

Our Canberra July 2026

Easy Read version



About this newsletter



This newsletter is from the ACT Government.



A newsletter tells you about lots of things that

- you should know
- you can do.



This newsletter is for July 2026.

The 2026–2027 ACT Budget



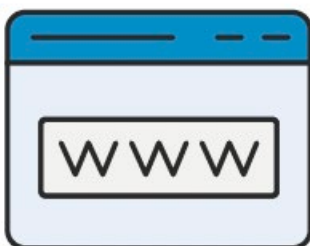
The ACT Government has released the budget for 2026 to 2027.



The budget outlines what the government will spend money on over the next year.



You can read about some of the things included in the budget in this newsletter.



See more about the budget on our website:
treasury.act.gov.au

More homes for people in Canberra



The budget includes money for more housing. This includes social, public, community and affordable homes.



There is a new program called the Public Housing Pipeline. This will deliver 450 new homes.



These will be a mix of newly built homes, upgraded homes, and homes bought from other people.



Some will be supported by the Australian Government.



New laws mean homes can be built faster, so people can move in sooner.



There is also more money to fix and upgrade public housing.



The government will make empty homes ready for people to live in again.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/houses

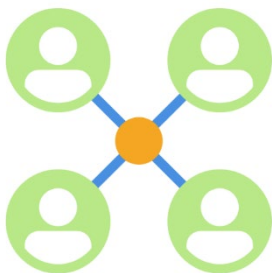
More help for people in housing crisis



There will be more support for people who may be homeless or at risk of homelessness.



This includes new crisis and short-term housing.



There will also be more support for community groups that already help people in Canberra.



There is a new housing crisis support fund. This can help people who are having trouble paying their rent.



People can get help with short-term rental costs, to make sure they do not have to move out.



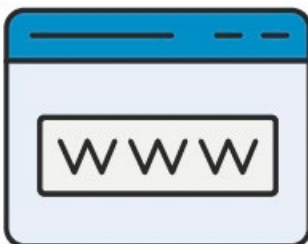
There is also a crisis support payment. This can help people pay for important things like

- electricity
- gas
- insurance.



What this means

- More people will have a safe place to stay.
- More people can stay in stable housing.
- More people can get help when money is tight.
- Help is there for those who need help most.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/houses

No stamp duty for first home buyers



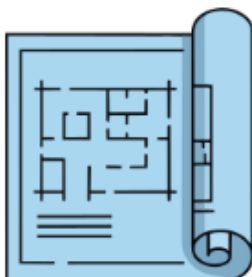
People buying their first home will not have to pay stamp duty.

\$0

More people will also get help through stamp duty exemptions.



New tax cuts will make it cheaper to build homes that are no taller than 3 storeys high.



The government will release some ready-made designs. People can use these to build homes faster.

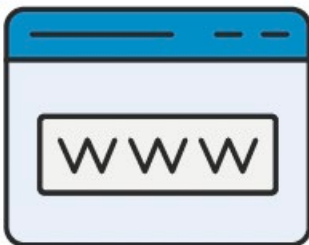


There will also be more land released to build homes on.



What this means

- It will be easier for people to buy their first home.
- Homes can be built faster.
- More people can get into the housing market sooner.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/stamp-duty

More money for public health services



The budget includes more money for public health services.

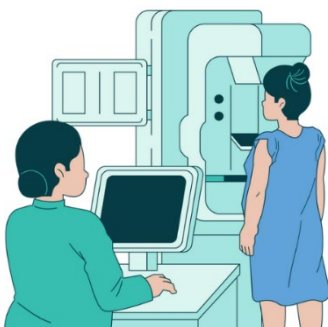


There will be new and expanded health services in Canberra.



Canberra Hospital will have

- a new palliative care unit for very sick patients
- new bone and joint services for children.



North Canberra Hospital will have more breast cancer support for people at high risk.



There will also be more services for people with lung cancer.

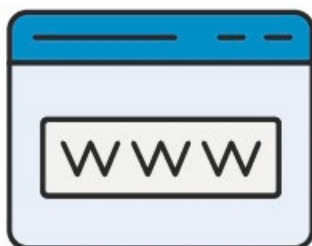


The budget includes money to help junior doctors with their wellbeing and training.



What this means

- People can get the care they need sooner.
- Health services will better support Canberra's growing community.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/home/health-services

Help with cost of living



The budget includes cost of living support for Canberrans.



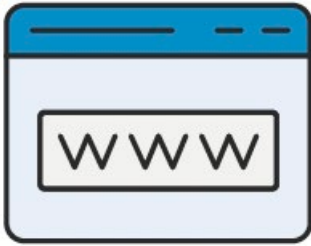
There is more money for food relief services. This means more support for people who need help to get enough food.



There is also more money for existing programs like the Future of Education Equity Fund for school students.



Read more about what else is available to help with the cost of living.



Websites

- Read about cost of living support included in the budget

act.gov.au/our-canberra/Budget-CoL

- Read about all ACT Government cost of living support

act.gov.au/costoflivingsupport

Supporting the arts



The ACT Government will increase the money it gives to local artists and creative industries.

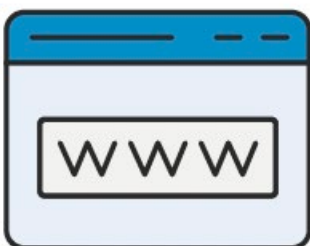


There will be 25% more money. This will help artists and groups to plan and grow.



What this can help with

- more events and entertainment all year round
- better experiences for Canberrans and visitors
- more access to high-quality and diverse arts
- more jobs in Canberra.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/arts

Winter in the City



Winter in the City is on from 8 July to 18 July 2026.
This free event is in City Walk.



It is fun for families and supports local businesses.



Come to see

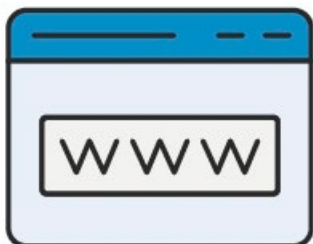
- circus acts in the afternoons
- fire shows in the evenings.



Website

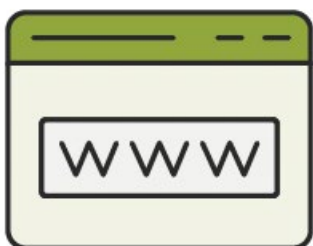
inthecity.com.au/winter

More information



Find out more about the budget

treasury.act.gov.au



Read about more homes for Canberra

act.gov.au/our-canberra/houses



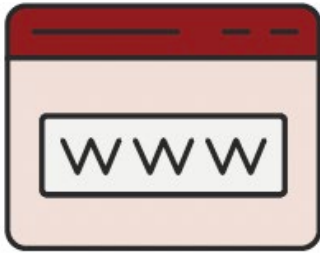
Read more about help for people in housing crisis

act.gov.au/our-canberra/houses



Read about stamp duty changes

act.gov.au/our-canberra/stamp-duty



Learn more about budget funding for public health services

act.gov.au/our-canberra/home/health-services



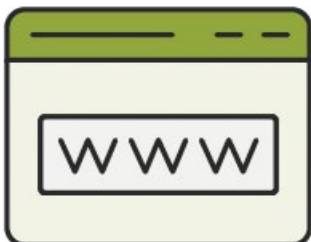
See more on cost of living support

- Read about support in the budget
act.gov.au/our-canberra/Budget-CoL
- See all ACT Government cost of living support
act.gov.au/costoflivingsupport



Learn about money for the arts

act.gov.au/our-canberra/arts



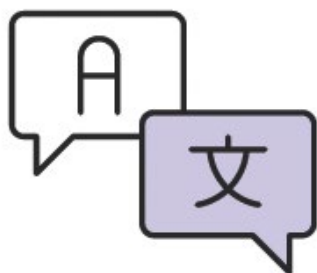
Find out about Winter in the City

inthecity.com.au/winter



The next newsletter will be in August.

Contact us for more information



Use the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

Call 131 450. Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.



Use the National Relay Service (NRS)

Visit the National Relay Service website.

Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the region and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.



We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.