

## Question on Notice

No. 1114

Asked on 10 June 2010

MS JOHNSTONE asked the Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport (MR REEVES)—

### QUESTION

Will the Minister advise what support the Bligh Government provides to the Townsville community to increase participation in healthy activities and improve access to sport and recreation facilities?

### ANSWER

The Bligh Government has placed a high priority on making Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people. In 2010–11, the Bligh Government is investing more than \$138 million over three years in sport and recreation funding programs to increase participation in sport and recreation and encourage Queenslanders to be more active.

This Government has made the tough decisions to enable the investment in sport and recreation services and facilities to keep Queenslanders fit, healthy and active.

The Bligh Government, through the Department of Communities, supports opportunities to lead a healthy and active lifestyle, including funding for new and improved facilities, participation, and education and training initiatives to meet a community's needs.

From 2008, more than \$5 million in funding was granted to sport and recreation organisations, young athletes and Townsville City Council for various projects. This includes over \$1.9 million for the Regional Tennis Facility at Kalynda Chase, \$1.5 million to upgrade the facilities at the Kokoda Pool at Aitkenvale, \$125,000 to install lighting at the Riverway multisport complex in Thuringowa Central, \$99,996 to construct a Skate Park at Riverway in Thuringowa Central, and \$38,800 to assist 194 young athletes in the Townsville region to compete at State and national sporting competitions.

Another significant Bligh Government investment in the Townsville and surrounding regions is the commitment of \$10 million to redevelop the Murray Sports Complex. The complex is a significant sport and recreation hub, incorporating a national standard multi-sport indoor facility catering for national basketball and netball competition, sports fields including a synthetic hockey field, clubhouses, lighting and irrigation, seating and upgrades to roads, car parks, drainage, and landscaping. It is anticipated the complex will be completed by 2011.

In addition, the Bligh Government has funded the Queensland Police Citizens Youth and Welfare Association \$100,000 for the employment of two Indigenous Community Sport and Recreation Officers in Townsville.

The Bligh Government also funds a range of programs and workshops across the State. These include the Get Active Queensland Schools Program and the Get Active Queensland Accreditation Program. The schools program uses elite athletes from the Queensland Academy of Sport and supported teams to visit primary and secondary schools to deliver healthy lifestyle presentations and activity sessions. These are designed to improve sporting skills, agility, hand-eye coordination and teamwork. Since the end of 2009, more than 2,500 students across 20 schools have been visited. Another round is scheduled for term three in 2010.

The department's Accreditation Program provides opportunities for teachers, teacher aides, volunteer school sport support staff, senior high school and tertiary students to gain free access into a Teacher's Certificate or a National Accreditation course in coaching, officiating, recreation, sports training, disability education, and first aid.

Workshops for trainee teachers and practicing teachers will be provided later in 2010 to increase confidence and competence in teaching basic motor skills using physical activity across the curriculum.

Moving with Young Children Workshops will also be conducted for early childhood professionals, prep teachers, family day carers and parents involved in playgroups. These workshops will help the participants to introduce physical activity, especially basic motor skills, into the daily lives of children. Free resources have already been provided to parents, schools and child care services in the Townsville region and are available to be downloaded or ordered online.

The resources provide information on safe active movement for babies of different ages, information for parents and carers on basic active movement skills for toddlers and information to assist teachers in incorporating physical activity into their daily program.

I am also pleased to advise that the following organisations have received funding under the most recent round of Sport and Recreation funding, as part of the new suite of funding programs announced earlier this year.

#### Sport and Recreation Infrastructure:

- Teachers West Rugby Union Football Club will receive \$139,469 to install lighting and irrigation to support rugby union and athletics at Warrina Park.

#### Active Inclusion—Club Support:

- Arcadian Surf Lifesaving Club Inc to provide coach accreditation training for surf lifesaving at Townsville—\$5,000.
- Brothers TSV Football Club Inc to provide volunteer training and develop a strategic plan for football at Mount Louisa—\$5,000.
- Castle Hill PCYC to provide coaching, instructor, AUSTSWIM and first aid training for multi-sports at Castle Hill PCYC, Belgian Gardens—\$4,730.
- Corcoran Park Netball Association Inc to conduct a volunteer planning workshop for the Cana National Carnival and provide volunteer recognition for netball at Hermit Park—\$5,000.
- Magnetic Island Bowls Club Inc to conduct a participation initiative and training program for lawn bowls at Arcadia—\$5,000.
- Magnetic Island Outrigger Canoe Club Inc to conduct club events and volunteer training for outrigger canoe racing in Townsville—\$5,000.
- North Queensland Touch Association Inc to deliver accredited courses to qualified volunteer coaches to support touch football in Pimlico—\$5,000.
- Palm Island Stingers Touch Football Club Inc to conduct a series of come and try days to support touch football on Palm Island—\$4,200.
- Picnic Bay Surf Lifesaving Club Inc to provide coach and officials accreditation and conduct a series of come and try days to support surf lifesaving at The Strand, Townsville—\$4,000.
- Ross River Redskins Rugby Football Club Inc to develop a volunteer management resource to support rugby union at Victoria Park, South Townsville—\$5,000.
- Rum Runners Touch Club Inc to conduct a come and try weekend for touch football at Queens Park, Townsville—\$5,000.
- Tennis Townsville Inc to conduct a series of junior introductory coaching and game sessions for tennis at North Ward—\$5,000.

- Townsville & District Rugby Union Inc to conduct a coaching and training program for rugby union at Townsville—\$4,770.
- Townsville and District Rugby League Inc to provide accreditation courses for rugby league at the Sports Reserve, North Ward—\$4,950.
- Townsville Castle Hill Touch Association Inc to conduct coach and referee accredited courses to support touch football at Queens Park, Townsville—\$5,000.
- Townsville District Rugby Union Referees Association Inc to conduct a come and try weekend and provide training workshops to support rugby union at Townsville—\$5,000.
- Townsville Sailing Club Inc to conduct junior sailing classes to teach juniors competent and safe sailing skills in Townsville—\$1,921.
- Townsville Triathlon Club Inc to provide officials accreditation and conduct a series of come and try days to support triathlon in Townsville—\$5,000.
- Townsville/Thuringowa Softball Association Inc to provide umpiring, coaching and first aid training to support softball in Townsville—\$4,990.

I thank the Member for her obvious passion and support for these important initiatives.