



The Honourable Michael Healy MP
Minister for Tourism and Sport

Our ref: CTS 12209/24

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Mr Dom Courtney
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Dear Mr Courtney

Thank you for your correspondence on 25 June 2024 submitting your State Election Position Statement.

In the first budget of the new Miles Government, we are doing what matters for Queensland, delivering the biggest cost of living relief in Queensland's history.

By making multinational mining companies pay their fair share, we are:

- Taking \$1,000 off every Queenslanders' power bill (with an additional \$300 off from the Albanese Government)
- Slashing all public transport fares to 50 cents from August 5
- Reducing rego bills by 20%
- Giving \$200 FairPlay vouchers to 200,000 Queensland families to help with the cost of kids' sport.

We are responding to the immediate pressures facing Queenslanders while also laying the foundations for a strong and secure future for our state by:

- Investing in our future through Free TAFE and Free Kindy
- Continuing our nation-leading Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, creating 100,000 new jobs and putting downward pressure on power prices
- Delivering stronger frontline services with record investments in our health and education systems and creating 70,000 jobs through our infrastructure Big Build
- Abolishing stamp duty for first home buyers purchasing homes worth up to \$700,000 and paying for it by increasing charges on foreign property investors

In respect of nature-based outdoor activities, the Miles Government has acquired over 779,000 hectares of land to expand protected areas since the release of the Protected Area Strategy, including through our record \$262.5 million investment, providing outstanding opportunities for a range of recreational activities.

In addition to this, as part of implementing our Native Timber Action Plan, 20,000 hectares of former state forests in the South-East Queensland Regional Plan Area where logging will cease is being transferred to range of protected area tenures, providing further recreational opportunities in our fastest growing region. The balance of state forests in the South-East Queensland Regional Plan Area, nearly 30,000 hectares in total, will also be available for expanded public use and recreation following the cessation of native timber harvesting at the end of 2024. This represents a significant opportunity for increased public access to these forests.

A further up to 60,000 hectares in the Eastern Hardwoods supply area will also be identified for transfer to protected area, increasing outdoor recreational and visitation opportunities across the broader southern part of the state.

In my portfolio responsibilities as the Minister for Tourism and Sport a significant focus for this Budget is to provide support for families to participate in sport or active recreation activities in light of the current cost of living pressures. I am pleased to advise the following funding for the 2024-25 financial year which may be of interest to you:

- \$60 million to expand the FairPlay vouchers program, making every Queenslanders from 5 to 17 years eligible for a voucher with up to 300,000 vouchers available, an increase from 50,000. The value of each voucher is also increasing from \$150 to up to \$200, to help reduce the cost of sports memberships, registration and participation fees for families at registered clubs across the state.
- An additional \$9.5 million is allocated under the Minor Infrastructure Program for shovel-ready community sport infrastructure.
- A further \$3 million for the successful Youth Development Partnership Fund aimed at improving youth crime prevention in association with the Queensland Police Service.
- The ActiveKIT program is receiving \$1.3 million to further support innovative solutions to increase physical activity opportunities for Queenslanders and contribute to system-wide capability improvement.
- The Active Clubs program will receive an extra \$1.9 million to continue the support of local and regional organisations to provide flexible and safe physical activity opportunities to increase sport and active recreation participation.
- An additional \$2.3 million for the Emerging Athlete Pathways program to support our talented young Queenslanders attending eligible state, national and international championships.

The Queensland Government is also committed to ensuring elite Queensland athletes in Olympic and Paralympic sport receive the support they need to shine on the world stage. A four-year investment of \$72 million will continue the delivery of the Queensland Academy of Sport's *2032 High Performance Strategy*, enabling the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) to retain more than 100 high-performance practitioners, and give over 500 QAS-supported athletes access to premium facilities and the latest in sports technology as we get closer to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Funding from this budget is on top of the \$811.9 million already invested in sport and active recreation infrastructure and programs since 2015.

This is a budget which relieves pressure now as well as creating opportunity and prosperity for the future.

I look forward to working with you to continue doing what matters for Queensland. Future funding commitments will be considered as policies are developed in the lead up to the election and we will provide a more detailed response in due course.

I have asked for my Chief of Staff Kate Adams to assist you with any further queries. You may wish to contact Ms Adams on 3719 7560 or by email at kate.adams@ministerial.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



MICHAEL HEALY MP
Minister for Tourism and Sport

25 July 2024