



Pursuing sporting excellence | Connecting with communities

2023-24 Commonwealth Games Australia Pre-Budget Submission

February 2023

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ABOUT COMMONWEALTH GAMES AUSTRALIA

Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) is a member-based organisation – our Members are the National Sports Organisations (NSOs) representing the sports participating in the next Commonwealth Games and those eligible to be included in future Commonwealth Games and our State Divisions.

CGA receives no Federal Government funding to support our teams or programs.

Our community is broad and diverse and includes our Team athletes, coaches, support staff and volunteers, the CGA Board, committees and staff, member sporting organisations and different levels of government within Australian and overseas, as well as the high-performance system, commercial and media partners.

We work in collaboration with other peak bodies and high-performance system partners such as the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), Paralympics Australia (PA), our Member NSOs, the National Institute Network, universities and schools, and of course, the 71 Commonwealth Games Associations of other nations and territories from across the Commonwealth.

We introduce more people in more communities to the power of the Commonwealth Games and show a new generation how to get involved in the Commonwealth Sport Movement.

Australia's Commonwealth Games Team is the only national team with able bodied and para-athletes included in its membership. Our athletes wear the same uniform, compete in the same venues, live in the Games Village together and parade in the Opening Ceremony as Australia's Commonwealth Games Team.

The Team for the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games was comprised of 429 athletes: 230 female athletes (54% of the team); 71 para-athletes (16.5% of the team); and a record 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes. Our oldest athlete was 63 and our youngest just 14. The Team won the gold medal tally and the overall medal tally, but more importantly our athletes united our nation still struggling with the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic exemplifying our vision of pursuing sporting excellence and connecting with communities.

OVERVIEW

CGA welcomes the opportunity to provide this Pre-Budget Submission (“the Submission”) on behalf of its’ Member Sports (the Sports – see attached list) ahead of the Federal Government’s 2023/24 Budget.

CGA acknowledges that this Submission is being made outside the normal deadline. This delay is due to CGA’s participation in and the ongoing development of [Australia’s High Performance 2032+ Sport Strategy](#) (2032+).

At the outset, it must be noted that matters relating to infrastructure funding arrangements for the Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Victoria in 2026 (V2026) are, to our understanding, still the subject of ongoing discussions between the Federal Government and the Victorian Government.

Those discussions do not form the subject of this submission.

Notwithstanding the outcome of those discussions, the timeframe for the preparation of the Australian Team and the proper assessment of and planning for Games Time Services and

Support is becoming increasingly short. Notably, as at 17 March 2023, it will be three years to the day until the Opening Ceremony for V2026.

On 24 January 2023, the ASC announced that work would commence on the development of Australia's first National Sport Participation Strategy. Reportedly, this strategy aims to transform the way participation is connected, delivered and supported in Australia and follows the launch of 2032+.

Given that there has been no increase in Federal Government participation funding for six years and no increase in pathway funding for seven years, this is a welcome announcement.

CGA has acknowledged the collective vision of the 'Win Well' pledge, a foundation of the strategy, as well as a new national commitment to balancing ambitious sporting goals with cultures that are safe, fair and supportive.

For 2032+ to be successful, CGA notes the need to unite the high performance network in Australia and focus on Australian performances in international sporting events in this Green and Gold decade, including the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games and 2030 Commonwealth Games.

This is an exciting time for sport in Australia and the 2032+ strategy has the potential to harness our competitive strength in sport for years to come. Without a significant uplift in the Federal Government's investment in the sport industry sector however, 2032+ is in danger of suffering the same fate as its' policy predecessor, *Sport 2030*, in being a plan without means.

In this context, CGA notes that during the development of 2032+, the ASC Investment Modelling Working Group met four times prior to its' launch. More recently in 2023, work has commenced on the development of the investment model that will underpin 2032+. Without a costed implementation plan and definitive monetary allocations across the forward estimates period through to 2032, the goals set out in 2032+ can be best described as 'aspirational'.

The systemic underfunding of Commonwealth, Paralympic and Olympic sports is a symptom of an outdated approach to how government invests in sport, with Commonwealth, Paralympic and Olympic sports being largely seen by policymakers as having a once every four year window of relevance attached to their signature events.

The logic of this redundant policy outlook cannot be upheld when considered against the fact that CGA and the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) combined, have 49 Member Sports with a collective membership representing more than 13 million participants and millions more volunteers across Australia. This is a culturally diverse and inclusive membership that is committed to the development of sport for all; for physical and mental health, community building and cohesion, and education. Further, this membership develops and fosters elite athletes to represent Australia on the world stage providing inspiration and pride to many Australians.¹

Indeed, the Government's own research has found that the Sport Industry provides direct economic, productivity and volunteering benefits to a total economic value to the national economy of approximately \$83 billion annually returning to Australian communities at least \$7 for every \$1 invested.²

In anticipation of a positive decision from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in respect of the Brisbane 2032 candidature, CGA and the AOC recognised an urgent need to

¹ *Sport – Powering Australia's Future (10+10)*, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Sport-Empowering-Australias-Future-1010.pdf>, p. i.

² *Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport*, BCG, 2017.

reframe the relationship with government and deliberately position sport as an economic portfolio and industry sector. This urgency was further heightened when CGA, in partnership with the Victorian Government, was awarded the hosting rights for the 2026 Commonwealth Games (V2026) by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) on 11 April 2022.

Accordingly, in May 2021, CGA and the AOC, on behalf of their respective members, submitted ***Sport - Powering Australia's Future (10+10)*** (10+10) to the Federal Government in support of the 2021 Intergenerational Report (IGR). 10+10 marks the first time sport has provided a submission to the Federal Government's IGR process.

10+10 advocates for how Sport plays a critical role in the Australian community for our collective health, addressing the nation's obesity crises, chronic diseases, mental health, and personal development. Sport strengthens our communities, contributes to Australia's economy through major events, tourism, hospitality, infrastructure, research, and most importantly, sporting excellence builds national pride and motivation.

The submission presented recommendations for a new path forward for the Sports Industry and Government to work together on an industry wide reform plan capable of delivering real generational change.

10+10 sets out four key recommendations:

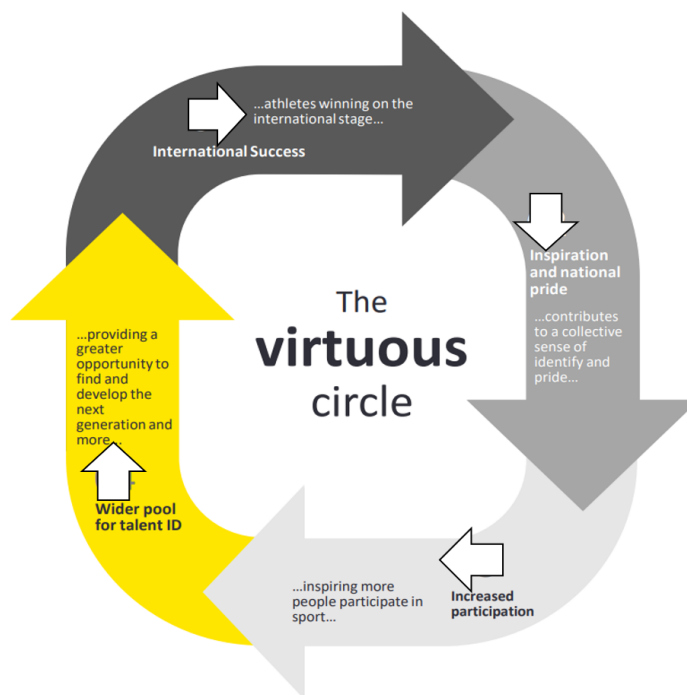
1. Develop an appropriately funded implementation plan for Sport 2030 enabling the sports industry to deliver. [Notably, *Sport 2030* is now redundant, but the need to develop an appropriately funded implementation plan for the sports industry remains and is now a more urgent requirement in light of the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games];
2. Redefine the sport investment framework so that it recognises Sports' highly integrated operations and that these need to be implemented in a holistic business plan so sports can develop their capability and capacity to deliver outcomes in participation, pathways and performance. The investment needs to be considered in the light of the 10+10 opportunity, with a minimum of four-year certainty of funding allocations based on sports presenting and being accountable for their business plan.
Direct investment in:
 - Participation – an increase in annual direct grants for sports participation growth; and
 - Performance – an increase in annual grant allocations directly for sports performance.
3. Develop and fund a national strategic initiative, in collaboration with CGA and the AOC, for major sporting events to ensure benefits and legacy are maximised in three distinct phases: before, during and after major events; and
4. Confirm the ongoing role of CGA and the AOC as part of current and future formal policy development activities to reflect the broader value of sport in delivering government objectives.

With Brisbane being selected as host of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Brisbane 2032) by the IOC on 21 July 2021 and the CGF selecting Victoria as the host of the Commonwealth Games 2026 (V2026) on 11 April 2022, the recommendations set out in the 10+10 are essential if Australia is to realise the unique opportunities presented by this decade-long runway of major sporting events.

Notably, V2026 acts as an accelerator of the Green and Gold runway through to 2032, providing Australia with a generational gift to make a real difference in transforming our nation for the better – a generational legacy.

While it is pleasing to see the 10+10 recommendations positively influencing the development of 2032+ and the development of the National Sport Participation Strategy, without meaningful investment from the Federal Government, both will fail.

The foundation principle of the 10+10 in reframing the sports partnership with government is the 'Virtuous Circle', which describes how incentivising sports to deliver the broader objectives of the '4Ps' [Participate, Perform, Promote and Provide] will yield sustainable outcomes.



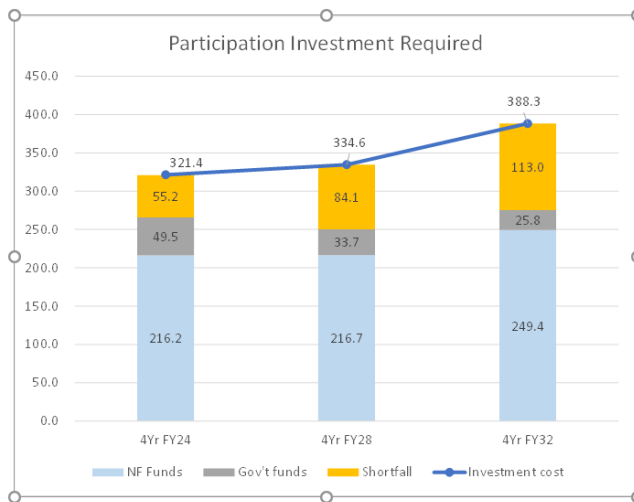
Sustainable outcomes cannot be achieved when the Federal Government's funding to the ASC and in turn the National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) has declined in real terms since 2015-16.

In 2018-19, funding to sport through the ASC peaked at \$442 million and has been in decline since, with the Federal Government's budgetary forward estimates showing a gap to retain the NSOs current state, let alone maximise the opportunities presented by V2026 and Brisbane 2032.

In seeking to progress recommendation 1 of the 10+10 (Develop an appropriately funded implementation plan), CGA and AOC developed a standard data collection template and a pro-forma business plan template, which was sent to 51 CGA and AOC members with 27 completing the data collection and 5 of these preparing the business plan.

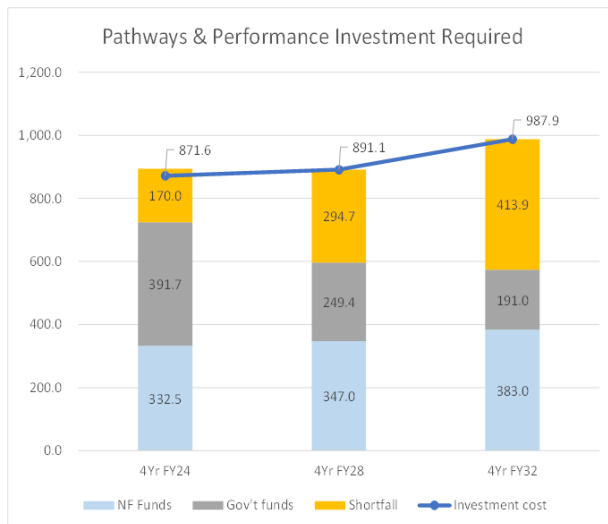
In order to extrapolate out to the full 51 NSOs, CGA and AOC accessed the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) financial statements for 15 NSOs and pro-rated this to realise the shortfall in Federal Government investment.

Recommendation 1 - Costed implementation plan



Key points

- 27 of 51 NF's (AOC + CGA) submitted
- Total investment cost = \$1,044.3m (\$87m p.a.)
- 4Yr FY28 +4% 4Yr FY32 +16%
- NF investment = \$682.3m (\$57m p.a.)
- Declining Gov't funding based on latest Federal Budget forward estimates = 10% of total investment cost
- Shortfall = \$252.3m (\$21m p.a.)
- 2022 AOC/CGA Pre Budget submission = \$50m (All NF's)



Key points

- 27 of 51 NF's (AOC + CGA) submitted
- Total investment cost = \$2,750.6m (\$230m p.a.)
- 4Yr FY28 +2% 4Yr FY32 +11%
- NF investment = \$1,062.5m (\$89m p.a.)
(note: 1 NF = 50%, 7 NF's=40%)
- Declining Gov't funding based on latest Federal Budget forward estimates = 30% of total investment cost
- Shortfall = \$878.6m (\$73m p.a.)
- 2022 AOC/CGA Pre Budget submission = \$78m (All NF's)

This process demonstrated a circa \$2 billion shortfall in the Federal Government's investment in the NSOs through to FY32 [10 years] to deliver on the participation (\$0.5B), pathways and performance (\$1.5B) outcomes. On an annualised basis, this is \$200 million per year over 10 years to FY32.

The stark and shocking reality of this analysis of the Federal Government's actual investment allocation to the NSOs through to 2032, is that the high performing results which the Australian public has come to expect from its Commonwealth Games, Paralympic and Olympic Teams are not sustainable.

Further, Australia's recent strong performances at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games require a sober consideration of all relevant circumstances to properly assess their repeatability, let alone the prospect of improved results at 'home' Games in V2026 and Brisbane 2032. Relevant factors here include:

- the comparatively lower level COVID impacts on Australian athletes in the lead up to both events to those experienced by athletes in other parts of the world;
- the tremendous performance of CGA's, the AOC's and PA's Games Services Teams in managing the health and COVID quarantine processes and protocols for Australian athletes at Birmingham and Tokyo, ensuring Australian athletes were able to perform at their best; and

- the historical multi-medal winning performances of generational athletes such as Emma McKeon – 6 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals at Birmingham 2022; and 4 gold and 3 bronze medals at Tokyo 2020.

In the face of the demonstrated decline in Federal Government funding, such favourable circumstances cannot be relied upon to routinely deliver world-beating results.

Australia has a proud history of hosting great Commonwealth Games.

Australia has staged the Commonwealth Games on five occasions, with Victoria playing host to the Melbourne 2006 Games; widely considered one of the most successful in Games history. Australia also staged the Games in Sydney in 1938, Perth in 1962, Brisbane in 1982 and most recently Gold Coast in 2018. Victoria also hosted the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo in 2004.

Commonwealth Games hosted in Australia have consistently provided important legacy benefits to communities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Sport infrastructure development;
- Public domain and transport infrastructure;
- Construction of housing, including student, social and affordable housing;
- Economic activity and uplift;
- Vocational skills training and job creation;
- Trade and investment opportunities; and
- Boosts to tourism and the visit economy.

Australia has hosted the Commonwealth Games more than any other nation.

The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games provided a particularly compelling example of the broader economic and social benefits than can be delivered by the Commonwealth Games.

The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games saw more than 6,600 athletes and officials from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories take part in 11 days of competition from 4 - 15 April 2018.

Key legacy benefits included:

- \$2.5 billion boost to Queensland's Gross State Product. This included a \$1.8 billion economic boost to the Gold Coast;
- Supporting more than 21,000 jobs on a yearly full-time equivalent basis;
- Approximately 82% of Games-wide contracts awarded to Queensland businesses, worth nearly \$1.7 billion;
- \$170 million in estimated annual boost to exports from Trade 2018 programme in the four years after the Games;
- \$41 million estimated annual boost to investment from Trade 2018 programme in the four years after the Games;
- \$725 million in transport infrastructure spending brought forward in time for Gold Coast 2018;
- 5% increase in sports participation in Queensland following Gold Coast 2018;
- \$300 million financial contribution from the Federal Government for Games operations, sports and related transport infrastructure;
- 1,300 apartments and townhouses built to rent as part of the Gold Coast's new health and knowledge precinct – the Smith Collective; and
- 250,000 additional hotel visitor nights before, during and after Gold Coast 2018 with a Games time occupancy of 88%.

V2026 is positioned to be a games-changer for the Commonwealth Sport Movement with a vision to deliver an innovative and flexible model for the Games that is unprecedented in the event's history.

Victoria's submission to the Commonwealth Games Federation, developed in conjunction with CGA, centred on a regionally focused Commonwealth Games that will expand the capacity of regional cities in Victoria to deliver major events linking tourism, arts, culture and sport.

In what will be a first-ever predominantly regional Commonwealth Games, V2026 will be staged in March 2026 across multiple cities and regional hubs including Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, Shepparton and Gippsland.

Not only will the Games deliver new economic opportunities through event infrastructure, it will deliver the double benefit of creating local jobs and housing as well as world-class sporting facilities.

This will leave a legacy of affordable housing for the regions and state-of-the art sporting infrastructure to attract future major events. The Games will also drive participation in sports, at both a community and professional level, throughout the State.

Beyond the field of play, V2026 will feature a program of cultural and business engagement experiences that bring to life the Commonwealth Games values of humanity, equality and destiny, and embrace the State's diversity and rich cultural history.

With one of its four strategic pillars being 'First Peoples First', V2026 will be a key vehicle for respectful and meaningful engagement with the various First Nations communities in Victoria. First Peoples will be at the heart of the Games.

A Victoria-wide program of live sites and activations will ensure visitors are welcomed in every corner of the State, with the Queen's Baton Relay to traverse the regions in the weeks leading up to the Opening Ceremony.

The approach will showcase the best of what Victoria has to offer and ensure a uniquely Victorian experience for the athletes and spectators.

It is estimated that the 2026 Commonwealth Games will contribute more than \$3 billion to the State's economy, creating 7,500 jobs:

- almost 600 full-time equivalent jobs before the Games;
- 3,900 during the Games; and
- a further 3,000 beyond the Closing Ceremony.

Notwithstanding these identified legacies, it is an uncontested truism that a successful home-Games is dependent upon a successful home team.

Accordingly, in the context of the Green and Gold decade's three signature home Games, V2026 and Brisbane 2032, the circa \$2 billion shortfall in the Federal Government's investment in the NSO's through to FY32 [10 years] is unfathomable.

In the overall medal result from Birmingham 2022, Australia edged out England by a mere 2 medals - 178 vs 176. The circa \$2 billion shortfall in the Federal Government's investment in the NSO's through to 2032 creates the very real prospect that for V2026, the Australian team will not finish at the top of the medal tally.

Recommendation 2 of the 10+10 identified the deficiencies of the current investment model as a major barrier to better, sustainable outcomes.

The current sport funding model managed by the ASC has been in varied, but similar forms for more than 40 years.

For many years now the funding model has been developed/varied based on what funds are available rather than what is optimal, hence it creates winners and losers vying for funding from an ever-decreasing funding pool.

Direct grants to NSOs have reduced, particularly relating to participation (the ASC has been forced to fund these grants out of other sources), and funding built on specific programs the ASC/AIS has developed to assist sports has declined.

At the same time, there have been numerous direct grants to large commercial sporting codes and franchises, totalling in the hundreds of millions of dollars, mainly for infrastructure. Government agencies/departments have also operated specific programs based around sport, but not necessarily with strategic alignment to the goals of sports.

The logic of government funding support for these commercial sports is more confounding when consideration is had to the fact that these sporting codes and franchises are also the beneficial recipients of broadcast revenue deals, literally worth billions of dollars. CGA contends that such arrangements do not provide value for the Australian taxpayers, but moreover that this government largesse distorts Australia's sporting landscape diverting resources away from Commonwealth, Paralympic and Olympic sports, which combined have the much larger participation footprint.

A recent case study example of an unfathomable funding decision made by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) (as part of the ASC) relates to the Australian women's hockey team – the Hockeyroos. In December 2021, the AIS cut the funding of the Hockeyroos (who were ranked 4th in the world at the time) by a 7-figure dollar sum. The AIS's advised reason for this decision was a determination that the Hockeyroos were not a medal chance at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Notably, the Hockeyroos in 2022 won bronze at the FIH Women's World Cup and a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and are currently ranked number 3 in the world.

Another peculiar case study is provided by the AIS's decision to provide funding certainty for Netball, Squash and Lawn Bowls (all Commonwealth Games only sports) through to 2026.

While these sports are grateful for the funding certainty they now have, for Netball and Squash this funding is at the same level as previously confirmed to 2024 (before V2026 was awarded). In real terms, this funding "value" is diminished due to inflation and not adequate for a home-Games preparation.

Athletes from 19 of the 21 program sports contributed to Australia topping the medal tally at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. For Australia to prevail in V2026, (at a minimum) funding certainty for all of CGA's Member Sports is required.

Notably, CGA is investing \$13 million of its' own money toward the preparation of the Australian team for V2026. In addition, CGA will fully fund the Australian Team to the order of \$8 million, making CGA's total monetary support for Australian athletes competing at V2026 \$21 million.

During the midst of the COVID pandemic, we saw Australians embrace the performances of the Australian Teams at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games for inspiration.

It is clear that the Commonwealth Games continues to resonate with Australians, with research following the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games confirming continued interest in engaging with the Games.

More than 70% of Australians followed the 12 days of action, while 67% of those reported that watching the Games made them feel proud or want to participate in sport.³

The Commonwealth Games Team remains an important source of pride and inspiration for Australians. Regardless of the local team we support or the state we cheer for, as a nation our club colours are always green and gold.

As stated, more recently CGA has taken its' place alongside other organisations from across the Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games Movements in the development of 2032+.

The successful resourcing and implementation of 2032+, as informed by the 10+10 recommendations, will be critical for the success of Australia's athletes at the home-Games in V2026.

The recommendations made below were first detailed by CGA in its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission and are critical first steps in ensuring the success of V2026 in its' own right and as an accelerator for the Green and Gold runway through to 2032.

In addition to these recommendations, a third has been added in light of the media statement made by the AIS on 16 February 2023 of more than \$17 million invested in Netball, Squash and Bowls to prepare for Victoria 2026.

CGA is seeking urgent confirmation of certainty of funding for all V2026 Program Sports from FY23/24 to FY25/26 inclusive, noting the reference in the AIS's media statement from 16 February 2022 that Australia's Commonwealth Games sports that also compete at the Olympics and Paralympics only have high performance funding through to Paris 2024.

Finally, CGA highlights the proximity of V2026. As at 17 March 2023, it will be three years to the day until the Opening Ceremony for V2026. For Australians, V2026 will not be a successful Games without a successful home Team. Accordingly, CGA request that the Government urgently address the three recommendations made in this submission.

³ Australian Sports Commission, CPM summary report, Impact of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games on the Australian community, October 2002 < https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/1076290/CPM-report-Impact-of-the-Birmingham-2022-Commonwealth-Games-on-the-Australian-Community-October-2022.pdf>

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Provide immediate funding commitment for Games Time Services and Support for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Victoria.

- Security guarantees were identified in the March FY22/23 Federal Budget Statement of Risk with no quantified monetary allocation being listed.
- In the first Budget handed down by new Treasurer, the Hon Jim Chalmers MP on 25 October 2022, Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for the 2026 Commonwealth Games remained listed in the Statement of Risk with no monetary allocation.
- The timeframe for the preparation of the Australian Team and the proper assessment of and planning for Games Time Services and Support is becoming increasingly short. Notably, as at 17 March 2023, it will be three years to the day until the Opening Ceremony for V2026.

2. V2026 Team Preparation Funding as part of the 10+10 Green and Gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

- In the context of the Green and Gold decade's three signature home Games, V2026 and Brisbane 2032, the circa \$2 billion shortfall in the Federal Government's investment in the NSO's through to FY32 [10 years] is unfathomable.
- In the overall medal result from Birmingham 2022, Australia edged out England by a mere 2 medals - 178 vs 176. The circa \$2 billion shortfall in the Federal Government's investment in the NSOs through to 2032 creates the very real prospect that for V2026, a home-Games, the Australian team will not finish at the top of the medal tally.
- Neither the March 2022 Federal Budget nor the first Budget handed down by the new Government on 25 October 2022 made any provision for V2026 Team Preparation Funding.
- Ahead of a home Games in 2026, CGA is seeking an immediate correction in funding to our Member NSOs from FY2023/24 in the order of \$10 million per annum for three years (FY23/24, FY24/25 and FY25/26) as an urgent uplift for the V2026 Program Sports to pursue V2026 outcomes - e.g. funding for Rowing Australia is to ensure its Coastal Rowing program is supported.

3. Urgent confirmation of certainty of funding for all V2026 Program Sports from FY23/24 to FY25/26 inclusive.

- On 16 February 2023, the AIS issued a media statement announcing more than \$17 million invested in Netball, Squash and Bowls to prepare for Victoria 2026.
- The uplift announced by the AIS on 16 February 2023 for three Commonwealth Games sports does not address the larger systemic structural funding issues and overall shortfall. Also, it does not match the broader investment the Federal Government made for a whole of Team preparation applied for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.
- Urgent clarification is required as to when the remaining sports (other than Netball, Squash and Lawn Bowls) on the V2026 Program will receive additional funding support through to V2026.

DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Australia.

Central to the hosting of international sporting events is confirmation of the Federal Government's support to meet the costs of Federal Government services relating to the staging of major events, including: Visa Support, Border Security, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism, Customs and Quarantine.

Ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, the Federal Government provided the following assurances and support, which enabled the Games to be awarded:

- (a) Commitment letter (and attachments) dated 14 April 2011 from Senator the Hon Mark Arbib MP, Minister for Sport to the President, Commonwealth Games Federation (Appendix 'A');
- (b) \$2.5 million allocation set out in the FY14/15 Federal Budget to support coordinated planning by key agencies for the operational phase of preparations for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games; and
- (c) Specific agency allocations from the FY17/18 Federal Budget - all marked 'NFP'.

In being mindful of critical timing issues relating to the consideration of the 2026 Commonwealth Games being hosted in Australia, as well the caretaker period ahead of the Federal Budget to be handed down on 29 March 2022, CGA sought a similar level of support from the Federal Government to that which was provided ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

Accordingly, prior to CGF's decision on 11 April 2022 to award the Games to Victoria, in its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission from January 2022, CGA highlighted the need for an immediate funding commitment for Games Time Service and Support for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in the event of a positive outcome.

Consistent with its' apolitical status, CGA provided copies of its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission within the January 2022 Pre-Budget period to the following:

- Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck, Minister for Sport;
- The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care;
- The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer;
- Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Shadow Minister for Sport;
- Treasury; and
- Office of Sport.

In addition, CGA also briefed the offices of the then Prime Minister the Hon Scott Morrison MP and the then Shadow Treasurer, Mr Jim Chalmers MP.

Prior to the Federal Election (21 May 2022), Minister Colbeck sent a letter dated 31 March 2022 to Dame Louise Martin DBE, President, CGF denoting the Federal Government's support for the V2026 candidature and willingness to provide the necessary guarantees for the hosting of the event. Minister Colbeck's letter to Dame Louise Martin is Appendix 'B' to this submission.

In addition, as the organisation responsible for Commonwealth Games hosted in Australia, in its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission, CGA also sought amendments to the *Major Sporting Events (Indicia and Images) Protection Act 2014 (Cth)* should Australia be confirmed as the host of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Security guarantees for V2026 and Brisbane 2032 were identified in the Statement of Risk contained in the Federal Budget handed down on 28 March 2022 with no quantified monetary allocation being listed – see Budget Paper No.1 - Statement of Risks at p.245:

Major sporting events

2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games – On 21 July 2021, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) selected Brisbane to host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Australian Government has committed to fund half the costs of critical infrastructure for the Games. The support is subject to shared governance arrangements with the Queensland Government. The Commonwealth has also provided a range of guarantees to the IOC for provision of government services in support of Brisbane hosting the Games at no cost to the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games. The costs of these arrangements are yet to be determined.

2026 Commonwealth Games – The Australian Government has provided a commitment to support the hosting of the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Victoria, should Commonwealth Games Australia and the Victorian Government's bid be successful. The Commonwealth has provided a commitment relating to the provision of government services to support the bid. The detail and cost of these arrangements are yet to be determined.

Circumstances have obviously progressed and changed considerably since January 2022 with the Federal Election (21 May 2022) resulting in a change of Government, the CGF awarding Victoria the 2026 Commonwealth Games (April 2022) and the tremendous performances of the Australian Team at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Despite these changes, there are two significant matters that remain outstanding from CGA's FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission:

1. Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for the 2026 Commonwealth Games; and
2. 2026 Team Preparation Funding as part of the 10+10 Green and Gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

As mentioned, matters relating to infrastructure funding arrangements are, to our understanding, still the subject of ongoing discussions between the Federal Government and the Victorian Government.

Notwithstanding the outcome of those discussions, the timeframe for the preparation of the Australian Team and the proper assessment of and planning for Games Time Services and Support is becoming increasingly short. Notably, as at 17 March 2023, it will be three years to the day until the Opening Ceremony for V2026.

Since the change of Government, CGA has provided a copy of its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission to the new Federal Minister for Sport, the Hon Anika Wells MP and briefed her in person on its' two main recommendations, which remain as the central focus of this submission.

In the first Budget handed down by new Treasurer, the Hon Jim Chalmers MP on 25 October 2022, Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for V2026 remains listed in the Statement of Risk with no monetary allocation.

In noting the recent change of senior personnel at the Office of Sport, CGA has also briefed the new Head of the Office of Sport, Mr Travis Haslam on the contents of its' FY22/23 Pre-Budget Submission and highlighted the fact that its' two outstanding recommendations would be central to this submission.

Mr Haslam commenced duties in his new role on 1 February 2023.

2. V2026 Team Preparation Funding as part of the 10+10 Green and Gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

Consistent with the accepted dynamic that successful home-Games are largely dependent upon the success of the host-nation's team, the Federal Government provided an additional \$15 million to the ASC in the FY17/18 Budget to support our athletes ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

In noting the tremendous benefits that a 2026 Commonwealth Games would contribute to the Green and Gold runway leading to Brisbane 2032, CGA was particularly disappointed that the AIS funding allocations announced by Minister Colbeck on 22 December 2021 did not address funding support for Commonwealth Games outcomes in Olympic and Paralympic sports, which are also on the Commonwealth Games program.

Ahead of a home Games in 2026, CGA is seeking a correction in funding to our Member NSOs from FY2022/23 in the order of \$10 million per annum to successfully prepare the Team and certainty of funding through to FY25/26.

The 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games and V2026 provide a perfect platform for our athletes to strive towards Australian Team selection and, for many, will be a steppingstone towards the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, ahead of Brisbane 2032.

In this context, hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Australia also enhances the intergenerational opportunities identified in CGA's detailed joint submission with the AOC to the Federal Government's 2021 IGR - the 10+10 Submission.

A clear precedent for this requested support for Team Preparation Funding is contained in Budget Paper No.2 2017-2018 at p.107, showing the allocation of an additional \$15.5 million to support the athletes in the lead up to the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

3. Urgent confirmation of certainty of funding for all V2026 Program Sports from FY23/24 to FY25/26 inclusive.

On 16 February 2023, the AIS issued a media statement announcing more than \$17 million invested in Netball, Squash and Bowls to prepare for V2026.

As mentioned, the Australian Team in Birmingham won medals in 19 out of 21 sports. So, even in winning medals across 19 sports, Australia still only edged out England by 2 medals in the overall medal count - 178 vs 176.

The uplift announced by the AIS on 16 February 2023 for three Commonwealth Games sports does not address the larger systemic structural funding issues and overall shortfall. Also, it does not match the broader investment the Federal Government made for a whole of Team preparation applied for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

Accordingly, CGA is seeking urgent confirmation of certainty of funding for all V2026 Program Sports from FY23/24 to FY25/26 inclusive, noting the reference in the AIS's media statement from 16 February 2022 that Australia's Commonwealth Games sports that also compete at the Olympics and Paralympics only have high performance funding through to Paris 2024.

ENDS

COMMONWEALTH GAMES AUSTRALIA MEMBER SPORTS

Victoria 2026 Program Sports

Athletics Australia *
AusCycling *
Australian Weightlifting Federation
Badminton Australia
Basketball Australia *
Bowls Australia *
Boxing Australia
Cricket Australia
Diving Australia
Golf Australia *
Gymnastics Australia
Hockey Australia
Netball Australia
Paralympics Australia (Para-Powerlifting) *
Rowing Australia *
Rugby Australia
Shooting Australia *
Squash Australia
Swimming Australia *
Table Tennis Australia *
Triathlon Australia *
Volleyball Australia

(*) denotes events for para-athletes planned

Associate Sports (not on Victoria 2026 program)

Archery Australia
Judo Australia
Wrestling Australia



SENATOR THE HON MARK ARBIB
Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development
Minister for Sport
Minister for Social Housing and Homelessness

Hon. Michael Fennell OJ CD
President
Commonwealth Games Federation
2nd Floor
138 Piccadilly
London W1J 7NR
United Kingdom

Dear Mr President,

Michael

I confirm the full support of the Australian Government for Gold Coast's bid to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games. In relation to the bid, on behalf of the Australian Government ("the Government") I hereby provide guarantees referenced to the question numbers set out in the Candidate City Manual:

Q2.2 The Government supports and welcomes the possibility that the 2018 Commonwealth Games may be staged in Australia.

Q3.5 The Government declares that necessary legal and legislative measures have been taken, or will be taken, to protect Commonwealth related marks and designations in the name of the CGF.

Q4.3 The Government guarantees entry into Australia will be facilitated for those persons in possession of a valid passport and Commonwealth Games accreditation in order to carry out their Commonwealth Games functions in accordance with Australia's universal visa system and requirements. The entry into Australia and right to remain for the determined period will be subject to a discretion by the Australian Government to cancel, cease or refuse a visa on health, character, or other grounds.

Q4.4 The Government guarantees that a right to work will be attached to the visas that are granted to Commonwealth Games personnel to aid in the organisation of the Commonwealth Games where those personnel meet the criteria for the appropriate visa.

Q4.7 The Government guarantees it will work with the CGF to facilitate the import, use and export of goods related to the Commonwealth Games in order that they be managed consistently with Australia's legal and regulatory requirements.

Q6.8 The Government guarantees it has no intention of introducing new taxes at this time which would impact on the 2018 Commonwealth Games. However, Constitutional limitations present in Australia's system of government limit the Executive from binding either the Parliament or a future government. In addition, the Commonwealth cannot generally bind the states with respect to their tax bases.

Q7.2 The Government guarantees that the appropriate legislation to minimise ambush marketing by association and unfair practices, such as misleading and deceptive conduct or false or misleading representations will be in place no later than 30 June 2014.

Q10.13 The Government guarantees that:

- i. Australia is a State party to the UNESCO Convention against Doping in Sport and is compliant with it.
- ii. Australia has signed the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in Sport.
- iii. The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) which is Australia's National Anti-Doping Authority has set Anti-Doping Rules for national sporting organisations which are compliant with the WADA Code 2009.
- iv. The Anti-Doping Rules have been implemented and enforced in a Code-Compliant way.
- v. ASADA has participated in the Code Compliance Questionnaire undertaken by WADA. The recent report from WADA confirms that Australia is fully Code compliant.


Q11.4 The Government guarantees a safe and secure celebration of the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Q14.8 The Government guarantees the allocation of necessary frequencies, for the organisation of the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Q14.9 The Government guarantees Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) will provide spectrum planning, frequency assignment and related services to the Organising Committee for the 2018 Commonwealth Games on a cost-recovery basis. Radiocommunications licences issued by the ACMA are required to authorise the use of the radiofrequency spectrum.

In providing the government guarantees it must be noted that there are constitutional limitations present in Australia's system of government that limit the Executive from binding either the Commonwealth Parliament or Parliaments in other jurisdictions. Similarly, the Executive does not have the power to make a guarantee or agreement which binds officials to exercise statutory powers in a particular way. These limitations apply to the commitments contained in the Government Guarantees and other agreements, and any legislation that might be required in support of these commitments.

Dated this 14th day of April2011


.....
Mark Arbib



Our ref: CP6/GCC337/I/HXA
Contact: Adam Hall
Direct ph: (07) 3247 5699
Direct fax: (07) 3239 6386

Department of
Justice and Attorney-General



30 March 2011

Ms Tehana Carniel
Communications Officer
Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Bid Ltd
Level 5, 64 Marine Parade
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215

Dear Tehana

Trade Mark Nos. 1374612 and 1374613 – Certificates of Registration

I am pleased to **attach** the Certificates of Registration for the following trade marks:

Trade Mark Representation	Registration No.	Classes	Status
	1374612	35 and 41	REGISTERED Priority Date – 4 August 2010 Renewal Due – 4 August 2020
	1374613	14, 16, 18, 25 and 32	REGISTERED Priority Date – 4 August 2010 Renewal Due – 4 August 2020

The trade mark registrations in respect of the abovementioned trade marks will remain current for ten years from 4 August 2010. The next renewal date in respect of these trade marks will be **4 August 2020**.

State Law Building
50 Ann Street Brisbane
GPO Box 5221 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
DX 40121 Brisbane Uptown
Telephone 07 3239 6703
Facsimile 07 3239 0407
ABN 13 846 673 994

Trade Mark Nos. 1374612 and 1374613 – Certificates of Registration

Crown Law currently maintains a trade mark register to monitor renewal dates of its clients' trade marks. Also, at this time, Crown Law is recorded on the Trade Mark Register as the address for service of notices from IP Australia and other third parties in respect of these trade marks, and would receive the renewal notices for the trade marks in ten years' time.

While we endeavour to provide reminders to clients concerning renewal dates, the length of time involved between renewals means that we cannot take responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of trade marks. We therefore recommend that clients maintain their own "bring up" system for trade marks, and you may prefer to have the address for service changed to your office. If so, kindly advise the name and position of the relevant officer.

I would appreciate it if you would please acknowledge receipt of the enclosed Certificates of Registration by signing and returning the **attached** copy of this letter.

Please contact me on 3247 5699 if you would like to discuss any aspect of this matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hall', written in a cursive style.

Adam Hall
Senior Lawyer
for **Crown Solicitor**

Encl.



23 March 2011

Mr Ian Whitehead
Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Ltd
PO Box 3454
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215

Dear Ian

2018 Commonwealth Games – Gold Coast Bid.

This letter has been prepared for inclusion in the submission documentation for the Gold Coast bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. We thank the Gold Coast bid team for the opportunity to review and discuss concept plans as well as to consider the proposed competition schedule.

The concept plans and competition schedule demonstrate an excellent framework for the conduct and delivery of a Commonwealth Games event. Key infrastructure needs for swimming have also been highlighted within the concept plans. The plans also give us confidence that, when completed, the technical requirements and specification detail will meet the expectations of a major swimming competition.

Swimming Australia is excited by the possibility of the 2018 Commonwealth Games being conducted on the Gold Coast and believe it is an ideal location for such a major event. In this regard we offer our full support to the bid and look forward to further consultation as the planning process progresses.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Neil".

Kevin Neil
Chief Executive Officer



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Swimming Australia Limited

ABN 14 109 333 628

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Belconnen ACT 2617

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Affiliated with the
Federation Internationale
de Natation (FINA)



**SENATOR THE HON RICHARD COLBECK**

Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care Services

Minister for Sport

Ref No: MS22-900137

Dame Louise Martin DBE
President
Commonwealth Games Federation
Commonwealth Games Australia

31 MAR 2022

Dear Dame Louise

The Australian Government is pleased to support current discussions regarding the potential hosting of the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Australia, and in particular the expectations concerning Government support outlined in the Commonwealth Games Federation's letter of 3 February 2022.

Australia has a proud and longstanding reputation as a host of major international sporting events. Many of the world's largest sporting events have been staged in Australia since the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games including hosting two very successful iterations of the Commonwealth Games – Melbourne 2006 and Gold Coast 2018.

Australia is hosting a strong line up of major sporting events over the next ten years, including the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Staging the XXIII Commonwealth Games would be a valuable addition to the already impressive schedule of events over the next decade.

I understand the Victorian Government is working closely with Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) to deliver a bid to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games with a strong Victorian regional focus. The Australian Government supports this approach.

The Government routinely engages with event organisers and prospective Australian host jurisdictions regarding guarantees of operational support to ensure the safe and successful delivery of major sporting events in Australia. We therefore stand ready to engage with the Victorian Government and CGA regarding the full scope of support required of the Government at the appropriate time.

The Government looks forward to working with the Victorian Government and CGA on the opportunity to host what would be an exciting event for both Australia and the Commonwealth of Nations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Colbeck".

Richard Colbeck

cc: The Hon Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia