



To: The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck, Minister for Sport

cc: The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care

From: Craig Phillips AM, Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Games Australia

Subject: Pre-Budget Submission – FY22/23 Federal Budget

Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) welcomes the opportunity to provide this Pre-Budget Submission (“the Submission”) on behalf of its’ Member Sports (the Sports – see attached list) ahead of the Federal Government’s 2022/23 Budget.

INTRODUCTION

About CGA

CGA is a member-based organisation – our Members are the National Sports Organisations (NSOs) representing the sports participating in the next Commonwealth Games and those eligible to be included in future Commonwealth Games and our State Divisions.

CGA receives no Federal Government funding to support our teams or programs.

We introduce more people in more communities to the power of the Commonwealth Games and show a new generation how to get involved in the Commonwealth Games Movement.

Our community is broad and diverse and includes our Team athletes, coaches, support staff and volunteers, the CGA Board, committees and staff, member sporting organisations and different levels of government within Australian and overseas, as well as the high performance system, commercial and media partners.

We work in collaboration with other peak bodies and high-performance system partners such as Sport Australia (SA), the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), Paralympics Australia (PA), our Member NSOs, the National Institute Network, universities and schools, and of course, the 70 Commonwealth Games Associations of other nations and territories from across the Commonwealth.

CGA’s Strategic Plan 2019-2026 – First Among Equals

The purpose of CGA’s Strategic Plan is built around two key pillars:

1. Driving Success at Commonwealth Games

- To uphold our position as the leading sporting nation in the Commonwealth.
- To drive Australia’s successful participation in the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games (the Games).
- To work with our Member NSOs and sport system partners to:
 - provide excellent performance environments for our Games Teams; and
 - enhance Australia’s emerging talent pathways and support frameworks.

2. Creating opportunities for communities to connect and celebrate our achievements

- To ensure Australian communities can connect meaningfully with the Commonwealth Games and celebrate the achievements of our Team.
- To inspire and unite communities through a sense of national pride in the successes and achievements of Australia's Commonwealth Games Teams – in that unique way that only sport can.
- To maximise the ongoing benefits to Australian communities through the hosting of “home” Commonwealth Games.
- To raise the profile, value, reputation and sustainability of the Commonwealth Games Movement in Australia and internationally.

These pillars informed the structure of CGA's five (5) strategic priorities of:

1. Delivering Team Success;
2. Connecting with Communities;
3. Presenting a Powerful Brand;
4. Leading the Way; and
5. Hosting Great Games.

These new strategic priorities are built on the tremendous success of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

It should also be noted that under the Constitution of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), for Australia to host the Games, CGA, in conjunction with a prospective host, must present a bid to the CGF.

Once the CGF has awarded the hosting of the Games, CGA, along with the host, become jointly and severally responsible for the delivery of the Games.

Australia's proud history of hosting great Commonwealth Games

CGA (and its predecessor organisation the Australian Commonwealth Games Association) has a proud history of partnering with Governments to host great Games. From Sydney 1938 to Perth 1962, Brisbane 1982 to Melbourne 2006 and most recently Gold Coast 2018, Commonwealth Games hosted in Australia have consistently provided important legacy benefits to communities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Sport infrastructure development;
- Public domain and transport infrastructure;
- Construction of housing, including student, social and affordable housing;
- Economic activity and uplift;
- Vocational skills training and job creation;
- Trade and investment opportunities; and
- Boosts to tourism and the visit economy.

Australia has hosted the Commonwealth Games more than any other nation.

In recognising the important long term community benefits that are delivered through the Games, CGA has ambitions to continue to partner with Governments in Australia to host future Commonwealth Games.

The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games provide a particularly compelling example of the broader economic and social benefits than can be delivered by the Commonwealth Games.

2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games – Legacy Benefits

The 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games saw more than 6,600 athletes and officials from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories take part in 11 days of competition from 4 to 15 April 2018.

Key legacy benefits included:

- \$2.5 billion boost forecast to Queensland’s Gross State Product. This included a \$1.8 billion economic boost to the Gold Coast.
- Supporting more than 21,000 jobs on a yearly full-time equivalent basis.
- Approximately 82% of Games-wide contracts awarded to Queensland businesses, worth nearly \$1.7 billion.
- \$170 million in estimated annual boost to exports from Trade 2018 programme in the four years after the Games.
- \$41 million estimated annual boost to investment from Trade 2018 programme in the four years after the Games.
- \$725 million in transport infrastructure spending brought forward in time for Gold Coast 2018.
- 5% increase in sports participation in Queensland following Gold Coast 2018.
- \$300 million financial contribution from the Federal Government for Games operations, sports & related transport infrastructure.
- 1,300 apartments and townhouses built to rent as part of the Gold Coast’s new health and knowledge precinct – the Smith Collective.
- 250,000 additional hotel visitor nights before, during and after Gold Coast 2018 with a Games time occupancy of 88%.

SUBMISSION

This Submission will address three (3) key areas:

1. Birmingham 2022 (B2022) COVID-19 Contingency for CGA and Member NSOs;
2. Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Australia; and
3. 2026 Team Preparation Funding as part of the 10+10 green and gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

1. Birmingham 2022 (B2022) COVID-19 Contingency for CGA and Member NSOs.

In CGA’s joint Pre-Budget Submission for the FY21/22 Federal Budget with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), both organisations called for the establishment of a ‘Sport Performance Fund’ to cater for unexpected COVID-19 expenditures relating to quarantine costs.

It was extremely difficult for the AOC and CGA to estimate the likely quantum of quarantine costs at the time the FY21/22 Pre-Budget Submission was lodged due to the ever-changing domestic and international environment. That said, CGA compliments the AOC Games Operations team who were tremendously successful in minimising these costs and keeping the athletes safe, with no Australian athlete testing positive for COVID-19 while in Tokyo.

The costs that could not be absorbed related to quarantining the team on their return to Australia. These costs amounted to \$2.1 million and were ultimately met by the Federal Government. The Federal Government also provided \$3.5 million to Paralympics Australia for quarantine support.

CGA is seeking a comparable level of support for the Australian Team competing in Birmingham 2022 and for our Member NSOs as they prepare for the Games.

In light of the lessons learnt from Tokyo, CGA requests that the Federal Government establish a contingency fund in the FY22/23 Budget, which can be drawn on if required by NSOs and CGA.

Expenditure from the fund would focus on costs related to isolation and quarantining in the UK and Australia. It is not anticipated that this would relate to the whole team, just individuals who test positive. It should also extend to Australian Commonwealth Games NSOs in training camps in UK and elsewhere in Europe.

Based upon the experience of the Australian Olympic and Paralympic Teams in Tokyo, CGA anticipates the quantum of the fund should be in the order of \$1.5 million.

2. Games Time Services and Support from the Federal Government for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Australia.

In recent weeks, there has been considerable media speculation about the prospects of the 2026 Commonwealth Games being hosted in Australia.

CGA is not in a position to confirm exact details of this potentiality, but highlights that the attraction of home Commonwealth Games is a central component of CGA's Strategic Plan.

CGA also notes that the Federal Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck made strong supportive comments in late 2021 about the prospect of Australia hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games as part of a 'Master Plan' being developed by the Federal Government. The purpose of the 'Master Plan' being to maximise the green and gold runway of international sporting events being hosted in Australia in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Central to the hosting of such international sporting events is confirmation of the Federal Government's support to meet the costs of Federal Government services relating to the staging of major events, including: Visa Support, Border Security, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism, Customs and Quarantine.

Ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, the Federal Government provided the following assurances and support, which enabled the Games to be awarded:

- (a) Commitment letter (and attachments) dated 14 April 2011 from Senator the Hon Mark Arbib MP, Minister for Sport to the President, Commonwealth Games Federation – copy attached;
- (b) \$2.5 million allocation set out in the FY14/15 Federal Budget to support coordinated planning by key agencies for the operational phase of preparations for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games; and
- (c) Specific agency allocations from the FY17/18 Federal Budget - all marked 'NFP'.

In being mindful of critical timing issues relating to the consideration of the 2026 Commonwealth Games being hosted in Australia, as well the caretaker period ahead of the Federal Budget to be handed down on 29 March 2022, CGA is seeking a similar level of support from the Federal Government to that which was provided ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. CGA also has to be mindful of assessment deadlines imposed by the Commonwealth Games Federation in the assessment of any potential bid and the need for all necessary Government assurances to be in place by 15 March 2022.

At this stage, CGA would be appreciative if this support were to reflect as closely as possible items (a) and (b) listed above, with the Federal Government to determine whether the FY14/15 allocation of \$2.5 million for planning process is adequate in FY22/23 for an international sporting event to be hosted in Australia in 2026.

In addition and as the organisation responsible for Commonwealth Games hosted in Australia, CGA will also be seeking amendments to the *Major Sporting Events (Indicia and Images) Protection Act 2014 (Cth)* should Australia be confirmed as the host of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

3. 2026 Team Preparation Funding as part of the 10+10 green and gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

Consistent with the accepted dynamic that successful home Games are largely dependent upon the success of the host-nation's team, the Federal Government provided an additional \$15 million to the Australian Sports Commission in the FY17/18 Budget to support our athletes ahead of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

In noting the tremendous benefits that a 2026 Commonwealth Games would contribute to the green and gold runway leading to Brisbane 2032, CGA was particularly disappointed that the AIS funding allocations announced by Minister Colbeck on 22 December 2021 did not address funding support for Commonwealth Games outcomes in Olympic and Paralympic sports, which are also on the Commonwealth Games program.

Ahead of a home Games in 2026, CGA is seeking a correction in funding to our Member NSOs from 2022/23 in the order of \$10 million per annum to successfully prepare the Team.

CGA has also had the benefit and opportunity of reviewing the AOC's Pre-Budget Submission for FY22/23 and agrees with the observation made by the AOC in identifying a 2026 Commonwealth Games hosted in Australia as being a pivotal dress rehearsal for Brisbane 2032 and an early return on investment.

The 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games and the 2026 Commonwealth Games provide a perfect platform for our athletes to strive towards Australian Team selection and, for many, will be a steppingstone towards the Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, ahead of Brisbane 2032.

In this context, hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Australia also enhances the intergenerational opportunities identified in CGA's detailed joint submission with the AOC to the 2021 Intergenerational Report (IGR) ahead of the FY21/22 Federal Budget - ***Sport: Empowering Australia's Future (10+10)*** (the 10+10 Submission).

ENDS

For more information:

John Lamont
Manager, Government Relations
Commonwealth Games Australia
E: john.lamont@commonwealthgames.com.au
M: 0408 737 450

Sports

Archery Australia (Associate Member NSO)
Athletics Australia
AusCycling
Australian Weightlifting Federation
Badminton Australia
Basketball Australia
Bowls Australia
Boxing Australia
Cricket Australia
Diving Australia
Gymnastics Australia
Hockey Australia
Judo Australia
Netball Australia
Paralympics Australia (Para-Powerlifting)
Rugby Australia
Shooting Australia (Associate Member NSO)
Squash Australia
Swimming Australia
Table Tennis Australia
Triathlon Australia
Volleyball Australia
Wrestling Australia