

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-006

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Sports Funding

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig

Question:

- a) Can you confirm whether the present investment allocation (Australia's Winning Edge) will continue, if not why not?
- b) Should the Australia's Winning Edge continue, is it correct to interpret the sports categorisation 2013 to mean that Foundation, Perspective and Emerging sports will be funded only if they are related to achieving success at the Olympics, or Paralympics.
- c) If not, can you explain how the categorisation works for non-Olympic or Paralympic sports that are both on the list for investment allocation and those not on the list for the investment allocation but are listed as NSO?
- d) How do world championship sports activities that are not currently receiving any investment allocation achieve an allocation?
- e) What are the criteria used for 4 above?
- f) If not can you explain the methodology to achieve an investment allocation for a sporting body?
- g) Will the current investment allocation continue in its current form, if not why not?

Answer:

- a) The Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) Board makes decisions about investment allocations to national sports organisations from within its appropriation on an annual basis. Allocations for 2014-15 will be announced in the first half of 2014.
- b) Investment allocations are based on sports' potential contribution to *Australia's Winning Edge* targets:
 - Top 5 finish at the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games
 - Top 15 finish at the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games
 - 1st place country at the Commonwealth Games; and
 - At least 20 World Champions annually

- c) *Australia's Winning Edge* includes a Sport Categorisation Framework that accommodates both Olympic/Paralympic and non-Olympic/Paralympic sports. This Framework sets out performance criteria for each category. Each sport is assessed annually against these criteria. The performance criteria are:

AWE Category	Performance Criteria
Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-medal at two of the last three Olympic Games or multi-gold medal at two of the last three Paralympic Games; and • High probability to multi-medal at the Olympic Games or multi-gold medal at the Paralympic Games in the next two cycles. • Medal at two of the last three Olympic Games or gold medal at two of the last three Paralympic Games; and • High probability to medal at the Olympic Games or gold medal at the Paralympics Games in the next two cycles. • Culturally significant sports with gold medal at two of the last three Commonwealth Games or world championships (in events and disciplines recognised under <i>Australia's Winning Edge</i>); and • High probability to gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in the next two cycles.
Prospective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medal at one of the last two Olympic Games or gold medal at one of the last two Paralympic Games; and • Prospective medal at the next Olympic or Paralympic Games. • Gold medal in an Olympic or Paralympic discipline at a world championships (or equivalent) in the last four years; and • Prospective medal at the next Olympic or Paralympic Games.
Emerging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging profile with the probability of a top four to eight finish, and an outside medal chance, at the next Olympic Games; or prospective to medal at the next Paralympic Games.
National and/or Iconic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold medal at the Commonwealth Games or culturally significant sports with gold medal at world championships (in events and disciplines recognised under <i>Australia's Winning Edge</i>) in the past four years; and • Prospective gold medal at the Commonwealth Games or world championships in the next four years.
Support Australian Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports that receive investment from the Australian Sports Commission via Whole of Sport or Participation grants.

- d) In order to receive ASC investment, sports must make a performance case demonstrating their potential contribution to *Australia's Winning Edge* targets. This information is considered by the ASC board in making its annual investment allocations.
- e) The *Australia's Winning Edge* Investment Principles guide the Board's decision making process. The principles are:
1. The ASC's investment objective is podium-level results for Australians in international sporting competitions consistent with the targets set out in *Australia's Winning Edge*. Investment will be directly linked to a sport's ability to provide evidence of how it will contribute to the targets in *Australia's Winning Edge*.

2. ASC investment is dependent on sports, athletes, coaches and support personnel demonstrating the highest possible standards of integrity in sport, including anti-doping, that will enhance the reputation of Australia internationally and provide a positive example to all Australians.
 3. Sports must operate with high quality governance, administrative and financial practices that will give the ASC confidence that public funds will be spent effectively. The ASC expects sports to operate at best practice, taking account of an individual sport's particular circumstances.
 4. The ASC will only invest in sports that have best practice high performance plans in place with clearly agreed key performance indicators across a range of areas. Once agreed, sports will be accountable for achieving progress against milestones.
 5. Sports must co-invest in high performance and will be expected to grow their share of investment over time from other revenue sources such as commercial, philanthropic and sponsorship opportunities. The ASC will work closely with NSOs to assist in achieving progress.
 6. In making investment decisions, the ASC will consider the totality of a sport's funding position, including broadcast revenues and the efficiency with which funds are being spent.
 7. In making investment decisions for NSO high performance plans, the ASC will consider a sport's international competitive environment, including differences in competition opportunities, medals available, the differing needs of teams and individual athletes, depth of fields, and athlete pathways.
 8. ASC investment seeks to achieve sustained success aligned to *Australia's Winning Edge* targets. The ASC will invest over the long term where a sport can demonstrate a strong talent pipeline and a support structure to help athletes realise their potential.
- f) Investment decisions are based on potential contributions to *Australian Winning Edge* targets. The specific components of the decision making process are as follows:
- Sports submit a performance case outlining how they will contribute to targets.
 - Sports present their performance case and proposed targets for rigorous assessment by a panel of ASC, AIS, Australian Paralympic and State Institutes and Academies of Sport representatives;
 - An AIS Investment Group develops an investment allocation taking into account the Investment Principles and the information presented by sports;
 - The investment allocation is assessed, endorsed and approved by the ASC Board.
- There are three core variable inputs that affect individual sports' allocations:
1. high performance program requirements – (eg. the fixed cost of running programs);
 2. core athlete needs (eg. competition, daily training environment support); and
 3. sport-specific needs (eg. such as equipment and competition).
- g) See response to part a).