



2016-17 BUDGET

FACT SHEET

PERTH FREIGHT LINK

The \$1.9 billion Perth Freight Link (PFL) project will provide a dedicated east-west connection for the people of Perth. It delivers a key strategic freight link in the Perth Urban Transport Corridor and reduces congestion for all road users.

The 2016-17 Budget includes an additional \$326 million for the project to construct a tunnel from the Stock and Winterfold Road intersection through to the Stirling Highway and High Street intersection in Fremantle. The tunnel will further reduce congestion, minimise impacts on the surrounding community and deliver additional road safety benefits compared to the original route along Stock Road, Leach Highway and High Street.

The Commonwealth Government will fund \$260.8 million of the additional cost of the tunnel, taking the total Commonwealth commitment for the project to \$1.2 billion.

Background

Once constructed in 2021-22, the PFL will provide safe and efficient transport links between our industrial centres, the Fremantle Inner Harbour and the future outer harbour. The PFL will:

- improve transport efficiencies for both light vehicles and freight vehicles currently using congested roads to travel east-west to Fremantle;
- enable the full operating potential of the inner harbour to be realised; and
- defer the need to invest in the future outer harbour for the next 25 years or more (based on current container volumes, an estimated inner harbour capacity of more than 2 million TEUs¹ and container growth of 4.4% per year, reflecting current forecasts).

The PFL project is estimated to have 2,400 direct employed workers while creating an estimated 10,000 additional indirect employment opportunities.

The project comprises four components as shown in Table 1. In December 2015, the Supreme Court of Western Australia found that the State environmental approvals for Section 1 were invalid; the Government has appealed the decision.

Table 1

PERTH FREIGHT LINK ASSET INVESTMENT

	Total \$m	2015-16 \$m	2016-17 \$m	2017-18 \$m	2018-19 \$m	2019-20 \$m
Section 1: Extension of Roe Highway to Stock Road	540	22	179	227	109	-
Section 2: Tunnel between Stock Road and Stirling Highway/High Street	1,253	20	15	201	336	341
Section 3: Roe Highway Upgrade – Tonkin Highway to Welshpool Road	41	18	23	-	-	-
Heavy Vehicle Charge	67	3	15	47	-	-
TOTAL	1,901	63	232	475	445	341

¹ TEUs = Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units; standard unit measure for containers.