - Approximately 44 per cent of government transactions were carried out via digital channels in the financial year 2015-16. The Government is working to increase the level of online transactions to 70 per cent by 2018-19. Our focus is on overcoming barriers and constraints to online transactions and enabling new transactions to be carried out online. Work is also progressing to enable increased levels of online transactions by making it easier: by providing secure online payment systems, live chat instant messaging support and SMS/email notifications, and by rapidly progressing the transition to Service NSW.

- **Cutting wait times for planned surgeries**
  - **Cut wait times for major scheduled procedures by at least 50%**
  - The Government is working to reduce elective surgery waiting times. In 2011-12, 18,300 surgical procedures were cancelled due to a lack of capacity. The Government’s waiting lists strategy ensures people can access the surgery they need in a timely manner, while ensuring our hospitals and health care for the future.

- **Increasing cultural participation**
  - **Increase participation in cultural events and venues in NSW by 15 per cent by 2019**
  - Participation in the arts promotes personal and collective well-being, as well as contributing strongly to an innovative and robust local economy. Increasing the attendance at our cultural venues and events by 15 per cent will have flow-on benefits for job creation, the visitor economy and education. This requires strategic partnerships across government, business, education and the creative industries to ensure NSW continues to lead the country in cultural employment, screen production and cultural tourism.

- **Ensuring fair, efficient and transparent government procurement**
  - **NSW Government agencies move online with eSourcing**
  - The Government is working to ensure all procurement processes are enabled online. This includes transitioning to Service NSW which will support greater transparency and an efficient and effective procurement process.

#### Infrastructure
- **Improving road travel reliability**
  - **90 per cent of peak travel on key road routes is on time**
  - Congestion across metropolitan Sydney is estimated to already cost up to $3 billion per annum, and will rise to $8 billion by 2021 if nothing is done. To ensure consistency of journey times continues to improve, we are working to make better use of existing road infrastructure, to encourage use of public transport and to undertake off-peak travel more often. This will enable business and the community to move around the city with greater ease, reducing travel times, boosting productivity and reducing road costs.

- **Increasing housing supply**
  - **Increase housing supply across NSW - Deliver more than 50,000 approvals every year**
  - A Plan for Growing Sydney will deliver 64,400 new homes across the next 20 years. Increasing the supply of housing will put downward pressure on property prices and ensure that the majority of the population can access the housing market in the state with a lasting legacy of a highly skilled workforce who received on-the-job training. This legacy will be built by increasing the number of people completing their apprenticeship and going on to a rewarding career. The NSW Government is already working with a number of initiatives including working with infrastructure contractors, registered training organisations and other stakeholders to encourage apprenticeship completions.

- **Reducing violent crime**
  - **LGAs to have stable or falling reported violent crime by 2018-19**
  - Violent crime has significant impacts on individuals and communities, creating fear and reducing quality of life. The government will work to reduce violent crime rates across the whole of NSW, not only in urban areas that tend to report higher incidences of some types of crimes.

- **Safer communities**
  - **Cutting violent crime**
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  - **Reducing adult re-offending**
    - **Reduce adult re-offending by five per cent by 2019**
    - Redoffending rates in NSW are high, with the majority of people who go on to offend doing so before, in fact, a small group of persistent offenders is responsible for the majority of crime. The Government is working to reduce reoffending by adult offenders and improve community safety and confidence in the justice system.

#### Protecting the vulnerable
- **Transitioning to the National Disability Insurance Scheme**
  - **Successful implementation of the NDIS by 2018**
  - The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will introduce a national, person-centred approach to empower people with disability to exercise choice and control over their support services. NSW was the first state to sign up to the NDIS and will transition in the full scheme from July 2016 to July 2018, providing support for up to 140,000 people in NSW. All NSW government agencies will need to work together and with the Commonwealth to ensure the successful delivery of this reform.

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Reducing youth homelessness
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Keeping our environment clean
Faster housing approvals
Improving government services

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Encouraging business investment
Boosting apprenticeships
Accelerating major project assessment
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Protecting our credit rating
Delivering strong budgets
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Ensure on-time running for public transport
Creating sustainable social housing
Reducing violent crime
Reducing adult re-offending
Reducing road fatalities
Improving road travel reliability

For more information please visit nsw.gov.au

NSW
MAKING IT HAPPEN