

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Australian Sports Commission

Additional Estimates 12 February 2013

Question: 188

Topic: Equestrian Australia

Asked By: Senator BACK

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 2

1. Is the Australian Sports Commission conducting a review of Equestrian Australia's role in the London Olympics?
2. If so, what are the terms of reference? Do they include the selection of team members of the equestrian team?
3. If the answer to 1 is yes, at what stage is that review and can ASC give any idea of when a report might be handed down or made public?
4. Is ASC aware of any internal review being undertaken by Equestrian Australia?
5. If the answer to 4 is yes, is it aware of the terms of reference of that review by Equestrian Australia and when that review might be concluded?
6. If the answer to 4 is yes, what contact, if any, has ASC had with Equestrian Australia in relation to the respective reviews?
7. Is ASC able to comment at this stage on selection procedures for the Olympics by Equestrian Australia? If not, why not?
8. What funding, if any, does Equestrian Australia receive from ASC?

Answer:

1. The Australian Sports Commission facilitated a high performance review on behalf of Equestrian Australia on the London Olympic cycle.

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2. The review's terms of reference included the following which incorporated the selection process:
 - a. To evaluate the systems, strategy and delivery of the Equestrian Australia 2009-12 High Performance Plan and its impact on performances of the Equestrian Team at the 2012 London Olympic Games.
 - b. To evaluate of the preparation and delivery of the Equestrian Olympic Team and the impact on its performances.
 - c. To identify gaps between the current and preferred delivery arrangements of the High Performance program having regard to stakeholder feedback of best practice principles and practices; and
 - d. To deliver a set of findings and recommendations for changes to remedy any gaps identified.
3. The final report was completed in April 2013 and presented to Equestrian Australia. A version of the report has been made available on Equestrian Australia's website.
- 4-6. Yes, Equestrian Australia also completed an internal review of its high performance programs. A copy of the report was made available on Equestrian Australia's website in April 2013. The report was considered by the ASC in determining Equestrian Australia's high performance investment allocation for 2013-14.
7. The report facilitated by the ASC has findings and recommendations related to the selection procedures, but ultimately Olympic selection is matter for Equestrian Australia and the Australian Olympic Committee.
8. In 2013-14, the ASC will provide EA with \$2,477,000 in funding. This amount will be distributed in the following ways: \$2,140,000 for high performance directed at achieving Australia's Winning Edge targets, and \$337,000 for participation.

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Question: 189

Topic: Funding for sports participation programs through the Australian Sports Commission

Asked By: Senator EDWARDS

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 2

Concerns have been raised with me that Australian Sports Commission (ASC) funding for participation is not being efficiently passed through to grass roots sports. The ASC passes fund to the National Sporting Organisations (NSO) who pass funds on to State Sporting Organisations (SSO) for participation programs but these are only funded on year to year basis.

1. How can sporting bodies seriously deliver long term objectives if they don't know what funds and resources they have to work with beyond one year?
2. Likewise ASC funding of after school care coaching programs are just one year programs. Why is the ASC offering such short term programs?
3. What is the longevity of these programs? Is there a future for these projects or is the ASC just trying to wind these down and pull funding from them? Is the Are serious about these projects?
4. How does the ASC monitor the results of their funding to the NSO's for participation funding and do they believe they're getting full value without long term planning and long term projects?

Answer:

1. National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) funded by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) receive ongoing funding, subject to performance. All sports are encouraged to develop sustainable, long term programs.

Some sports deemed *self-sufficient* by the ASC received four year participation funding subject to review. The timeframe for this funding period enables these sports to plan and implement sustainable initiatives that have an impact on participation.

2. The Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is managed by the ASC. Through the 2013-14 Budget the Government extended funding for the AASC program until 31 December 2014. Future funding for the program, including a decision on whether to provide annual or ongoing funding, is a matter for the Government to determine through the Budget process.

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3. As noted above, the AASC program is funded until 31 December 2014 and future funding for the program is a matter for the Government.
4. As a condition of funding, all ASC funded NSOs that received increased participation funding since 2010-11 are required to develop and implement long-term participation plans. Performance against these plans is reviewed annually as part of the ASC's Annual Sport Performance Review of NSOs.

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Question: 190

Topic: AIS Scholarship Holders

Asked By: Senator EDWARDS

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 2

In the wake of the Lance Armstrong doping fiasco and the recent allegations against major AFL, NRL and other Football codes over doping it would be foolish to believe that no one within the AIS program would or could get caught up in doping.

Given the government spends more than \$300 million per year on elite sport it is imperative that this money goes to honest hard working athletes.

Many athletes train through the AIS or through programs associated with the National Sporting Organisations structures which are funded by the Australian Sports Commission.

1. What measures does the AIS have in place to recoup any of this money should an athlete or coach be caught doping, or admit to doping, during or after utilising the benefits of an AIS scholarship or utilization of the program?

I refer to...

The Australian Sports Commission Anti Doping policy Section 19.13

Imposition of financial sanctions

The ASC may provide for financial sanctions on account of anti doping rule violations in its rules.....

2. Has this ever been used to recoup money from a drug dooper who has profited from involvement in the AIS program?
3. If so, what financial sanctions were placed on them?
4. In light of this have the AIS got plans to protect themselves in future to have doping cheats return government money?

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Answer:

1. The AIS Scholarship Agreement contains a provision allowing the AIS to require repayment of money paid during a scholarship or repayment of the cost of any scholarship benefits if an athlete is found to have breached a condition of the Agreement. The Athlete Agreement requires compliance with the ASC's Anti-Doping Policy and the AIS Athlete Code of Ethics.
2. Yes.
3. Individuals were either required to repay full or partial costs associated with their AIS scholarship.
4. As outlined above, the AIS Scholarship Agreement has provisions which allow the AIS to recoup money.

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Question: 191

Topic: Number of AIS Scholarships in 2011-12

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

According to the 2011-12 ASC Annual report, the AIS provided 1209 scholarships in 2011-12 instead of the planned 700. Why?

Answer:

The figures detailed in the 2011-12 ASC Annual Report include:

- Residential AIS scholarship holders;
- Camps-based AIS scholarship holders;
- Visiting AIS scholarship holders (short term placements within AIS scholarship programs at the request of the AIS program and/or the respective national sporting organisation); and
- Canberra Servicing Agreements (national level athletes requiring specific sport science, sport medicine servicing from AIS practitioners, usually requested by the respective national sporting organisation).

In recent years the AIS has broadened its reach across the high performance athlete cohort. Rather than providing a limited number of AIS 'exclusive' scholarships (approx 700 per annum), the AIS is working more closely with national sporting organisations to provide support and servicing to a broader range of national level athletes and teams.

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Question: 192

Topic: Australian Sports Outreach Program Grants

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Are grants delivered under the Australian Sports Outreach Program included in the Australian Sports Commission financial statements?

Answer:

Yes. The financial statements from the 2011-12 annual report are available at:

[http://www.ausport.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/502801/ASC Financial Statements.pdf](http://www.ausport.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/502801/ASC_Financial_Statements.pdf).

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Question: 193

Topic: AusAID Contribution to the Australian Sports Outreach Program

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Does AusAID contribute to the administration costs incurred by the Australian Sports Commission as a result of the Commission's participation in the Australian Sports Outreach Program?

Answer:

Yes. See response to question 196.

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Question: 194

Topic: Decisions on Australian Sports Outreach Program

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Which Government agency, AusAID or the ASC, makes the final decision about the size and recipients of grants made under the Australian Sports Outreach Program?

Answer:

With regard to the Australian Sports Outreach Program's **Pacific Sport Development Grants**, the selection of successful applicants and associated project funding (up to a limit of AUD 10,000) is conducted by a Grants Steering Committee, comprising of representatives from AusAID, the Australian Sports Commission and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Further information about the Pacific Sport Development Grants and the selection criteria and process can be found at: www.dfat.gov.au/geo/pacific/asop/index.html.

With regard to the Australian Sports Outreach Program's **Pacific Sports Partnerships (2009-14)**, the allocation of funding to the selected sports (cricket, football, netball, rugby league and rugby union) was determined under agreement between the Australian Sports Commission and AusAID at the commencement of the program. Further information about the Pacific Sports Partnerships can be found at: www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/international/programs/pacific_sports_partnerships.

With regard to the Australian Sports Outreach Program's **Country Programs (2006 – 2014)**, the decision about which countries and partners was determined under agreement between the Australian Sports Commission and AusAID. In 2006, five countries (Samoa, Fiji, Nauru, Kiribati, and Vanuatu) were selected and in 2009, Solomon Islands and Tonga were added to the selection of countries. The size of grants is determined by the ASC and is based on:

- the design report produced for each program – developed in partnership with AusAID;
- the nature of activities to be conducted; and
- the capability of the partners to undertake these activities and the size of the activities.

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Question: 195

Topic: ASC Involvement in Australian Sports Outreach Program

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

What is the role of the Australian Sports Commission in evaluating, administering, and overseeing grants delivered through the Australian Sports Outreach Program?

Answer:

AusAID and the ASC work together to set the strategic direction and design of the Australian Sports Outreach Program (ASOP) and the ASC has the primary responsibility for the management of the program.

Specific activities include:

- Designing aid programs that meet the Australian Government's Official Development Assistance objectives, as well as address country-specific development priorities;
- Ensuring that activities are delivered efficiently and cost effectively and are achieving agreed development objectives;
- Undertaking risk management activities associated with the delivery of programs, including in relation to child protection, fraud and mismanagement of funding; and
- Improving the delivery of programs and individual grant activities through comprehensive monitoring and evaluation and conducting research to ensure the overall ASOP is achieving its objectives.

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Question: 196

Topic: 2011-12 Administrative Costs for Australian Sports Outreach Program

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

What is the total of all administrative expenses incurred by the Australian Sports Commission in 2011-12 in relation to the Australian Sports Outreach Program?

Answer:

The total administrative expense incurred by the Australian Sports Commission in 2011-12 in relation to the Australian Sports Outreach Program was \$813,639.

This was funded through \$679,878 from AusAID and \$133,761 of the ASC's appropriation. The administrative expenses represent 8.22 per cent of the total Australian Sports Outreach Program (ASOP) expenses for 2011-2012, being \$10,343,658.

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Question: 197

Topic: Grants to Oceania Football Confederation

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

The Oceania Football Confederation received \$1,684,000 in 2011-12 through the Australian Sports Outreach Program.

1. Was this grant linked in any way to Australia's bid to host the 2018 or 2022 Football World Cup?
2. What are the Key Performance Indicators for the programs funded by this grant?

Answer:

1. No.
2. This grant to the Oceania Football Confederation is part of the Australian Sports Outreach Program's Pacific Sports Partnerships program. The program aims to support grass roots sport, build capability of national sporting federations and contribute toward targeted development outcomes in Pacific countries. Performance is measure by a Quality at Implementation (QAI) report, which is provided annually by the Commission to AusAID. The QAI rates the delivery of the program against key aid criteria relevant to Sport for Development activities under the Australian Sports Outreach Program. These criteria include the following: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability, gender equality, and measures against other cross cutting areas such as inclusion of people with disability.

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Question: 198

Topic: Contract awarded for ‘Tourism Awards Submission Development’

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

1. With regard to the contract worth \$5,091 awarded to *Threesides* for “Tourism Awards Submission Development” in 2011-12, who did the Australian Sports Commission nominate for a tourism award, and for which award were they nominated?

Answer:

1. The Australian Sports Commission nominated the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Tours for the Specialised Tourism Services category at the 2011 Canberra and Capital Region Tourism Awards. The nomination was successful, with the AIS Tours winning the award for this category.

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Australian Sports Commission

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Question: 199

Topic: Contract for 'Review of Building / Defects of AIS European Training Centre'

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

With regard to the contract worth \$57,600 awarded to *Copper International Srl* for "Review of Building/Defects of AIS European Training Centre":

1. What was the nature of the building defects in the AIS European Training Centre?
2. What is the anticipated cost of rectification?
3. Will the cost of some or all of the rectification works be covered by any warranties or guarantees?
4. What impact, if any, did the defects have on the preparations of Australian athletes for the London Olympics and Paralympics?

Answer:

1. The defects identified in the Copper Report are consistent with those experienced in Australia with a project of this size. They range from minor items such as loose electrical sockets; cracks in skirting; ceiling repairs; clearing of downpipes; items associated with plant and air-conditioning installation, including repairs to leaking components; fine tuning of systems; and labelling.
2. The anticipated cost of rectification is €180,000.
3. Approximately 70 per cent of the defects are covered under warranty.
4. The defects had no impact on athletes preparing for the London Olympics and Paralympics.