

20 March 2019

Committee Secretary Education, Employment and Small Business Committee Level 6, 400 George St BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir / Madam

I write on behalf of the Sports Federation of Queensland Inc. trading as QSport to express interest in the establishment by legislation of Health and Wellbeing Queensland (HWQ) as a health promotion agency.

I do so as Secretary and CEO of QSport and advise I also support in my role as Deputy Chair of the Queensland Fitness, Sport and Recreation Skills Alliance its submission for the Committee's consideration.

Further, I am the Secretary of Community Sport Australia Ltd and in that role, I am aware of how sport is involved in various activities in other State jurisdiction where similar health promotion agencies exist, viz. VicHealth in Victoria and Healthways in Western Australia.

Organised sport here in Queensland is supported largely by the State's sport and recreation agency and at local delivery level by local governments.

The development by State Sport Minister Mick de Brenni of a new Queensland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy for the next decade, which is due midyear, has me as CEO of the Queensland Government recognised industry peak body for the sport sector engaged, including as a member of his Ministerial Advisory Council.

The key point I would want to make to the Committee is that organised sport is a vehicle that can assist the delivery of HWQ functions.

Fundamentally, organised sport does improve the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders, has done for decades and will continue to into the future.

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With sporting organisations encouraged to look innovatively at new ways to assist government increase the level of physical activity (with attendant mental health benefits), the arrival of a HWQ that engages with sport and supports mutual beneficial outcomes should be a positive development, coming as it will with a new Sport and Active Recreation Strategy that has sport address whole of government priorities.

I will endeavour to attend the Committee's public hearing on 1 April and will make myself available if required to attend any other interface the Committee might require.

Any queries re the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My mobile is 041 8185 008 and email peter@gsport.org.au.

Yours faithfully

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PETER CUMMISKEY OAM Chief Executive Officer