

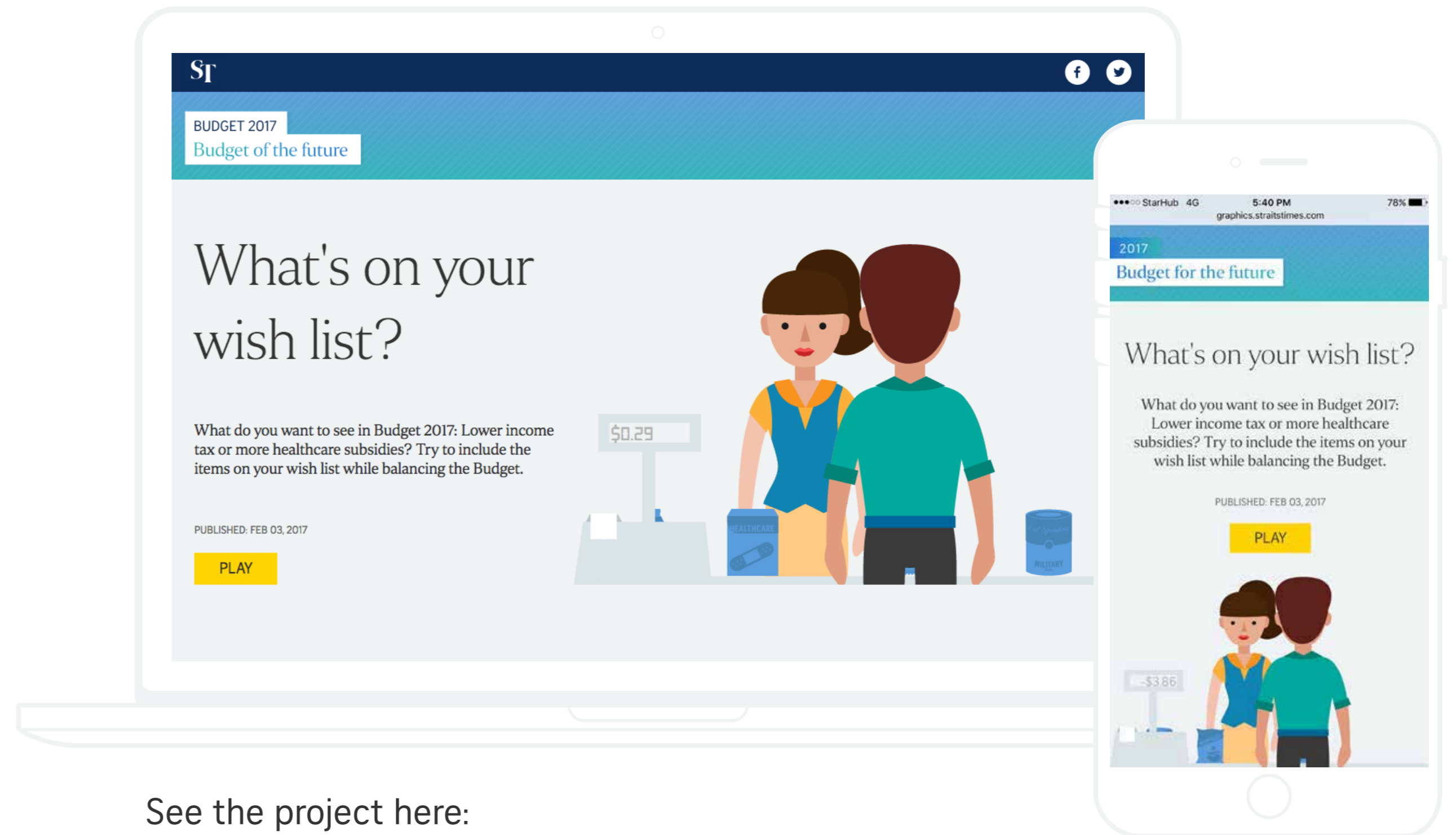
Budget 2017



SND BEST OF DIGITAL DESIGN 2018

BREAKING/DAILY NEWS: PLANNED COVERAGE

Singapore's Budget is seen by many as a serious affair filled with numbers and jargon. We wanted to change this perception, and get younger readers interested in it. This was how the Budget-balancing game was conceptualised



See the project here:

<http://str.sg/budgetgame17>

<http://str.sg/budget17-glance>

<http://str.sg/budget17-spend>

<http://str.sg/budget17-transform>

<http://str.sg/budget17-blog>

The game requires the player to balance Singapore's Budget by picking from a list of revenue and expenditure, such as raising the corporate tax or reducing grants. It's designed like an online store and the player is able to checkout only if he has a surplus.

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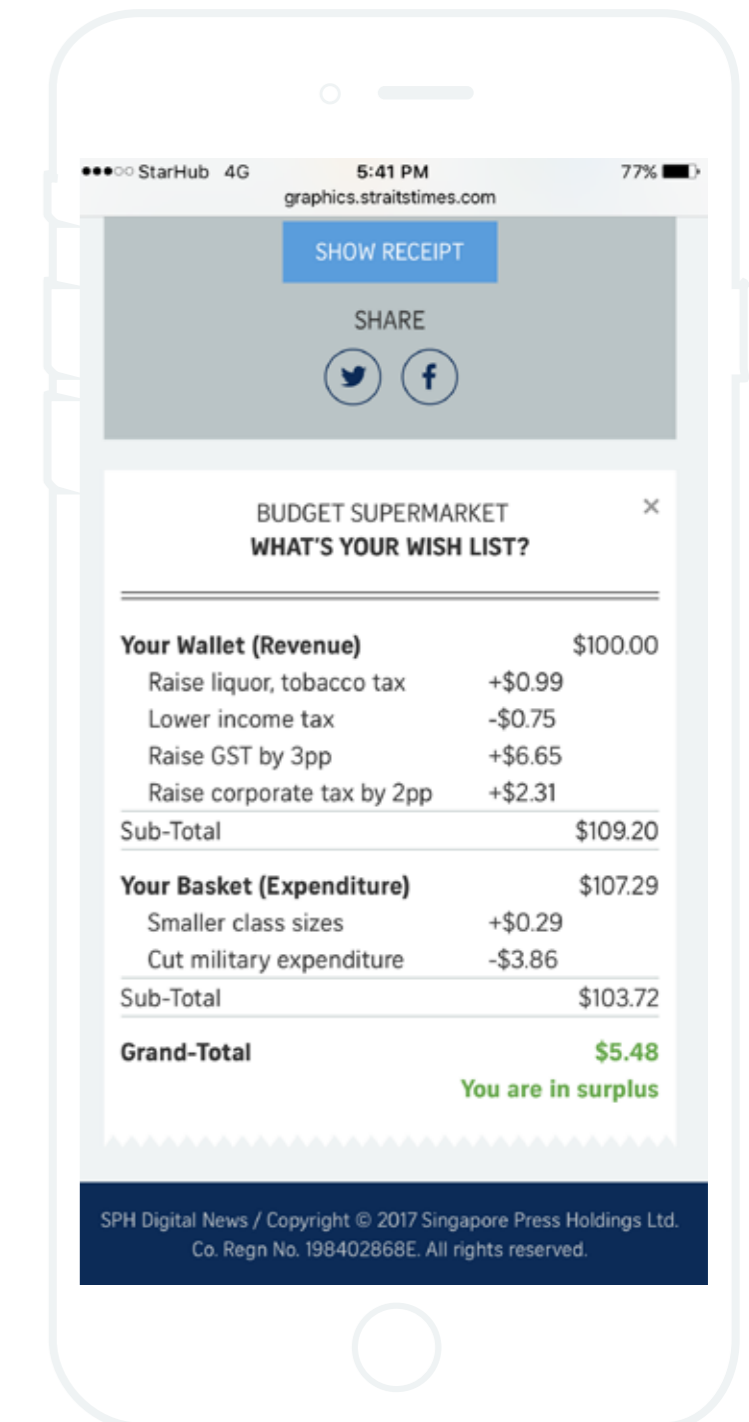
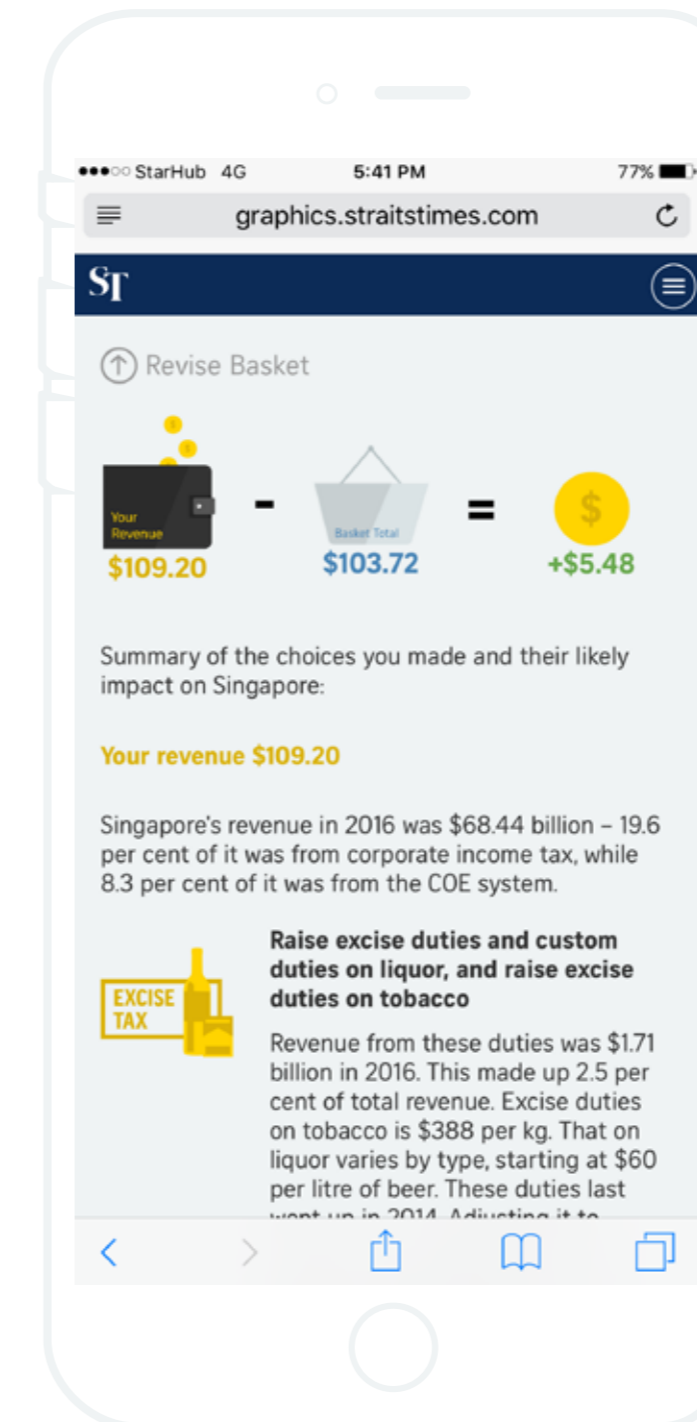
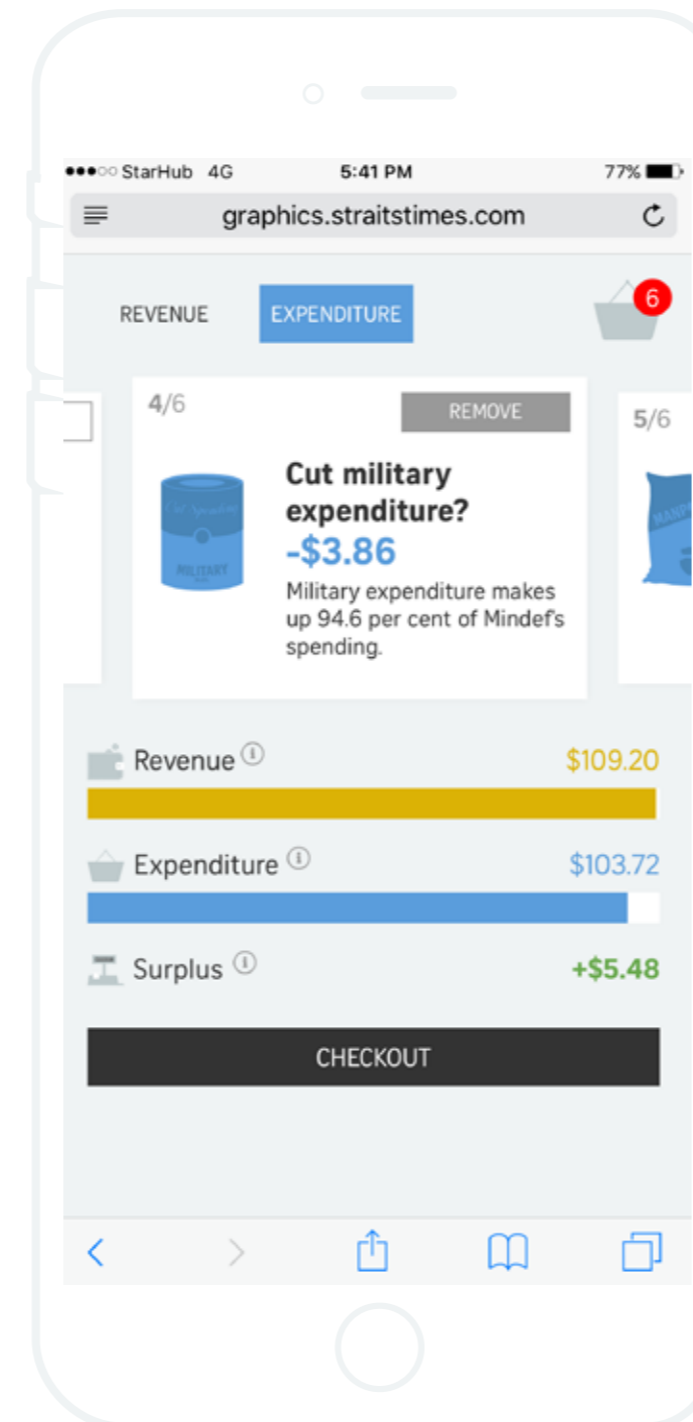
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Every item on the wish list comes with useful insight on the role it plays in the real world and how removing it from or adding it to the Budget will impact the end result.

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Your basket \$100.44


Singapore's expenditure in 2016 was \$73.43 billion. About half of it was spent on social development such as education (\$12.8 billion) and health (\$11 billion).

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Cut military expenditure by 20 per cent
 Military expenditure hit \$13.21 billion in 2016. This made up 94.56 per cent of Mindef's total expenditure. The bulk of it went to the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF). Cutting spending in this area by 20 per cent will save the Government \$2.64 billion. The SAF, however, is one of the key pillars of our nation's anti-terrorism effort. Reducing their budget may reduce their effectiveness. Read more [here](#).
- 
Cut manpower expenditure by 10 per cent
 The Government spent \$8.67 billion on manpower in 2016. This made up 11.81 per cent of total expenditure. Out of that sum, \$45 million and \$22 million were spent on political and parliamentary appointments respectively. The bulk of the expenditure (95.85 per cent) was on permanent staff. Reducing the number of staff may reduce the Government's efficiency. Read more [here](#).
- 
More healthcare subsidies
 The Ministry of Health's expenditure on social transfers to individuals was \$1.06 billion in 2016. A 10 per cent increase in this expenditure will cost the Government \$0.11 billion. The additional funds can be used to provide more coverage under schemes such as Medifund and ElderShield. More subsidies can also be given to those in need, such as the disabled. Read more [here](#).
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Smaller class sizes
 The Ministry of Education's expenditure on permanent staff was \$4 billion in 2016. This made up 5.45 per cent of total expenditure. Hiring more teachers will increase expenditure, but may allow for smaller class sizes and a lower student-teacher ratio, which may mean more attention for each student. In 2015, the average class size for primary and secondary schools were 33.5 and 34.3 respectively. Read more [here](#).

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2017
Budget for the future



I had to make some tough calls to keep Singapore's Budget in the black. Surplus was \$3.52. What would you have done? Play ST's game and find out.

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