



Attention

Committee Secretary
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
PO Box 6021, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
jcpaa@aph.gov.au

Executive Minute **on** **Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit** Report 484 The Administration of Government Grants

Recommendation 6

“The Committee recommends that Sport Australia review its guidelines in relation to all current and future grants programs to clarify:

- The authority, duty and role of the Minister for Sport; and
- The authority, duty and role of the Australian Sports Commission Board in relation to decision-making, and that Sport Australia report back to the Committee in six months.”

Requested clarification

“The Committee therefore requests that ASC provide further information on how the authority, duty, and role of the Minister for Sport was clarified in the updated ASC Grant Management Framework.”

Response:

In 2020-21, the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) reviewed and updated the ASC Grant Management Framework (Framework), comprising the ASC Grants Policy and ASC Grant Management Guidelines.

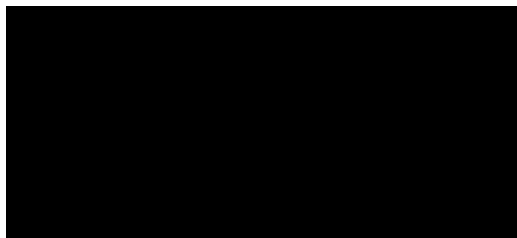
The role of the Minister for Sport in ASC grant programs has been clarified in the updated Framework, in which it is specified that:

- section 54 of the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* does not permit any statutory power of the ASC, including the power to make grants, to be delegated to any person other than to an ASC Board member, an ASC Board committee, the ASC CEO, or an ASC employee;
- the grant approver in an ASC grant program must be from within the ASC and cannot be the Minister or a third party;
- section 47 of the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* requires that Ministerial approval must be obtained for the ASC to enter into any contract (including a grant agreement) involving payment exceeding \$500,000. Such approval of a grant agreement does not constitute approval of the grant itself as part of the assessment process and is not a financial delegation to the Minister;



- any proposal for the Minister to have a role in grant assessments must be approved by the ASC Board and reviewed by ASC Legal;
- authorisation to proceed with a new ASC grant program may require Ministerial approval in addition to other required approvals.

Signed by



Kieren Perkins OAM

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Sports Commission

