



The Hon. Graham Annesley MP
Minister for Sport and Recreation

Legislative Council
General Purpose Standing Committee No.2
Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Portfolio Area of –
SPORT AND RECREATION

The Hon. Marie Ficarra (Chair),

Please find attached the following documents relating to the Budget Estimates hearing for Sport and Recreation.

- Amended transcript
- Answers to questions highlighted in the transcript (1 – 3)
- Answers to further QON lodged by members (1 – 20)

Due date - Monday 21st November 2011

Regards,



Graham Annesley MP
Minister for Sport and Recreation

21 NOV 2011

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SPORT AND RECREATION

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING THE HEARING

QUESTION 1 (page 6 of transcript)

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: I refer to the Good Sports Program. The Good Sports Program is a national initiative of the Australian Drug Foundation which helps sports clubs change their culture to become more focused on young people and families and less on the consumption of alcohol at high risk levels. It is currently operating in a number of States across Australia with about 4,000 clubs involved. Is the Minister aware of any State funding towards this initiative? If so, how much? Will the Minister continue to support such a program in the future? If not, why not? And are you aware of any other initiatives like this that the State is providing support for, particularly in rural communities?

Ms MILLS: We are obviously aware of the Good Sports Program and representatives of Good Sports have met with agency representatives at various times. There are a number of programs that target exactly the same outcome you have just spoken about, particularly in Aboriginal communities. All of our grants are modelled on a competitive basis. On many occasions they are in partnership with the Australian Sports Commission. Thanks to that partnership arrangement we have a number of programs providing a similar outcome. We intend to continue supporting these objectives, whether that be through a specific program such as Good Sports or an equivalent run by another non-government organisation.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: The question is: Does the New South Wales Government put any funding towards the Good Sports program? You can take that on notice. I would just like to know whether we are contributing anything to it. It is a great initiative for New South Wales.

Ms MILLS: Yes, I will take that on notice, but not through our portfolio.

Mr GRAHAM ANNESLEY: It is certainly supported in principle. In fact only last Sunday I attended a local presentation for a football club in my electorate that received accreditations, being the first in the local area. We certainly support the program.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: It is an excellent program.

Ms MILLS: Can I suggest that in our answer we provide information on similar programs that are already operating in New South Wales?

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Yes, please.

ANSWER:

Sport and Recreation provided \$200,000 in funding to the Good Sports Program for a three year period from 2006/07 - 2008/09. Additionally, during the years 2005 to 2009, the larger State sporting organisations were offered the opportunity to apply for project based funding and partner with the Good Sports Program. Over that time, the following organisations conducted projects with the Good Sports Program and were allocated funding which totalled \$70,000 per annum from the Sport Development Program - Rugby League, Cricket, Gymnastics, Tennis, Softball, Hockey and Baseball.

The Roads and Traffic Authority, various Area Health Services and Department of Premier and Cabinet have provided funding to the Good Sports Program since its commencement in NSW. I am advised that further questions regarding this support is more appropriately dealt with by the relevant Ministers.

QUESTION 2 (page 6 & 7 of transcript)

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Yes, please. In a totally different area, in our local government area of Shoalhaven sport in particular goes through the roof, depending on what code wins. For example, when the Swans win the AFL goes through the roof and there is an increased need for AFL fields. If the Socceroos win they want more fields. Soccer is one of the fastest, if not the biggest, growth sports for us, particularly girls soccer. Are you aware that when councils throughout New South Wales prepare land for sporting ovals, if there are native vegetation implications, the compensation that the State asks for environmental values is 16 to 1? That in particular is crippling the opportunity for local governments that have bush issues around their local fields, which many of those sporting areas have. First, are you aware of this issue? Secondly, if you are aware of it, are you having discussions about how we might address this complication to increase the opportunity, given the health of the community with obesity, diabetes and heart disease? Are you aware of these offsets that are required for the building of sporting fields?

Mr GRAHAM ANNESLEY: This is specifically through local government?

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Through local government

Mr GRAHAM ANNESLEY: I am not specifically aware of that. I will have to take that on notice

ANSWER:

I am advised this question is more appropriately dealt with by the Minister for the Environment.

QUESTION 3 (page 8 of transcript)

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: I have a question relating to a totally different issue, yet again. Are you aware of how many spinal cord injuries are sports-related? In saying that, how much funding has been allocated to increase public awareness of the potential risks of spinal cord injury? How might these incidences be reduced? Do you have any allocated funds for a public information program on this issue?

Mr GRAHAM ANNESLEY: To the best of my knowledge, there is no specific funding for that. It would obviously cross over into the Health portfolio as well.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Is there a chance of taking the question on notice and providing me with statistics of New South Wales figures on spinal cord sporting injuries?

Mr GRAHAM ANNESLEY: Absolutely. We will take that on notice.

ANSWER:

There are no allocated funds for a public information program on this issue within Sport and Recreation.

I am advised further questions on this are more appropriately dealt with by the Minister for Health.