



Yvette Berry MLA

Deputy Chief Minister

Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development

Minister for Housing and Suburban Development

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and
Family Violence

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Minister for Women

Member for Ginninderra

Ms Fiona Carrick
President
Woden Valley Community Council
president@wvcc.org.au

Dear Ms Carrick

Thank you for your letter of 12 March 2019 regarding the future provision of a multi-purpose sports hall in the Woden region. As the Minister for Sport and Recreation, your correspondence has been forwarded to me for reply. I have delayed my response to you to allow for the *Planning for Indoor Facilities and Other Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Report* (the Report) and subsequent ACT Government response to be finalised and released.

With respect to your request for ACT Government support to deliver a \$30 million multi-purpose sports hall in Woden, I can advise that the Territory does not currently support this proposal. As detailed in the Report (www.sport.act.gov.au), the Territory does not develop, own or manage dedicated indoor sporting court facilities. This continues to be the ACT Government's position, as stated in its response to the Report, which is also available at www.sport.act.gov.au.

The Report specifically focuses on future indoor sport facility requirements for Capital Football (futsal), Basketball ACT and Gymnastics ACT and considered Belconnen, Gungahlin and Woden as locations for any new or expanded facility provision.

The identification of Belconnen (basketball and gymnastics) and Gungahlin (futsal) is based on feedback received from Basketball ACT, Gymnastics ACT and Capital Football on their priority facility requirements. These peak bodies are responsible for setting the strategic direction for their respective sports, including prioritisation of sport infrastructure projects that consider the needs of all its members across Canberra.

While the ACT Government will work with those identified sports to progress their indoor sporting facility aspirations, it does not preclude the Territory from working with other sports on a case-by-case basis to potentially deliver additional indoor sporting infrastructure in the ACT. There also remains the option for the private sector to provide indoor sporting infrastructure where commercially viable.

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While not all indoor sporting facilities, the ACT Government has recently funded and delivered numerous sport infrastructure projects in Woden, including:

- the Phillip Oval redevelopment, which includes a dedicated indoor cricket training facility;
- the Woden Park redevelopment; and
- the Melrose Football Precinct.

The Phillip Oval redevelopment is an example where the sports of AFL and cricket prioritised Woden as the key location to provide a facility that services the entire Canberra community.

I can also confirm that the Territory will continue to incorporate indoor sporting facilities when constructing new ACT Government schools. In addition, the Territory will upgrade existing indoor sporting facilities at ACT Government schools where there is an identified need. These multi-purpose facilities are heavily utilised by the sporting community and support a wide range of activities.

Should you determine that a presentation on the findings of the Report at an upcoming public meeting would be beneficial for your members, I ask that you contact David Jeffrey, Senior Director, Sport and Recreation on 6207 5815 or david.jeffrey@act.gov.au to arrange a suitable time.

Thank you for raising these matters with me.

Yours sincerely



Yvette Berry MLA
Deputy Chief Minister

20 JUN 2019