

4.3.18 MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

OVERVIEW

Agency	Forecast 1995-96	Estimate 1996-97	Variation
	\$m	\$m	%
Department for Sport and Recreation			
Current Payments	46.6	53.3	14.4
Capital Payments	14.9	10.4	(-) 30.2
Total, Minister for Sport and Recreation	61.5	63.7	3.6

The increase in current payments for 1996-97 is primarily due to the 1996 Motor Cycle Grand Prix being held in October 1996 rather than being held in March as usual.

The decrease in the capital program is mainly due to a reduction in capital grants paid under the Sport and Recreation Fund and the completion of major works in 1995-96 including the fitout of the NSW Institute of Sport.

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION

Expenditure Trends and Recent Developments

During 1995-96 the Department focussed on sports management and leadership development programs in order to provide a more integrated approach for improving community participation. This approach will continue in 1996-97 with assistance provided to sporting bodies.

Consolidation of the Department's administrative functions has resulted in the restructuring of a number of divisions, for example, amalgamation of the Regional and Operations Division has assisted in presenting a comprehensive range of programs designed to increase active participation in the community.

Following the establishment of the Women in Sport Unit in 1995-96, improvement of sport administration and provision of sporting scholarships to women will continue.

Action is proceeding to contract out Eastern Creek Raceway with finalisation anticipated early in the 1996-97 financial year.

Strategic Directions

The corporate objectives of the Department are to work towards -

- a State in which the community is able to be fulfilled through participation in sport and recreation; and

- success by NSW athletes at the national and international sporting level in targeted sports.

Increasingly, in the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, the Department will focus on managing Olympic venue facilities and the provision of support for test events together with the provision of regional and local facilities for training and competitive sporting events.

1996-97 Budget

Current Payments

A total of \$53.3 million will be made available to the Department to encourage the community's participation in sport and recreation and the achievement of excellence in sporting performance.

Major features of the Department's allocation include -

- provision of \$3 million for the operating costs of the NSW Institute of Sport;
- provision of \$3.8 million for the 1996 Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix required under contractual arrangements;
- provision of \$400,000 for various initiatives including increased funding to the recently established two new sports high schools, the establishment of a pilot creche scheme, a pilot volunteer training scheme for the elderly and an increase for the "kids in all sports" program; and
- provision of \$2.3 million for the operation of the International Athletic and Aquatic Centres.

Capital Payments

In 1995-96 the Department either completed or continued various minor works projects, including upgrading accommodation and the provision of improved facilities for its clients at its Sport and Recreation Centres and Academies of Sport. Work was started on the new mess hall/kitchen at the Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre.

The Capital Program for 1996-97 amounts to \$10.4 million, comprising capital works of \$6.1 million and capital grants and advances of \$4.3 million.

The capital works program of \$6.1 million includes -

- \$2.4 million for the replacement of the mess hall/kitchen facility at the NSW Academy of Sport at Narrabeen;
- \$1.5 million to complete the mess hall/kitchen at Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre, Lennox Head; and
- \$300,000 to complete the wide area computer link network for regional offices, sport and recreation centres, academies of sport and the head office.

The capital grants and advances program of \$4.3 million includes \$3.3 million in grants from the Sport and Recreation Fund and \$1 million in capital advances to various sporting bodies.

Capital grants from the Sport and Recreation Fund of \$3.3 million in 1996-97 will be made to support and develop sport and recreation facilities throughout the State. Under the Capital Assistance Program (part of the Sport and Recreation Fund), annual grants are provided on a dollar for dollar basis, up to 50 per cent of the total cost of the project, to assist in the development of sporting and recreational facilities which have a broad community orientation.