



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

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RECEIVED
1 MAY 2007

Mr Jason Sherd
Secretary
Joint Publications Committee
Parliament of Australia
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Inquiry into printing standards for documents presented to Parliament

Dear Mr Sherd

I refer to your letter dated 12 April 2007 addressed to Mr Mark Peters, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), seeking comment on issues relating to the printing standards of documents produced by the ASC for presentation to the Parliament. Mr Peters is currently on sabbatical.

The ASC regularly produces two documents which are included in the Parliamentary Papers Series, namely its annual report and quadrennial strategic plan. The ASC considers it actively pursues value for money in the development and production of these documents.

The ASC believes it complies with the printing standards prepared by the Joint Publications Committee in the production of its annual report, with the possible exception in relation to the use of photographs. It has been recent practice to use a number of photographs from the ASC's own image library to demonstrate the diversity of our programs and client groups. This practice will be reviewed so as to minimise the use of photographs in future productions of the annual report. Minimal copies of the annual report are printed, with approximately half of those produced used for the purposes of tabling in Parliament. The majority of stakeholders access the document online from the ASC's website.

The ASC acknowledges that its most recent strategic plan (*The Australian Sports Commission Strategic Plan 2006-2009*) failed to meet all of the current printing standards, having been produced in full colour with relevant graphics and photographs to meet broader promotional requirements. This document is utilised widely within the sports industry as well as by other external stakeholders. The document is produced in-house utilising ASC-owned photographs and graphic designers. The ASC would seek an exemption from the Committee, if required, to enable continued production of this document in full colour.



Noting the terms of reference for the current inquiry, the ASC provides the following comments on issues raised in the Discussion Paper:

- the ASC supports the retention of the current standards in relation to the use of colour and illustrations, as amended on 30 March 2006;
- the ASC supports the underlying principle of value for money in the production of documents for the Parliamentary Papers Series;
- the ASC recommends that the use of electronic distribution of documents such as those produced for the Parliamentary Papers Series be actively encouraged across all portfolios and agencies; and
- the ASC does not support strong financial sanctions against agencies which fail to meet the published standards, rather favouring a system of exemptions and naming of non-compliant agencies in the Committee's fortnightly report.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. Should you require further information please contact the ASC's Director of Corporate Services, Ms Christine Magner, on 02 6214 1987.

Yours sincerely



Brent Espeland
Acting Chief Executive Officer

26 April 2007