

MEDIA RELEASE

Council confirms commitment to \$4.4 million expansion of Leisure Centre

The Port Lincoln Council on 19 September 2016 confirmed that it will proceed to secure Commonwealth Government funding of \$4.4 million for the expansion of the Leisure Centre, to deliver a major enhancement to the refurbishment of the Indoor Aquatic Facility that is already under way.

An application was submitted to the National Stronger Regions Fund in March 2016 seeking the project funding, which will effectively increase the scope and total capital expenditure on a re-badged Leisure Centre redevelopment to \$9.4 million. The funds will now be managed through the Community Development Grants program, having been committed by the Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey MP, during the 2016 Election campaign.

The investment of Council funds into the overall project will remain at \$5 million, with the \$4.4 million expansion fully funded by the Commonwealth Government's contribution.

Mayor Bruce Green said, "By improving the existing Leisure Centre facilities, adding new facilities and creating operating efficiencies - including environmental sustainability initiatives – the expanded project will support our regional liveability and create over 72 new full time equivalent jobs through its impact".

The proposed expanded project scope has been developed in consultation with numerous local sports stakeholders. In addition to the \$5 million refurbishment works already under way, the scope will include:

- Two new sports stadium courts;
- Three new squash and racquetball courts;
- New lift to upper level;
- Stadium change rooms and toilets upgrade and DDA compliance work;
- New water play elements to learners' pool beach entry;
- New playground to the courtyard adjacent the kiosk and party room; and
- Car parking and landscaping around the site.

"The expanded facilities will allow concurrent use by multiple sports and enable the existing users to grow their participation as more games can be held in one location" said Mayor Bruce Green.

"I look forward to the city hosting major sporting carnivals and regional competitions at the new facilities, as well as the increased use of the Leisure Centre by a variety of user groups all year round".



Timing of the expansion construction is to be confirmed following the completion of formal agreements with the Community Development Grants program, but will get under way as soon as possible, to maximise any opportunities for improving project value through synergies with the Indoor Aquatic Facility refurbishment.

Rob Donaldson
Chief Executive Officer

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