



Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

Ministerial Brief

To:	Minister for Sport and Recreation	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2026/28
Date:	23/02/2026	
From:	Executive Branch Manager, Sport and Recreation	
Subject:	2026 Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme (SRIS) – approved funding	
Critical Date:	05/03/2026	
Critical Reason:	To enable announcement of the 2026 SRIS recipients and funding distribution by 6 March 2026	

- A/g DDG 25/02/26
- EGM, Ops 25/02/26

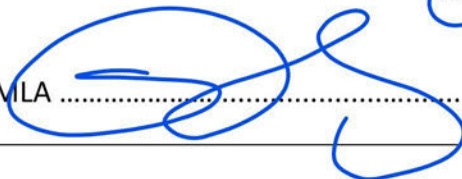
Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief; and
2. Note the 2026 SRIS recipients at Attachment A.

Noted / Please Discuss

Noted / Please Discuss

Yvette Berry MLA  11/03/26

Minister's Feedback

please working with my office on socials and comms plans

Background

1. The Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme (SRIS) is Sport and Recreation's annual funding program that supports sport and active recreation opportunities for the ACT community. The SRIS comprises four components: the Industry Partnership Program (IPP), the State Organisation Support Program (SOSP), the Community Sport Facilities Program (CSFP) and the Club Enhancement Program (CEP).
2. The IPP and SOSP are three-year funding programs that support sport peak bodies, with 2026 marking the final year of the current deeds. Twenty sport peak bodies receive support through these programs, with each funding agreement allowing for annual variation based on performance.
3. The CSFP and CEP opened for applications via SmartyGrants on 26 August 2025 and closed on 17 October 2025, with 87 applications received. Sport and Recreation also received Year 3 project plans from the 14 funded IPP organisations and the 6 funded SOSP organisations.
4. Responsibility for the delegation of funding from the SRIS rests with the Deputy Director-General, Economic Development.

Issues

5. Applications supported for funding are listed in [Attachment A](#). Those not supported are listed in [Attachment B](#).

Out of Scope

Industry Partnership Program applications

7. Sport and Recreation has liaised with IPP recipients on the progress of their second-year activities and Year Three (2026) project plans. While some IPP funded projects have progressed well, a number have either not progressed or experienced delay. Common issues include:
 - staff recruitment and/or retention.
 - challenges engaging with other bodies central to program delivery, including National Sporting Organisations and local community organisations; and
 - emerging priorities/crisis within the business that have necessarily diverted focus.
8. What is evident however, is that local sport peak bodies continue to face challenges in planning and delivering initiatives of a genuinely "game-changing" scale within the three-year horizon of the IPP. Given there is no current intention to revert to a model that provides broad operational funding to peak bodies, Sport and Recreation will take the opportunity to review the design and structure of the IPP ahead of the next three-year term (2027–2029). A consultant has been engaged for this work.

Out of Scope

Out of Scope

Financial Implications

10. The total budget for the 2026 SRIS is \$4,854,270 which is reflected within Attachment C.
11. The recommended CSFP project for Eastlake Football Club (Kingston Oval upgrades) includes a \$615,806 first instalment from the 2026 SRIS (2025-26), with a final instalment of \$363,194 from the 2027 SRIS budget. While payable from 1 July 2026, this final instalment would be subject to Development Application approval for new lighting.
 - a) Kingston Oval is a Territory asset managed under licence by Eastlake Football Club. A project steering committee, inclusive of representatives from the Club and City and Environment Directorate, will be established through the Funding Deed.

Consultation

Internal

12. A two-stage internal assessment of all grant applications was undertaken by Sport and Recreation for CEP and CSFP.

Cross Directorate

13. Sport and Recreation has engaged with City and Environment Directorate on ACT Sportsgrounds facilities which will benefit from approved funding support.

External

14. Nil.

Work Health and Safety

15. Nil.

Benefits/Sensitivities

16. The SRIS is the core support mechanism for the local sport and recreation sector and primary means through which Government provides influence and exerts strategic leverage in the sector.

Communications, media and engagement implications

17. The SRIS presents some strong media opportunities to showcase positive stories on the funding enabling successful projects and delivering positive benefits to the ACT community. Sport and Recreation will work with your office to announce the 2026 SRIS recipients.

Signatory Name: Rebecca Kelley

Phone: 74389

Action Officer: Dougal Reed

Phone: 76195

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	2026 SRIS – Applications supported for funding
Attachment B	2026 SRIS – Applications NOT supported for funding
Attachment C	2026 SRIS – Budget overview

Out of Scope

Out of Scope

2026 Community Sport Facilities Program (CSFP) - Construction Stream

Organisation Legal Name	Project Title	Total Amount Requested	Overall Assessor Comments	Funding Supported	Supported Funding Amount	Funding Method	Risk Management Around Payment
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1	Belconnen United Sharks Rugby League Football Club	Construction of new lighting Replacement of lighting infrastructure that has failed with new LED lighting and upgrade the current electrical system to accommodate the new lights system.	\$388,234	This year's application is notably clearer and more fully developed than previous submissions, which were unsuccessful. It is supported by strong evidence, including land-custodian endorsement from the Canberra Institute of Technology. The applicant has made meaningful financial contributions to the project, including securing an approved Development Application and undertaking geotechnical investigations. Additional funding has also been committed by two other peak bodies.	Partially fund	\$374,000	Lumpsum: Project delivery and evaluation has short timeframe and requires funding as soon as possible to fulfil project.	LOW: Has capability and capacity to deliver projected activities.
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Out of Scope

5	Murrumbidgee Country Club	Irrigation redevelopment Complete replacement of club's existing irrigation system with a new automatic pop up golf irrigation system.	\$2,000,000	This was a very strong application with all criteria addressed and the project is shovel ready. The applicant submitted three funding options and will provide matched funding towards the project. The project will provide financial and environmental benefits from the improved irrigation system. The club has sufficient funds to jointly fund this project and the full amount was not recommended due to grants program budget restraints.	Partially fund	\$1,000,000	Lumpsum: Project delivery and evaluation has short timeframe and requires funding as soon as possible to fulfil project.	LOW: Has capability and capacity to deliver projected activities.
6	Tuggeranong BMX Club	Installation of new LED lighting The supply and installation of new lighting poles and new lighting heads at the Kambah BMX track in accordance with national BMX lighting regulations.	\$201,850	The application was well developed which included an approved Development Application and strong supporting documentation including the lighting design plan. The project has a strong focus on providing a safer and more welcoming and inclusive environment. The application demonstrated a clear evidence of need. The GST component on the quote was not supported.	Partially fund	\$180,000	Lumpsum: Project delivery and evaluation has short timeframe and requires funding as soon as possible to fulfil project.	LOW: Has capability and capacity to deliver projected activities.

Out of Scope

8	Eastlake Football Club	Kingston Oval upgrades The upgrades will include lighting upgrades, a new irrigation system and a change of turf profile.	\$1,100,000	The application is the number one infrastructure priority for the peak body for AFL. The peak body is making a strong financial contribution of \$400,000 towards the installation of the upgraded lighting. Support for the requested electronic scoreboard is not recommended as limited detail was included in the application on this item. The project will be funded over two years due to budget restraints - \$615,806 for this year and \$363,194 in 2026/27. A project control group to be established which will include a member of the City and Environment Directorate to ensure all design and planning meets the required industry standards.	Multi year	\$615,806	Lumpsum: Project delivery and evaluation has short timeframe and requires funding as soon as possible to fulfil project.	LOW: Has capability and capacity to deliver projected activities.
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Out of Scope



Date: 11 February 2026 **TRIM No:** CMTEDD2026/27

To: A/g Deputy Director-General

From: Sport and Recreation, Executive Branch Manager

Subject: 2026 Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme Recommendations

Critical Date: 23 February 2026

Critical Reason: Your endorsement of the grants is required to support the allocation of the funds before 23 February 2026

Through / Approval

Approver	Date	Comments
EGM, Ops	.../02/2026	

Recommendations

1. That you:

- Note the information contained in this minute; and

Noted / ~~Please Discuss~~

- Agree to the 2026 SRIS recommendations at Attachment A.

Agreed / ~~Not Agreed~~ / ~~Please Discuss~~

Kate Starick..... 23/02/26

A/g DDG Note: Please correct the recommended funding under the CSFP for ACT Disc Golf to be 'partially Funded' as the full amount (including contingency funding of \$5000) was not recommended, as advised by EBM Sport and Recreation.

Background

2. The Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme (SRIS) is the annual funding program coordinated by Sport and Recreation that supports sport and active recreation opportunities for the ACT community.
3. The SRIS includes the Industry Partnership Program (IPP), State Organisation Support Program (SOSP), Community Sport Facilities Program (CSFP) and Club Enhancement Program (CEP).

4. The IPP and SOSP are both three-year funding programs supporting sport peak bodies, with 2026 the final year on current deeds. There are 20 sport peak bodies who receive support from these two funding programs – each agreement provides scope for annual variation based on performance.
5. The CSFP and CEP opened for applications online via SmartyGrants on 26 August 2025 and closed on 17 October 2025 – 87 applications were received. Sport and Recreation also received Year 3 project plans from the 14 funded IPP organisations and 6 funded SOSP organisations.
6. Responsibility for the delegation of funding from the SRIS rests with you as the Acting Deputy Director-General, Economic Development.

Issues

7. Applications recommended for funding are listed in [Attachment A](#). Those not recommended are listed in [Attachment B](#).

Out of Scope

Industry Partnership Program applications

9. Sport and Recreation has liaised with IPP recipients on the progress of their second-year activities and Year Three (2026) project plans. While some IPP funded projects have progressed well, a number have either not progressed or experienced delay. Common issues include:
 - staff recruitment and/or retention;
 - challenges engaging with other bodies central to program delivery, including National Sporting Organisations and local community organisations; and
 - Emerging priorities/crisis within the business that have necessarily diverted focus.
10. What is evident, however, is that local sport peak bodies continue to face challenges in planning and delivering initiatives of a genuinely “game-changing” scale within the three-year horizon of the IPP. Given there is no current intention to revert to a model that provides broad operational funding to peak bodies, Sport and Recreation will take the opportunity to review the design and structure of the IPP ahead of the next three-year term (2027–2029). Initial conversations have commenced with a consultant to explore potential support for this work.

Out of Scope

Consultation

12. A two-stage internal assessment of all grant applications was undertaken by Sport and Recreation for CEP and CSFP.

Work Health and Safety

13. Nil.

Financial

14. The total budget for the 2026 SRIS is \$4,854,270 which is reflected within Attachment C.
15. The recommended CSFP project for Eastlake Football Club (Kingston Oval upgrades) includes a \$615,806 first instalment from the 2026 SRIS (2025-26), with a final instalment of \$363,194 from the 2027 SRIS budget. While payable from 1 July 2026, this final instalment would be subject to Development Application approval for new lighting.
 - a) Kingston Oval is a Territory asset managed under licence by Eastlake Football Club. A project steering committee, inclusive of representatives from the Club and City and Environment Directorate, would be established through the Funding Deed.

Risks/ Sensitivities

16. The SRIS is the core support mechanism for the local sport and recreation sector and primary means through which Government provides influence and exerts strategic leverage in the sector.

Media

17. The SRIS presents some strong media opportunities to showcase positive stories on the funding enabling successful projects and delivering positive benefits to the ACT community.
18. The Minister will be informed of all funding outcomes prior to funding offers being provided or associated public announcements made.

Rebecca Kelley

Executive Branch Manager

Action Officer: Dougal Reed

Phone: 6207 6195

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	2026 SRIS – Applications recommended for funding
Attachment B	2026 SRIS – Applications NOT recommended for funding

Attachment C	2026 SRIS – Budget overview
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