

STATE BUDGET

2021-22

PREMIER HON STEVEN MARSHALL MP MEDIA RELEASE

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City Arena, Defence, Space and Indigenous Affairs key themes of Premier's budget measures

A brand new 15,000-person Riverbank Arena, major investments in defence and space and key investment at Lot Fourteen will help shape South Australia's future as one of the most liveable cities in the world.

"Our Budget for a stronger South Australia is creating jobs, building what matters and delivering better services to further secure our state's growing global reputation as one of the safest and most attractive places in the world to live, work and raise a family," Premier Marshall said.

RIVERBANK ARENA

South Australians are one-step closer to a brand new city arena with this year's Budget dedicating nearly \$80 million to finalise planning and commence preparation works for the construction of the new Riverbank Arena.

Early site works will include the construction of a tunnel under Morphett Street and preparatory utilities infrastructure works, with significant construction of the new arena to commence from 2025-26.

Premier Marshall said it was imperative that early works for the Riverbank Arena were included in this year's Budget papers to ensure construction starts in 2025-26.

"This new city arena will help cement Adelaide as one of the most liveable cities in the world," Premier Marshall said.

"We will transform what is currently under-utilised land next to Morphett Street Bridge into a 15,000-person, multi-purpose arena, which will be a world-class events and entertainment space for large concerts, a new home for basketball, netball and tennis in the heart of the city, and an increased exhibition space to attract larger conventions.

"This project will increase city vibrancy and provide a huge boost to the economy and local jobs as part of our economic recovery plan."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: THE DEFENCE AND SPACE STATE

In a move that shows support for growing South Australia's cutting-edge defence innovation and research profile, the Marshall Liberal Government will invest \$7.9 million in funding for the state's Defence Innovation Partnership.

The funding, further supplemented by the Federal Government's Defence, Science and Technology Group and the three South Australian Universities to total nearly \$10 million, will

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mean scaling-up support for collaborative defence-related research and development (R&D) projects to derive world-class solutions for complex defence challenges.

The investment will build on defence innovation success stories to come out of the state like freeform optics for small satellites, advanced 3D battlespace visualisation, and the impact of light pollution from submarine operating consoles on human operators.

Premier Steven Marshall said the R&D potential generated by these successful partnerships represents a critical component of the cutting-edge defence projects coming out of South Australia.

“Simply put, this investment means we can connect the best of the best from the state’s defence industry, research organisations and educational institutions to deliver hi-tech solutions and capabilities from South Australia,” Premier Marshall said.

“A robust and resilient defence industry depends on a strong R&D base; South Australia prides itself on being visionary and our support of these innovative research projects reinforces this position.

“Establishing a collaborative environment with defence-relevant research, development and innovation at the foundation is a priority for my government.

“The \$90 billion investment from the Federal Government is creating and will create an unprecedented pipeline of jobs, and business opportunities right here in South Australia for decades to come.”

“We are fully committed to working hand in glove with industry to make sure we meet the needs of the defence sector and take full advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for South Australia,” Premier Marshall said.

This year’s budget also sees the extension of the Defence and Space Landing Pad Program, which provides interim subsidised office accommodation and access to government and industry support services to attract, support and scale up international defence and space companies that bring new sought-after capability to South Australia.

The initiative, funded from the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund, will provide \$860,000 over three years for this vital program.

Another key component of this year’s Budget measures is the previously announced State Government Satellite, which is set to be sent to Space mid next year.

Set to accelerate the state’s space economy and create jobs – the \$6.6 million ground-breaking South Australian space mission will see the Marshall Government partner with South Australian industry to send a locally manufactured small satellite to low Earth orbit – the first State Government to ever embark on such a mission.

“The information gathered by the satellite will boost South Australia’s space economy, as well as helping to improve state services such as, emergency services, the environment, water quality monitoring, mining and bushfire mitigation,” Premier Marshall said.

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LOT FOURTEEN

The State Budget 2021-22 provides \$20.8 million next financial year to enable Renewal SA to continue to refurbish the Eleanor Harrald and Hanson buildings at Lot Fourteen.

This initiative will enable the establishment of industry capability centres, including the Space Industry Capability Centre in the Hanson building and the South Australian Industry Collaboration Centre in the Eleanor Harrald building.

SA BOOKWORMS REJOICE

South Australian metro and regional bookworms will rejoice as the Marshall Liberal Government continues to help fund the state's 137 libraries in this year's Budget.

\$20.7 million will stream through to South Australia's local councils every year to help run the library network in metro Adelaide and across our many regional community libraries, the same level of funding allocated in 2020-21.

Premier Steven Marshall said libraries were the lifeblood of many communities around the state, particularly in South Australia's many regions, making it vital for the funding to continue into the future.

"Libraries provide endless entertainment, a safe place and quiet sanctuary to many South Australians and I'm pleased bookworms around the state will continue to benefit from our vast library network," said Premier Marshall.

"By providing a consistent stream of funding, worth \$20.7 million each year, I am confident all of our 137 libraries will be able to continue operating as they have for decades.

"I'm particularly excited for those in our regional and remote locations around the state who rely heavily on their local library, not only for books, but community events, access to IT equipment and different types of media.

"For example, the state's 137 libraries across 69 council areas provide access to over 4 million items, 1900 public access computers and over a million eBooks and audio books.

"A key pillar of our Budget for a stronger South Australia is all about delivering better services, and this ongoing funding for libraries does just that for thousands of South Australians who enjoy borrowing a few books, catching up with friends and being part of our strong communities."

This investment supports the 137 Metropolitan, Country and School Community Libraries across the state. In 2019-20, there were 8,139,538 visits to South Australian libraries.

INDIGENOUS & MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS: SA LEADING THE WAY

Proving that South Australia is leading the way in Indigenous Affairs, nearly one million dollars over the forward estimates will be given to the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM) to deliver an Aboriginal justice advocacy service in South Australia.

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Premier Steven Marshall commended the ALRM for its great work in this area, with this extra funding helping to provide advice to the government on priorities, policies and program initiatives to reduce the rate of contact of Aboriginal people with the criminal justice system.

In addition to this, South Australia's new Aboriginal Voice to Parliament is funded under the 2021-22 Budget with \$650,000 per year plus \$120,000 every two years for a new Aboriginal Engagement Reform Model.

This includes the creation of an elected Aboriginal Engagement Body to ensure Aboriginal voices are better represented in Government decision-making.

The Budget also allocates:

- \$325,000 per year to increase the state's capacity to undertake heritage assessment to support key projects that will contribute to the state's economic growth.
- \$200,000 per annum for the appointment of an Assistant Director to lead the content development and creative planning, programming, design input and curatorial strategy for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre.

"On becoming Premier in 2018, I took the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio because I want to ensure that across government, we implement practical policies that support the needs and aspirations of our Aboriginal People – and this year's Budget does just that," said Premier Marshall.

Multicultural Affairs also gets a Budget boost, with \$2 million in 2021-22 for the *Expand Together Grants Program* and a Multicultural Priorities Fund to enable eligible multicultural organisations to purchase new equipment, build new community facilities and upgrade community infrastructure for use by South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

"This \$2 million will also support meaningful projects and initiatives that are considered to be a high priority to meet specific community needs and contribute to South Australia's strong multicultural communities," Premier Marshall said.

CYBER SECURITY: GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS FOR THE FUTURE

In a bid to bolster cyber security features within the State Government and help local businesses become more cyber resilient, millions of dollars will be dedicated to cyber security in this year's State Budget.

The Marshall Liberal Government will be scaling up its cyber security features immediately with an investment of \$20.6 million over three years to improve whole of government ICT cyber security systems and processes.

Ongoing funding of \$4.7 million per year has also been allocated from 2021-22 to increase the capacity of government agencies to protect ICT systems from the threat of cyber-attack.

"With Cyber-attacks becoming more and more prevalent within Government and businesses across the state, it's absolutely imperative that government lead by example in this key area," Premier Marshall said.

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“The South Australian Government responds to hundreds of cyber security incidents each year, with more than 1600 reported in 2020 alone, which is why this investment is so critical.

“In the last few months alone, we’ve seen media networks, universities and key businesses fall victim to sophisticated and targeted cyber-attacks proving just how important this issue is.

“This significant funding will help future proof the state’s cyber resilience, systems which were left neglected by the former Labor government.”

South Australian consumers and businesses will also benefit from a significant investment of \$4.3 million for upgrades to the Government of South Australia’s online services portal, including increased cyber security features and implementation of a whole of government payment gateway.

“Importantly, this initiative will provide a single-entry point for people and business to interact with government,” Premier Marshall said.

“This builds on the government’s previous commitment of \$13.4 million announced in the 2020-21 Budget to transition a range of government services onto the portal.”

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ARTS: AN ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE FOR THE FUTURE

Significant investment has been allocated in this year’s Budget to help with the refurbishment of the Adelaide Festival Centre.

“The Adelaide Festival Centre has needed an upgrade for years and I’m happy to announce we are providing \$3.1 million this year to undertake internal refurbishment works such as new seating and long-awaited upgrades to dressing rooms.

The State Budget 2021-22 also allocates \$300,000 for the development of a business case to consider a new acoustic hall in Adelaide.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOURISM: BUILDING ON A RECORD-BREAKING START TO 2021

The Marshall Liberal Government continues to pour investment into the State’s tourism sector, with four Great State Voucher Rounds, continual investment in regional tourism infrastructure and a million dollar boost to the regional event fund.

“South Australian tourism is going gangbusters, particularly in our world-class regions,” Premier Marshall said.

“From vineyard tours in the Barossa, to luxury escapes on Kangaroo Island, glamping in the Flinders Ranges to swimming with sea lions in Eyre Peninsula, there’s no wonder people are flocking to discover SA’s world-class food and drink, jaw-dropping landscapes, immersive wildlife experiences, vibrant city life and iconic coastal culture.”

“My government has leant in incredibly hard to ensure our tourism and hospitality sectors have been supported during the pandemic, and this is really paying dividends.

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“From January to March 2021, regional accommodation in SA enjoyed its best three-month period yet, with the highest average occupancy, room nights stayed, and revenue ever recorded.

“For the month of March, hotels in the CBD hit the highest average occupancy for a month since the pandemic began and the highest occupancy of any mainland Australian capital city.”

Tourism sector investments since the global pandemic:

- Four separate Greater State Voucher Scheme rounds.
- \$20 million for the TIDF (Tourism Industry Development Fund) for our regional operators to upgrade their offerings. Numerous projects have already been given the green light.
- An extra \$1 million for regional events.
- Investment in the first ever Illuminate Adelaide Festival, which will run in July and August.