



**Dominic Perrottet**  
Treasurer  
Minister for Industrial Relations

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NSW NUMBER ONE STATE FOR BUILDING THE FUTURE**

NSW is the clear winner for funding major infrastructure with a huge pipeline of projects leaving rival states Victoria and Queensland fighting for second and third position when it comes to building for the future.

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia (IPA) found NSW contributed around 17 percent of budget expenditure – a whopping \$65.71 billion from the General Government sector – to infrastructure over four years, making it the top state in Australia.

The IPA report said NSW's spend was almost double Victoria's \$33.65 billion four-year commitment and even further ahead of Queensland's \$29.11 billion.

The IPA report, *titled Australian Infrastructure Budget Monitor 2018-19*, highlighted the divestment of State assets as a key way the NSW Government had managed to increase funding across successive State budgets.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the huge investment in infrastructure was in stark contrast to the backlog left under the previous Labor government in 2011.

"This proves what everyone already knows - NSW is twice as good as Victoria - and not just because of the weather. It's a shame the Queensland government can't get its act together despite being gifted billions in GST payments from the hardworking taxpayers of NSW," Mr Perrottet said.

"We are completing projects NSW needs, the things Labor couldn't or wouldn't do."

"We are building Sydney Metro, Westconnex and the Coffs Harbour Bypass as well as pumping billions into 170 new and upgraded schools, not to mention new and improved hospitals like the \$740 million committed to Liverpool in our last budget."

Mr Perrottet pointed to NSW having the lowest unemployment rate of any state in Australia at 4.9 per cent as another benefit of the massive infrastructure program.

The IPA report also found it might prove difficult for Queensland to maintain infrastructure spending in the future due to a "burgeoning state debt" and a reluctance to recycle assets like NSW and Victoria.

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