

# Appendices

## Appendix A: Concessions statement

### Context

The Government provides a diverse range of concessions across a wide variety of services. In addition to targeted discounts, rebates and subsidies for individuals or families based on eligibility criteria relating to factors such as age, income and special needs or disadvantage, broader concession arrangements are in place that reduce the price paid by all consumers in areas such as transport, electricity and water.

The majority of people will benefit from at least one concession and in many cases will benefit from multiple concessions each year. For example, aged pensioners are eligible for a number of Queensland Government concessions, including discounts on their council rates, water, gas and electricity bills, vehicle registration fees as well as subsidised optometry and dental services.

Further information on the eligibility requirements and benefits of a range of Government concessions can be found at: <http://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions/>.

### Termination of the National Partnership Agreement

In its 2014–15 Budget, the Australian Government announced that it would unilaterally terminate the National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders (the NPA) from 1 July 2014. Through the agreement the Australian Government provided 15% of the total cost of the concessions supported through the NPA for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card holders. The Queensland Government is continuing the guarantee that these concessions remain fully funded. This comes at a cost to the Queensland Government of around \$56 million per annum over and above the state's existing contributions to such concessions.

### Focus

This statement highlights the cost and nature of concessions provided by the Queensland Government. It covers concessions that are direct Budget outlays (for example, fee subsidy payments) and revenue foregone through fees and charges that are set at a lower rate than applies to the wider community or, in the case of broader concessions, the full cost of service provision.

Sections A.2 and A.3 set out the individual concessions by agency and government owned corporation respectively, sorted in descending order. The total value of these concessions is estimated at \$4.884 billion in 2016–17. This represents a significant Government and taxpayer commitment to improving the accessibility and affordability of a diverse range of services; and reducing the price paid by consumers of those services to ease cost of living pressures.

## Explanation of scope

For the purposes of this document, concessions include:

- discounts, rebates and subsidies to improve access to, and the affordability of, a range of services for individuals or families based on eligibility criteria relating to factors such as age, income and special needs or disadvantage; and
- concessional prices for Government services, where the price charged to all consumers is less than the full cost of service provision.

Both General Government and Public Non-financial Corporations (PNFC) Sector concessions are included. Where a payment is made from a General Government Sector agency to a PNFC entity for a concession arrangement, the expenditure is reported against the General Government Sector agency only to avoid double counting.

To be included in this statement, concessions must meet the minimum materiality threshold of estimated expenditure or revenue foregone of \$50,000 in 2016–17.

Varying methods have been used to estimate the cost of concessions depending on the nature of the concessions, including:

- direct Budget outlay cost (for example, direct subsidy or rebate payments or Government's contribution in the case of items such as rental subsidies);
- revenue foregone (for example, concessional fees and charges); and
- cost of goods and services provided.

For the purposes of illustration, the document often uses averages to demonstrate the value of the concession to consumers. However, averages are not reflective of individual circumstances, meaning the actual dollar value of the concession to consumers may vary from person to person.

This Concessions Statement does not include Tax Expenditures (for example, tax exemptions, reduced tax rates, tax rebates and deductions). Information on Tax Expenditures is provided in Appendix B – Tax expenditure statement.

## A.1 Concessions summary

Table A.1.1 Concession by entity<sup>1</sup>

Concession by entity	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
<b>Agency</b>		
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	33.0	39.5
Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	241.2	254.2
Department of Education and Training	541.1	551.8
Department of Energy and Water Supply	571.5	612.7
Department of Housing and Public Works	417.8	387.2
Department of Justice and Attorney-General	69.5	73.2
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing	1.6	1.9
Department of Natural Resources and Mines	4.1	4.2
Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation	0.8	0.8
Department of Transport and Main Roads	2,411.5	2,542.9
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	5.3	5.2
Public Safety Business Agency	7.6	9.0
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	9.1	9.5
Queensland Health	306.4	282.4
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>4,620.5</b>	<b>4,774.5</b>
<b>Government-owned corporations</b>		
Energex Limited	14.5	14.9
Ergon Energy Corporation Limited	7.4	7.6
Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited	0.8	0.8
Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited	55.2	56.0
North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited	1.6	1.5
Port of Townsville Limited	5.5	5.6
Queensland Rail Limited	1.6	1.7
SunWater Limited	21.0	21.0
<b>Total government-owned corporations</b>	<b>107.6</b>	<b>109.1</b>
<b>Total all entities</b>	<b>4,728.1</b>	<b>4,883.6</b>
Notes:		
1. Numbers may not add due to rounding.		

## A.2 Concessions by agency

**Table A.2.1 Department of Agriculture and Fisheries**

Concession	2015–16	2016–17
	Est. Act. \$ million	Estimate \$ million
Drought Relief Assistance Scheme—Fodder and Water Freight	23.0	22.9
Primary Industry Productivity Enhancement Scheme (PIPES) <sup>1,2</sup>	10.0	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>
Notes		
1. The concession shown represents the fair values of the interest rate concessions pertaining to loans issued in each of the financial years shown.		
2. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is primarily due to the increase in loan limits for the Advancing Queensland Innovation Loan (previously called the Sustainability Loan) from \$650,000 to \$1.3 million and an increase in the loan limit for the First Start loan from \$650,000 to \$2 million.		

### Drought Relief Assistance Scheme

Funding for the Drought Relief Assistance Scheme provides freight subsidies and emergency water infrastructure rebates to support producers and communities that have been affected by drought conditions across the State. Freight subsidies of up to 50% and emergency water infrastructure rebates of up to 50% are available to eligible applicants, up to a maximum of between \$20,000 and \$40,000 per property per financial year.

### Primary Industry Productivity Enhancement Scheme (PIPES)

PIPES is administered by QRAA and provides concessional rates of interest on loans to eligible primary producers in need of financial assistance. First Start Loans of up to \$2 million and Advancing Queensland Innovation Loans (previously called the Sustainability Loan) of up to \$1.3 million support applicants to enter primary production and to improve productivity and sustainability. The average concessional interest rate for new lending is 3.44%. The amounts shown in the above table represent the fair values of the interest rate concessions pertaining to loans issued in each of the financial years shown.

**Table A.2.2 Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Electricity Rebate Scheme <sup>1,2</sup>	158.0	165.5
Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme	53.0	53.6
South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme	19.0	19.2
Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme <sup>3</sup>	5.5	10.0
Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme <sup>1</sup>	2.3	2.4
Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme	2.2	2.2
Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme <sup>1</sup>	1.2	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>241.2</b>	<b>254.2</b>
Notes		
1. Electricity price linked rebates are adjusted annually according to the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) price determination for the general household electricity tariff (Tariff 11). For 2016–17, the QCA determined that Tariff 11 will increase by 2.8%.		
2. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate reflects the growth in claimants arising from the increased take up of concession cards in 2016–17.		
3. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate reflects lower take up than was anticipated in 2015–16.		

### **Electricity Rebate Scheme**

The Electricity Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$330 per annum to assist with the cost of domestic electricity supply to the home of eligible holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, a Queensland Seniors Card or a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card (and receive the War Widow/er Pension or special rate Totally or Permanently Incapacitated Pension).

### **Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme**

The Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme offers a 20% subsidy (up to a maximum of \$200 per annum) to lessen the impact of local government rates and charges on pensioners, thereby assisting them to continue to live in their own homes.

### **South East Queensland Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme**

The South East Queensland (SEQ) Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme provides a subsidy of up to \$120 per annum to eligible pensioner property owners in the SEQ Water Grid to lessen the impact of increased water prices. This subsidy is in addition to the Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme.

### **Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme**

The Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme provides one off emergency assistance of up to \$720 per annum (for a maximum of two consecutive years) to assist low income households experiencing a short-term financial crisis and who are unable to pay their current electricity and/or reticulated natural gas account. It is not a requirement for the claimant to hold a concession card.

**Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme**

The Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme is aimed at assisting seriously ill people who use home based life support systems by providing a rebate of up to \$672 per annum for users of oxygen concentrators and a rebate of up to \$450 per annum for users of kidney dialysis machines to meet their electricity costs. The concession is paid quarterly and is subject to the patient being medically assessed in accordance with Queensland Health eligibility criteria.

**Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme**

The Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$70 per annum to assist with the cost of reticulated natural gas supplied to the home of eligible holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card or a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card (and receive a War Widow/er or special rate Totally or Permanently Incapacitated Pension).

**Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme**

The Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$330 per annum for eligible concession card holders with a medical condition who are dependent on air conditioning to regulate body temperature.

**Table A.2.3 Department of Education and Training**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
User Choice – Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy <sup>1</sup>	209.8	220.3
Vocational Education and Training (VET) – Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy <sup>2</sup>	152.1	140.5
VET – Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy <sup>3</sup>	54.1	60.0
Textbook and Resource Allowance <sup>4</sup>	56.8	58.9
School Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities	39.6	41.7
Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme	7.9	8.2
Tuition fee exemptions/waivers – Dependents of international students	6.6	6.6
Non–Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme	5.8	6.0
Travel and Accommodation Subsidy <sup>5</sup>	3.0	4.5
Dalby State High School – Bunya Campus Residential Facility <sup>6</sup>	2.5	2.6
Spinifex State College – Mount Isa Student Residential Facility	1.0	1.0
Distance Education – Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme	0.9	0.8
Western Cape Student Residential College, Weipa	0.5	0.5
Distance Education – Non–Government Student Fee Subsidy <sup>7</sup>	0.5	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>541.1</b>	<b>551.8</b>
<b>Notes</b> 1. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to a CPI increase on subsidies and the anticipated increase in apprentices and related program activity. 2. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to the demand driven nature of the courses under the Certificate 3 Guarantee program. The 2016–17 estimate is an increase over the original 2015–16 Budget forecast of \$122.6 million. 3. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to the anticipated increase in activity through demand–driven funding arrangements. 4. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to a combination of CPI indexation and student enrolment growth in state and non–government schools. 5. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to a low take up of this subsidy in 2015–16. 6. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to anticipated increased student enrolments in 2017. 7. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate is due to an anticipated lower uptake of this subsidy in 2017.		

### **User Choice – Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy**

The User Choice – Apprentice and Trainee Training Subsidy program provides Government funding towards the costs of training and assessment for eligible Queensland apprentices and trainees. The subsidy is available to public and private registered training organisations (pre–approved as pre–qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees to reduce the cost of required accredited, entry level training for apprentices and trainees. The program provides greater flexibility for apprentices, trainees and their employers to select a preferred registered training organisation of their choice and to negotiate the type of training to meet their specific needs.

Whilst the full cost of each training subsidy varies by course, the average annual dollar value of this subsidy per student is \$2,532.

### **Vocational Education and Training (VET) – Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy**

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate 3 Guarantee Tuition Fee Subsidy provides a government subsidy to allow eligible Queenslanders to obtain their first post-school Certificate III qualification to gain a job or to improve their employment status. The subsidy is available to private and public registered training organisations (pre-approved as pre-qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees paid by students undertaking eligible vocation education and training qualifications (primarily Certificate III qualifications).

The annual average dollar value of this subsidy for each qualification ranges from \$530 to \$7,880 depending on the eligibility and qualification subsidised. The average subsidy value is \$2,734.

### **VET – Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy**

The VET Higher Level Skills Tuition Fee Subsidy provides a government subsidy to eligible students and employers to undertake a priority Certificate IV, diploma or advanced diploma or industry endorsed skill set. This program will help individuals gain employment in a critical occupation, career advancement in a priority industry or transition to university to continue their studies. The subsidy is available to private and public registered training organisations (pre-approved as pre-qualified suppliers) to subsidise tuition fees paid by students undertaking eligible vocational education and training qualifications at Certificate IV or above.

The annual average dollar value of this subsidy for each qualification ranges from \$2,130 to \$11,060 depending on the eligibility and qualification subsidised. The average subsidy value is \$4,281.

### **Textbook and Resource Allowance**

The Textbook and Resource Allowance is for parents/caregivers of secondary school age students attending State and approved non-government schools to assist with the cost of textbooks and learning resources. Parents generally sign over this allowance to the school to reduce the fees associated with participating in the school's textbook and resource scheme. In 2016, the rates per annum are \$121 for students in Years 7 to 10 and \$262 for students in Years 11 and 12.

### **School Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities**

School Transport Assistance for Students with Disabilities is provided for students to attend State school programs that meet their individual education needs. This transport assistance includes the provision of taxis or specialised contracted minibuses, payment of fares on regular buses or trains, or an allowance for parents who drive their children to school. The benefit level is to a maximum of \$400 per week, per student, however in exceptional circumstances higher amounts may be approved. A separate scheme is in place for students with disabilities attending non-government schools (refer 'Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme').

The Department of Education and Training is working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to establish a long-term solution for the delivery of school transport assistance for students with disabilities under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). TMR is the lead agency for progressing these discussions.



### **Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme**

The Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme provides financial assistance to support Queensland families and targets geographically-isolated families. The scheme meets the costs of children who are required to live away from home to attend schools. This concession is available to Queensland students attending both state and non-government schools.

The benefits available for eligible students in 2016 are:

- Remote Area Allowance – assistance of \$2,277 per annum is available to students attending campuses of the Australian Agricultural College Corporation in lieu of Years 11 and 12.
- Remote Area Tuition Allowance – primary students up to \$3,623 per annum and secondary students up to \$5,217 per annum. Benefit levels are linked to the tuition fees charged by approved boarding schools.
- Remote Area Travel Allowance – available where the distance from the family home to the boarding location is at least 50km. Benefit levels depend on the distance travelled, and range from \$133 to a maximum of \$1,665 per annum.
- Remote Area Disability Supplement – available to students with disabilities who incur additional costs associated with living away from home to attend school. Benefits are up to \$7,412 per student per annum.

### **Tuition fee exemptions/waivers – Dependants of international students**

This concession, available for dependants of international students, allows students who meet the approved exemption criteria and wish to enrol their child in Preparatory (Prep) Year to Year 12 of schooling are exempt from paying dependant tuition fees. The exemption only applies for the duration of the main temporary visa holder's (parent) course of study in Queensland.

A dependant student (Prep to Year 12) of a temporary visa holder may also be eligible for a tuition fee waiver in certain circumstances, including financial hardship.

The estimated average amount exempted or waived per student is \$7,154.88.

### **Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme**

The Non-Government School Transport Assistance Scheme assists families by providing funding towards the transport costs of students attending non-government schools outside of the Brisbane City Council area. Under the scheme, reimbursement is provided for transport expenses above a set weekly threshold amount. In 2016, the threshold is \$33 per week for families, or \$25 for families with a Health Care Card, Pensioner or Department of Veteran's Affairs Pensioner Card.

The program also assists families of students with disabilities who attend a non-government school. The level of assistance provided is dependent on the type of transport needed and travel assistance already provided by TMR. For families using taxis, assistance is capped at \$300 per week.

The Department of Education and Training is working with TMR to establish a long-term solution for the delivery of school transport assistance for students with disabilities under the NDIS. TMR is the lead agency for progressing these discussions.

### **Travel and Accommodation Subsidy**

The Travel and Accommodation Subsidy provides financial assistance to Queensland apprentices and trainees for travel expenses incurred in attending off the job training at a registered training organisation. To be eligible, apprentices must attend the closest registered training organisation that offers the required qualification and travel a minimum of 100 kilometre (km) return from their usual place of residence to the registered training organisation. The subsidy provides for:

- return land travel to the registered training organisation of 15 cents per km for distances between 100 – 649 km, increasing to 19 cents per km for distances between 650 – 1,400 km;
- cost of ferry travel if necessary;
- a return economy air ticket to the location of the registered training organisation if necessary; and
- accommodation assistance of \$27 per day, if it is necessary to live away from their usual place of residence to attend training.

### **Dalby State High School – Bunya Campus Residential Facility**

The Dalby State High School – Bunya Campus Residential Facility provides affordable residential accommodation for secondary school students in a boarding facility. The concession particularly targets secondary school students from rural and remote communities, however, any secondary age student is eligible. Students accommodated at the residential facility are enrolled at Dalby State High School and participate in agricultural education programs.

### **Spinifex State College – Mount Isa Student Residential Facility**

The Spinifex State College – Mount Isa Student Residential Facility provides an affordable residential facility in Mount Isa for students from the North Western area of the state whose home community does not provide secondary schooling. The funding meets the cost of wages for the residential college, increasing the affordability of the accommodation rates charged to students.

### **Distance Education – Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme**

The Distance Education – Information and Communication Technology Subsidy Scheme provides assistance to students enrolled in a school of distance education that are geographically isolated or in the medical category.

The scheme provides \$250 per annum to assist with purchasing, replacing or upgrading computer hardware for students in the distance/geographically isolated and medical categories, and \$500 per annum to assist students in the distance/geographically isolated category to meet the costs of broadband internet access and download charges for the home classroom. Eligible students also receive access to free software licences.

### **Western Cape Student Residential College, Weipa**

The Western Cape Student Residential College, Weipa (formerly Far North Queensland Region – Student Residential College) provides a residential schooling option for students from the Torres Strait and Cape York. This college provides an option that is more familiar for students from remote locations with the intent to increase participation and retention of secondary students in schooling. The concession targets students from the Torres Strait and Cape York seeking secondary education when their home community does not provide secondary schooling. The

concession provides wages for the residential college allowing the rates charged to students to be more affordable.

### **Distance Education – Non–Government Student Fee Subsidy**

The Distance Education – Non–Government Student Fee Subsidy is available to students who are enrolled in non–government schools and also choose to access distance education subjects. It provides an average annual subsidy of approximately \$1,253.70 per distance education subject enrolment.

This subsidises approximately 50% of the total average cost per annum of providing a subject through distance education for non–government school students. The concession contributes towards the state continuing to make distance education available to non–government schools, ensuring the widest possible subject choice for students, while recovering a proportion of the teaching and overhead costs.

**Table A.2.4 Department of Energy and Water Supply**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems) <sup>1</sup>	435.2	500.4
Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems <sup>2</sup>	62.0	58.0
Urban Water Price Path <sup>3</sup>	56.8	35.7
Cloncurry Pipeline Water Supply Subsidy	5.5	5.9
Drought Relief Arrangements <sup>4</sup>	4.0	4.1
SunWater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy <sup>5</sup>	4.7	3.7
Origin Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy <sup>6</sup>	1.2	2.8
Seqwater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy	2.1	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>571.5</b>	<b>612.7</b>
Notes		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to Ergon Energy's network charges increasing at a greater rate than Energex's network costs leading to an increase in the concession required.</li> <li>2. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to lower fuel and planned maintenance costs.</li> <li>3. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate reflects a narrowing gap between the cost of supplying water and the price paid by consumers.</li> <li>4. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to additional local government areas in Queensland being declared as drought affected.</li> <li>5. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is a result of the current 2012–17 irrigation price path leading to a reduction in the concession required.</li> <li>6. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to an expected increase in the spread between the New South Wales and Queensland tariff rates, resulting from a forecast rise in NSW network pricing.</li> </ol>		

### **Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems)**

The Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy (excluding Isolated Systems) ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non-market electricity customers of a similar type pay a similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. As the notified prices do not reflect the full cost of electricity supply for most remote and regional Queenslanders, a subsidy is provided. The community service obligation (CSO) payment to the regional retailer Ergon Energy Queensland Pty Ltd (EEQ) covers the difference between the revenue earned by charging customers notified prices and the actual costs in the regional areas (due to differences in network costs and energy losses).

The increase in the CSO in 2016–17 largely relates to Ergon's network charges increasing at a greater rate than Energex's network costs. Ergon's forecast increase in network costs is mainly driven by an increase in forecast transmission use of system charges along with previous year's under-recoveries of its network charges.

### **Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems**

The Ergon Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy for Isolated Systems ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non-market electricity customers of a similar type pay a similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. Ergon Energy Corporation Limited owns and operates 33 isolated power stations which supply electricity to remote and isolated Queensland communities. EEQ retails electricity to these customers at the notified prices, and the Government provides funding to the retailer to cover the difference between the revenue earned by charging customers notified prices and the actual cost of supplying electricity to these customers.

The CSO estimate for 2016–17 is lower than 2015–16 estimated actuals due to expected lower generation fuel (i.e. diesel) costs and planned maintenance costs.

### **Urban Water Price Path**

Bulk water price revenues in SEQ are currently set at levels below the cost of supply. This has been the case since the commencement of a 10 year price path in 2008. The difference between revenue received, based on these below cost prices, and the costs to be recovered is due to be repaid from bulk water prices over the period to 2027–28.

This under recovery is not funded through a CSO or consolidated revenue, it is to be recovered through future SEQ bulk water prices. The reduction in the level of under recovery between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to the narrowing gap between the cost of supplying water and the price paid by consumers.

### **Cloncurry Pipeline Water Supply Subsidy**

North West Queensland Water Pipeline Limited (NWQWP), a SunWater Limited (SunWater) subsidiary, owns and operates the Cloncurry Water Pipeline between the Ernest Henry Mine and Cloncurry. The pipeline guarantees Cloncurry Shire Council's long-term water supply and supports industrial development in the region. As the construction and operation of the Cloncurry Water Pipeline is a non-commercial investment, the Government provides funding to NWQWP to ensure that SunWater receives a return on its investment in the pipeline.

### **Drought Relief Arrangements**

Drought Relief Arrangements provide relief to farming customers from fixed charges for electricity accounts that are used to pump water for farm or irrigation purposes during periods of drought.

The increase in the Drought Relief Arrangements for 2016–17 is largely due to additional local government areas in Queensland being declared as drought affected.

### **SunWater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy**

SunWater owns and operates water supply schemes across regional Queensland. As the owner of SunWater, the Government decides how much to recover of SunWater's costs through irrigation prices. Currently, SunWater's irrigation water prices for some schemes are set below the level necessary to recover the cost of supplying water to the irrigators. Government funding is provided to SunWater to offset the reduced revenue and to ensure that increases in water prices paid by rural irrigation customers to recover costs are gradual.

### **Origin Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy**

The Origin Energy – Uniform Tariff Policy ensures that, where possible, all Queensland non–market electricity customers of a similar type pay the similar price for electricity regardless of where they live. Origin Energy retails electricity to approximately 5,450 Queensland non–market customers in the Goondiwindi, Texas and Inglewood areas who are supplied electricity through the New South Wales (NSW) Essential Energy distribution network.

The Government provides a rebate to these customers, via a CSO payment to Origin Energy, to ensure they pay no more for electricity than similar customers in Queensland. Therefore, the CSO amount depends on the relative difference between Queensland and New South Wales retail electricity tariffs for non–market customers.

Since July 2014, there has been a general decrease in the CSO due to a narrower spread between the retail tariff rates in New South Wales and Queensland. However, for 2016–17, the CSO is expected to increase due to the spread between the New South Wales and Queensland tariff rates increasing, resulting from a forecast rise in NSW network pricing.

### **Seqwater Rural Irrigation Water Price Subsidy**

Seqwater owns and operates water supply schemes across SEQ which also supply bulk water services to rural irrigation customers. Currently Seqwater's rural irrigation prices for some schemes are set below the level necessary to recover the cost of supplying water to the irrigators. Government funding is provided to Seqwater to offset the reduced revenue and to ensure that increases in water prices paid by rural irrigation customers to recover costs are gradual.

**Table A.2.5 Department of Housing and Public Works**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Government managed housing rental rebate <sup>1</sup>	363.1	330.7
National Rental Affordability Scheme <sup>2</sup>	27.7	29.2
Home Assist Secure <sup>3</sup>	19.1	20.2
Non–residential buildings – subsidised rents	6.0	5.2
Rental Bond Loans	1.9	1.9
Non–government managed housing <sup>4</sup>	n.a.	n.a.
<b>Total</b>	<b>417.8</b>	<b>387.2</b>
<b>Notes</b> 1. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is primarily due to the delay in the operating model for the Woodridge Housing Service Centre. 2. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to the expected increase in the number of dwellings delivered. 3. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and 2016–17 estimate reflects a grant indexation adjustment. 4. The value of this concession arrangement cannot be easily quantified.		

### **Government managed housing rental rebate**

The Government managed housing rental rebate targets low income families and individuals and represents the difference between the rents that would be payable in the private market and rent that is charged by Government based on household income.

Assistance is provided to approximately 53,000 households. The estimated average yearly subsidy per household for 2016–17 is \$6,796.

### **National Rental Affordability Scheme**

The National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) is an Australian Government initiative, delivered in partnership with the Queensland Government, to increase the supply of new affordable rental housing. The scheme provides financial incentives to investors to build well located dwellings and rent them to eligible low to moderate income households, at a discounted rate at least 20% below market rent.

Under the scheme the concession to the tenant is provided by the property owner. Due to the nature of the arrangement, the overall value of the concession to the tenant cannot be quantified. In 2016–17, the Government has allocated \$29.2 million for the payment of financial incentives to NRAS investors who are then required to discount rents to tenants.

### **Home Assist Secure**

Home Assist Secure provides free safety related information and referrals, and subsidised assistance to eligible clients unable to undertake or pay for critical maintenance services. To be considered for assistance, home owners or tenants with disability or over the age of 60 must hold a Pensioner Concession Card and be unable to complete the work themselves. In addition, they must be unable to access assistance from family or friends or other services. Labour costs (up to

\$400 per household per year) for the assistance provided are subsidised by Home Assist Secure while the balance of the costs (including all materials) are met by the client.

Home Assist Secure targets home owners and those in rental housing who are over 60 years of age or have disability, and who require assistance to remain living in their home. In 2016–17, \$20.2 million in grants to Home Assist Secure providers will be issued to ensure the ongoing delivery of assistance to those in greatest need. It is estimated that over 52,000 households will be assisted.

### **Non-residential buildings – subsidised rents**

Accommodation is provided to 42 community, education, arts and not-for-profit organisations in Government owned non-residential buildings. Tenures for the occupancies are by way of leases, licences or month to month arrangements. Rents paid by the organisations are often below independently assessed market rent levels. Subsidised rental arrangements are provided to 27 properties comprising a total floor area of approximately 23,700 square metres. The total subsidy is calculated by deducting the actual amount paid by the occupants from the total estimated annual market rent for the office space.

### **Rental Bond Loans**

The Government provides interest-free rental bond loans equivalent to a maximum amount of four weeks rent to people who cannot afford to pay a full bond to move into private rental accommodation reducing the need for more costly, subsidised housing assistance. The concession represents the interest saving for the client on the bond loan. In 2016–17, \$26.3 million in bond loans will be advanced to an estimated 24,000 clients.

### **Non-government managed housing**

The Government provides contributions to social housing providers, including capital grants, granted land or properties, or recurrent funding, to assist in increasing housing affordability and access to social housing. Due to the nature of the arrangement, the overall value of the concession provided by the Government cannot be easily quantified.

Rents charged for social housing managed by the providers are based on 25% of a household's assessable income, which substantially reduces accommodation costs for eligible individuals and families.



**Table A.2.6 Department of Justice and Attorney–General**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Public Trustee of Queensland – Concessions	31.8	34.2
Court Services – Civil Court	19.0	20.3
Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal	16.6	16.6
Body Corporate and Community Management – Dispute Resolution	2.1	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>73.2</b>

**Public Trustee of Queensland – Concessions**

The Public Trustee of Queensland (the Public Trustee) is a self–funding organisation and uses a scale of fees which is designed to reflect a fair cost for the services provided.

The Public Trustee has established a safety net limit on the annual fees payable by certain clients. The arrangement provides for a rebate of fees for some clients with limited assets, for example financial administration for clients with impaired capacity, or administration of deceased estates or trusts. The Public Trustee also provides free Will making services for Queenslanders.

The Public Trustee also provides funding to the Public Guardian and financial assistance under the Civil Law Legal Aid Scheme administered by Legal Aid Queensland, to enable these organisations to provide services to the people of Queensland.

**Court Services – Civil Court**

The Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts hear civil disputes between two or more parties (people or organisations) where one party sues the other, usually to obtain compensation, or seek some other remedy. These disputes may involve anything from defamation to outstanding debts. Civil Court Fees are prescribed under the *Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2009* for proceedings commenced in civil matters and are set below full cost recovery to ensure that civil remedies are accessible to all Queenslanders.

**Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal**

The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) is an independent tribunal which makes decisions and resolves disputes across a wide range of jurisdictions for the community. Fees for these services are below cost recovery to ensure services are accessible, fair and inexpensive. QCAT provides human rights services with no application fees for matters in guardianship and administration of adults, children and young people and anti–discrimination.

**Body Corporate and Community Management – Dispute Resolution**

The Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management provides a dispute resolution service to parties unable to resolve disputes themselves. The service consists of conciliation, with the aim of achieving a voluntary agreement, and adjudication, which results in a formal order. The service is delivered below full cost recovery so as to not restrict access to justice due to affordability reasons.

**Table A.2.7 Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Tour fee and access permit concessions <sup>1</sup>	1.2	1.6
Queensland Recreation Centres – Concessional usage rates <sup>1</sup>	0.4	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Notes		
1. Previously reported as 'Active Recreation Centres – concessional usage rate'.		

### **Tour fee and access permit concessions**

Tour fee and access permit concessions are available in specified protected areas including David Fleay Wildlife Park, Mon Repos Conservation Park, St Helena Island National Park, Walk–About Creek Wildlife Centre, Fort Lytton National Park, Cooloola Recreation Area, Moreton Island and Fraser Island.

### **Queensland Recreation Centres – Concessional usage rates**

Queensland Recreation Centres – Concessional usage rates are offered to students and children 17 years and under, for the use of Queensland Recreation Centres, primarily at Currimundi and Tallebudgera. These concessional rates provide discounts of between 4.4% and 34.3%.

**Table A.2.8 Department of Natural Resources and Mines**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Drought Assistance Package – Water Licence Fee Waiver and Land Rental Rebates	4.1	4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>

### **Drought Assistance Package – Water Licence Fee Waiver and Land Rental Rebates**

As part of the Government's drought assistance package, the annual water licence fee of \$76.55 will be waived for 2016–17 for landholders in Local Government Areas (LGA) that are drought declared and other properties that are individually drought declared.

Category 11 Grazing and Primary Production landholders under the *Land Act 1994* will also be eligible to a rent rebate in 2016–17. The rebate is available to lessees, other than those on minimum rent that are in a drought declared LGA and to individually drought declared properties. In addition to this rebate, drought declared landholders will be granted hardship deferral for required rent payments.

**Table A.2.9 Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
State Library of Queensland – Venue hire rebates	0.8	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>

**State Library of Queensland – Venue hire rebates**

State Library of Queensland provides venue hire concessions to targeted community and non-profit groups including cultural and charitable organisations and educational institutions in order to support events and programs directly linked to State Library of Queensland's services, programs and activities.

**Table A.2.10 Department of Transport and Main Roads**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)	1,123.3	1,227.6
Rail Network and Infrastructure Funding	537.1	542.8
General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland)	233.6	246.0
Vehicle and boat registration concessions	148.5	161.1
School Transport Assistance Scheme	145.0	149.6
TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)	99.9	97.6
Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts	47.9	41.5
Rail Concession Scheme	36.5	36.5
Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies	27.1	27.5
Practical Driving Test	4.7	5.0
Commercial ship registration and licensing	4.1	3.9
Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders	3.8	3.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,411.5</b>	<b>2,542.9</b>

**General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)**

The General Public Transport Concessions (South East Queensland) represents the direct funding contribution that Government makes towards the cost of operating public transport services within South East Queensland. This contribution effectively reduces the ticket price paid by all public transport users on bus, rail and ferry services, increasing the affordability of these services.

In January 2017, the Government will implement its fare reform package which will provide significant benefits to SEQ customers travelling by bus, rail, ferry or light rail, including a fare reduction across all zones under a new and simplified zonal structure. Customers will also benefit from the continuation of the current fare freeze to the end of 2016.

### **Rail Network and Infrastructure Funding**

Rail network and infrastructure funding ensures that the State supported rail network is safe, reliable and fit for purpose. The contract also provides funding to Queensland Rail to support major capital projects and related asset strategies. The funding provided via this contract directly benefits customers of the State supported rail network, including both freight and passengers. Without this funding, rail access charges (including public transport fares) would be significantly higher for all users of the rail network.

### **General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland)**

The General Public Transport Concessions (Regional Queensland) describes the financial contribution that Government provides across a range of transport services in regional Queensland. The impact of this contribution benefits all public transport users through reduced transport fares. This concession covers:

- TravelTrain (excluding the 'Rail Concession Scheme' for eligible pensioners, veterans and seniors);
- subsidies for Kuranda Scenic Railway;
- subsidies for Heritage Rail Services;
- subsidies for regional bus and ferry operators (excluding concessional top up amounts and School Transport Assistance Scheme related amounts);
- subsidies for the Rail XPT Service (Sydney–Brisbane) and Savannahlander (Atherton Tableland);
- subsidies for air services to remote and rural communities within the State; and
- subsidies for long distance coach services to rural and remote communities within the State.

### **Vehicle and boat registration concessions**

Vehicle and boat registration concessions are provided to holders of the Pension Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card and to those assessed by the Department of Veterans' Affairs as meeting the necessary degree of incapacity or impairment. The concession is aimed at improving access to travel for pensioners, seniors and persons with disability by providing a reduced rate of registration fees. For most eligible card holders, a concession for a private use four cylinder motor vehicle would reduce the 12 month registration charge from \$300.00 to \$150.00. For a recreational boat up to and including 4.5 metres in length, the concession reduces the registration charge from \$101.70 to \$61.20 (based on registration charges at 1 July 2016).

A special interest vehicle (SIV) registration concession is offered for motor vehicles that have low use associated with vintage and historic and street rod car club events. A 12 month registration for a six cylinder SIV concession reduces registration from \$475.00 for a private use vehicle to \$84.55. Other motor vehicle and boat registration concessions are also provided to primary producers, local governments, charitable and community service organisations, and people living in remote areas without access to the wider road network.

### **School Transport Assistance Scheme**

The School Transport Assistance Scheme assists students that do not have a school in their local area or who are from defined low income groups with travel costs. The scheme provides funding to reduce the cost of travelling to school on bus, rail and/or ferry services, with allowances for private vehicle transport in certain circumstances. A typical concession would be to fully fund the cost of travel from home to the nearest State primary or high school where no local primary or high school is available (for example from Bargara to Bundaberg High School).

### **TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)**

The TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland) are provided by the Government to ensure access and mobility for Queenslanders who require assistance because of age, disability or fixed low income. Passengers entitled to receive public transport concessions include holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, Seniors Card (all states and territories), Companion Card, Vision Impairment Travel Pass, TPI Veteran Travel Pass, children, as well as secondary and tertiary students.

### **Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts**

The Livestock and Regional Freight Contracts provide funding to support the movement of cattle (via rail only) and freight (via road and rail) to and from regional areas of Queensland. The funding provided directly benefits the cattle industry and enables regional Queensland communities to maintain employment and directly benefits those communities who are reliant on rail freight services by reducing the cost of these freight services for users.

### **Rail Concession Scheme**

The Queensland Rail Concession Scheme improves the affordability of long distance and urban rail services for eligible pensioners, veterans, seniors and current/past rail employees with 25 years of service. Assistance for long distance rail services is provided through discounted fares and free travel vouchers. For TravelTrain (long distance rail) services, depending on the service, the concession may be for free travel for up to four trips per year for Queensland pensioners (subject to availability of seats and payment of an administration fee).

### **Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies**

Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies are provided by the Government to ensure access and mobility for Queenslanders who require assistance because of age, disability or fixed low income. Passengers entitled to receive public transport concessions include holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, Seniors Card (all states and territories), Companion Card, Vision Impairment Travel Pass, TPI Veteran Travel Pass, children, as well as secondary and tertiary students.

The Taxi Subsidy Scheme aims to improve the mobility of persons with severe disabilities by providing a 50% concession fare up to a maximum subsidy of \$25 per trip.

### **Practical Driving Test**

As part of the State's driver licensing arrangements, applicants for new licences are required to undertake a practical driving test. The total cost to pre-book driver examinations and to perform the practical driver assessment is not fully recovered by the fee charged (\$49.15 (ex GST) as at 1 July 2016), providing a direct concession to applicants.

## Commercial ship registration and licensing

The commercial vessel safety program including ship design and inspection standards and ship operator competency standards is funded from commercial ship registration and licensing revenue. The commercial ship registration and licensing concession represents the difference between the cost of supporting the safety of commercial vessels in Queensland waters and revenue collected via commercial registration and compliance fees. The concession represents a benefit to commercial ship owners and operators. Vessels operated by primary or secondary schools used in marine education courses, vessels owned by the emergency services department, volunteer marine rescue associations and surf lifesaving associations are generally exempt from fees. The responsibility for regulation of domestic commercial vessels is now the responsibility of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). The State Government has an interim agreement whereby TMR provides service delivery until 2017 at which time it is planned that AMSA will be responsible for both policy setting, fee collection and service delivery.

## Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders

Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders allows visitors from interstate, who hold a state or territory Seniors Card, to access public transport concessions within Queensland and is fully funded by the Queensland Government.

**Table A.2.11 Department of the Premier and Cabinet**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Queensland Museum – Arts concessional entry fees	1.7	1.7
Queensland Art Gallery – Arts concessional entry fees	1.0	1.0
Queensland Performing Arts Trust – Arts concessional entry fees	0.9	1.0
Queensland Performing Arts Trust – Venue hire rebates	0.9	0.9
Arts Queensland – Discounts on property lease rentals	0.6	0.4
Arts Queensland – Venue hire rebates	0.2	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>

## Queensland Museum – Arts concessional entry fees

Concessional entry fees are provided to seniors, students, children, families and a variety of concession card holders for ticketed exhibitions at Queensland Museum & Science Centre and for general entry to Cobb & Co Museum Toowoomba, The Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich, and Museum of Tropical Queensland Townsville. Concessions are also provided to targeted groups, such as schools, to encourage visits to museums. The level of concession provided varies depending on the venue and the event.

### **Queensland Art Gallery – Arts concessional entry fees**

Queensland Art Gallery's ticket prices are set to ensure that they are affordable and to maximise attendance, with additional concessions provided to seniors, students, children, families and a variety of concession card holders. The purpose of the Queensland Art Gallery – Arts concessional entry fees concession is to contribute to the cultural, social and intellectual development of Queenslanders, and encourage diverse audiences.

### **Queensland Performing Arts Trust – Arts concessional entry fees**

Concessional entry fees are offered for specific Queensland Performing Arts Trust productions and to provide support for other not for profit theatre companies to enable tickets to be sold at concessional prices. The level of concession provided varies depending on the number and size of events being held each year.

### **Queensland Performing Arts Trust – Venue hire rebates**

Venue hire rebates are offered to Government funded cultural organisations, charitable organisations, government departments and educational institutions. Organisations currently receiving discounts are Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Queensland, Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Ballet.

### **Arts Queensland – Discounts on property lease rentals**

Property lease rentals are provided to arts and cultural organisations at a discount from market rental rates at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, 381 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts. Discounts range from 20% to 100% of the market rate (dependent on location) of the commercial office space. Further discounts on specialist rehearsal and gallery space are given as negotiated at the time of entering the lease and dependent on the individual arts or cultural organisation and its funding.

### **Arts Queensland – Venue hire rebates**

Venue hire rebates are provided to support Queensland funded arts organisations and professional artists to create, rehearse and present new productions at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts.

**Table A.2.12 Public Safety Business Agency**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Blue card assessments – volunteer applicants <sup>1</sup>	7.6	9.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Notes		
1. The increase between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to changing the validity period of blue cards, which was extended from two to three years from April 2010. As a result of this change, there was a significant drop in the volume of renewal applications received in 2015–16.		

**Blue card assessments – volunteer applicants**

Individuals providing child-related services or conducting child-related activities in regulated service environments are required to undergo an assessment of their police and relevant disciplinary information, and if approved, are issued with a blue card. A blue card is valid for three years unless cancelled or suspended earlier. The application fee for a blue card is \$84.25 (as at 1 July 2016). Since the inception of the blue card system in 2001, Government has met the cost of blue card assessments for volunteer applicants.

**Table A.2.13 Queensland Fire and Emergency Services**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Emergency Management Levy Concession	9.1	9.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.5</b>

**Emergency Management Levy Concession**

The Emergency Management Levy applies to all prescribed properties within Queensland. The levy provides a sustainable funding base for all emergency services including emergency management, fire and rescue services. Owners of prescribed properties who are in receipt of an Australian Government pension are eligible to receive a discount of 20% on the levy payable for a property that is their principal place of residence. In addition, community organisation owners of specified properties are exempt from payment of the levy.



**Table A.2.14 Queensland Health**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Oral Health Scheme <sup>1</sup>	164.7	142.7
Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme	79.3	81.0
Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme <sup>2</sup>	41.0	39.5
Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme <sup>3,4</sup>	12.2	10.0
Spectacle Supply Scheme	9.2	9.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>306.4</b>	<b>282.4</b>
<b>Notes</b> 1. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate is due to additional funding claimed directly by Hospital and Health Services under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. The 2016–17 estimate assumes Commonwealth Government funding will continue on the basis of the current agreement until 31 December 2016, however there is no funding certainty beyond this date. 2. The decrease between the 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate reflects additional non recurrent funding that was provided in 2015–16. It is expected that as clients transition across to the National Disability Insurance Scheme, the Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme will experience reduced demand. 3. The decrease between 2015–16 estimated actual and the 2016–17 estimate reflects the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in Queensland. It is expected that as clients transition across to the National Disability Insurance Scheme, the Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme will experience reduced demand. 4. The \$10 million allocated for 2016–17 will be transferred to Queensland Health from the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.		

### **Oral Health Scheme**

The Oral Health Scheme provides free dental care to eligible clients and their dependants who possess a current Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Queensland Seniors Card or Commonwealth Seniors Card. The average value of a course of treatment for eligible clients is approximately \$600 for general care, \$1,800 for treatment involving dentures, and \$265 for emergency dental care. In rural and remote areas where no private dental practitioner exists, access to public dental care for the general public is provided at a concessional rate, generally 15% to 20% less than average private dental fees.

### **Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme**

The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme provides financial assistance to patients who need to access specialist medical services not available within their local area. The Scheme provides a subsidy towards the cost of travel and accommodation for patients and, in some cases, an approved escort. Patients receive fully subsidised commercial transport if arranged by Queensland Health or alternatively a subsidy of 30 cents per kilometre where a private vehicle is used. The accommodation subsidy is \$60 per person per night for commercial accommodation. A subsidy of \$10 per person per night is payable to patients and approved escorts who stay in private accommodation.

### **Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme**

The Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme provides access to funding assistance for a range of aids and equipment to eligible Queensland residents with permanent and stabilised conditions or disabilities. Aids and equipment are provided primarily to assist people to live at home to avoid premature or inappropriate residential care or hospitalisation.

Subsidies vary based on service category and clinical criteria and are provided to assist with the costs of communication aids, continence aids, daily living aids, medical grade footwear, mobility aids, orthoses and oxygen. The scheme provides over 72,000 occasions of service to approximately 48,000 clients each year.

### **Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme**

The Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative (CAEATI) and Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme (VOSS) provide financial assistance to eligible Queensland residents to support them to be more independent, participate further in social and economic opportunities in the community and contribute to a better quality of life.

CAEATI funding is capped at \$10,000 per client over a three year period. CAEATI includes aids equipment and assistive technologies for postural support, communication support, community mobility and active participation.

VOSS funding is capped at \$10,000 per client over a five year period. VOSS provides subsidies for a range of vehicle access options, including the subsidy of driving lessons on a suitably modified vehicle, modifications to a vehicle, purchase of a suitably modified vehicle or vehicle suitable for modification.

To receive funding through either of these schemes, an individual must be assessed as eligible for specialist disability support under the *Disability Support Act 2006*. Queensland resident eligibility is determined during the intake process, and confirmed as part of the assessment process.

### **Spectacle Supply Scheme**

The Spectacle Supply Scheme provides eligible Queensland residents with free access to a comprehensive range of basic spectacles every two years including bifocals and trifocals. Applicants must be holders of eligible concession cards and be deemed by a prescriber to have a clinical need for spectacles.

The scheme provides around 82,000 items each year to approximately 68,000 clients (some clients require more than one pair of spectacles due to clinical need). The average cost of services to applicants is approximately \$112 per item, including the costs of administering the scheme through the Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme.

## A.3 Concessions by entity

**Table A.3.1 Energex Limited**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Regulated Service Charges	14.5	14.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.9</b>

### Regulated Service Charges

Under Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006*, service charges for a range of services provided by Energex Limited (Energex) to energy retailers, for example disconnection and reconnection of supply, are capped. The maximum amount Energex is able to charge for these services is, on average, less than 5% of the value which the Australian Energy Regulator ascribes to the provision of these services by Energex, resulting in a concession provided to energy retailers and in turn households.

**Table A.3.2 Ergon Energy Corporation Limited**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Regulated Service Charges	7.4	7.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>

### Regulated Service Charges

Under Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006*, service charges for a range of services provided by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (Ergon Energy) to energy retailers, for example disconnection and reconnection of supply, are capped. The maximum amount Ergon Energy is able to charge for these services is, on average, less than the value which the Australian Energy Regulator ascribes to the provision of these services by Ergon Energy, resulting in a concession provided to energy retailers and in turn households.

**Table A.3.3 Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Concessional Leases–Industry/Commercial	0.6	0.6
Concessional Leases–Community	0.2	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>

### **Concessional Leases**

Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited (FNQPC) provides several leases to agricultural industry proponents at below commercial rates. FNQPC also provides leases to various community organisations at below commercial rates. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Table A.3.4 Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Concessional Port Charges	51.6	52.4
Concessional Leases–Industry/Commercial	2.8	2.8
Concessional Leases–Community	0.8	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>56.0</b>

### **Concessional Port Charges**

The Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited (GPC) is subject to a number of long-term major industry contracts where port charges are significantly lower than market rates. These historical contracts were entered into to support various industries and government initiatives from time to time. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by GPC as a result of being unable to charge commercial rates.

### **Concessional Leases**

GPC has various land and building lease arrangements at non-commercial rates. These contracts relate to incentives to improve utilisation of port land and assets and to establish businesses within port precincts. GPC also provides support to community and not-for-profit organisations through concessional leasing arrangements. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Table A.3.5 North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Concessional Leases – Industry/Commercial	1.4	1.1
Concessional Leases – Community	0.2	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>

**Concessional Leases – Industry/Commercial**

North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation Limited (NQBP) provides several long-term leases to agricultural industry proponents at below commercial rates. NQBP also provides leases to various community organisations, local councils and Government departments at below commercial rates. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Concessional Leases – Community**

NQBP provides several long-term leases to agricultural industry proponents at below commercial rates. NQBP also provides leases to various community organisations, local councils and Government departments at below commercial rates. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Table A.3.6 Port of Townsville Limited**

<b>Concession</b>	<b>2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million</b>	<b>2016–17 Estimate \$ million</b>
Concessional Leases–Industry/Commercial	5.4	5.5
Concessional Leases–Community	0.1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>

**Concessional Leases**

Port of Townsville Limited has a number of long-term leases at below commercial rates with the sugar industry, recreational marine businesses and the not-for-profit sector at the Port of Townsville and the Port of Lucinda. The amounts shown are estimates of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Table A.3.7 Queensland Rail Limited**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Concessional Leases – Community	1.6	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>

**Concessional Leases – Community**

Queensland Rail leases properties, typically to community organisations, at below commercial rates under the continuation of pre-existing arrangements. The properties are generally of historical significance to the local community and the lessee often undertakes beautification works on the property. The amount shown is an estimate of the revenue foregone by not charging commercial rates.

**Table A.3.8 SunWater Limited**

Concession	2015–16 Est. Act. \$ million	2016–17 Estimate \$ million
Water Supply Contracts	21.0	21.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>21.0</b>

**Water Supply Contracts**

SunWater Limited has a number of historic non-commercial water supply contracts that benefit specific entities, predominantly local government authorities. The future treatment of these water supply contracts is currently being considered by Government. The amount shown represents the difference between revenue and expenses under a fully costed allocation model.