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21 February 2020

Senator Anthony Chisholm, Chair  
Select Committee on Administration of Sports Grants  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your Reference: 6233525  
Our Reference: 6237898  
Enquiries: Ian Cowie

Dear Senator Chisholm

## **Select Committee on Administration of Sports Grants: City of Gosnells Submission**

Thank you for the invitation to make a submission to your Committee's inquiry.

As you are aware, the City of Gosnells applied for \$500,000 under the Community Sport Infrastructure Grant program. The City was subsequently advised that its application was unsuccessful.

Commonwealth grants are an important contributor to the expansion and development of the City's infrastructure. The Commonwealth sphere of Government raises by far the greatest amount of public revenue in Australia and transfers to Local Government are critical for their operation. In this regard, the City of Gosnells actively seeks Commonwealth grant funding when it becomes available.

The City of Gosnells is a fast growing outer metropolitan local government which supports a significant number of new migrants and a very multicultural community. To cater for this growth, the City is continually seeking to upgrade and improve its sporting and recreational facilities which, in turn, will have a positive impact on public health and wellbeing.

In this regard, the City believes it compiled a very detailed and fully costed proposal for the upgrade of Bracadale Way Reserve in Canning Vale. The proposal sought \$500,000 from the Grant program with the City proposing to contribute the remaining \$2,034,424 to complete the project.

When the City applies for grant funding, it endeavours to provide the most professional application possible, to maximise its chance of being successful. This generally requires an extensive amount of work.

In the case of the Community Sport Infrastructure Grant program, there were numerous criteria which the City's application was required to address. As a result, the City's application presented over 17 pages of information with six supporting documents. It is estimated that this application took over 80 hours to prepare.

The City understands that the Federal Minister may apply some discretion in decision making. However, if funding bodies require detailed and professional applications, the City would expect professional and objective decision making.

Thank you for the opportunity for the City of Gosnells to make this submission.

Yours sincerely

**Ian Cowie PSM**  
Chief Executive Officer