



CDGS18/159

Western Sydney Community and Conference Centre

Office of Sport (the Office) was allocated \$12 million from NSW Treasury to assist with the development of the Western Sydney Community and Sports Centre in Penrith as part of an election commitment in 2015. Matched funding was to be provided by the Federal Government for this project. Since 2015 the project's scope has changed resulting in a delay confirming the Federal Government funding commitment and the Office issuing a funding agreement.

The Office has now established a funding agreement subject to the Federal Government funding commitment which has been signed by Penrith Rugby League Club Limited (TAB A). As \$12 million is above the Office's financial delegation, the Minister for Sport needs to sign the funding agreement.

Recommendation

The Minister:

1. Sign the Western Sydney Conference and Community Centre funding agreement for \$12 million.

Matt Miller, Chief Executive, Office of Sport, Ph. 8754 8701

Date: 15/1/19

Minister Ayres

Date:

24 JAN 2019

Comments:

Key Information

The *Western Sydney Community Sports Precinct* is a joint Federal Government and Penrith Panthers project to deliver an entertainment, leisure and sports hub in the region. Federal funding of \$12 million was awarded for the project through the Federal *Regional Development Australia Fund*. Prior to the 2015 State Election, the then Premier and the Minister announced an Election Commitment of \$12 million for a *Western Sydney Community and Sports Centre (WSCSC)* at Penrith. The proposed "Sports Central" building was expected to be the centrepiece of the development worth around \$30 million.

Since 2015, the preliminary design and a name change to the facility "*Western Sydney Community and Conference Centre*", indicated the project will no longer incorporate sporting or active recreational facilities.

Discussions have continued between the Federal Government and Penrith Rugby Leagues Club Limited to support the variation of the project. The Office has drafted a funding agreement honouring its commitment to the project, subject to the Federal Government meeting its financial commitment.

Financial Implications

The \$12 million in funding is a NSW Treasury allocation.

Communication and/or Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Not required.

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