



Speech by

Hon. Phil Reeves

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Hansard Tuesday, 24 November 2009

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

A1GP; 16th Annual First Contact Sports and Cultural Festival

Hon. PG REEVES (Mansfield—ALP) (Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport) (10.13 am): I wish to update the House on the progress of two independent reviews into the 2009 SuperGP. As the House is aware, the Auditor-General's review is focusing on the contractual arrangements in relation to the A1GP component of this year's SuperGP and the government's arrangements that were established to operate the event. The second review, by David Williams, will make recommendations on the future of this iconic Gold Coast motorsport festival.

Mr Williams has advised the Director-General of the Department of Communities that two of the objectives outlined in the terms of reference of his review would be more appropriately handled by the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General has agreed, and this will allow more scrutiny of the governance and the due diligence associated with the staging of the SuperGP and will avoid any duplication. I table the correspondence between the director-general and the Auditor-General on this matter.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 17 November 2009, from Director-General, Department of Communities to the Auditor-General regarding the review of the Gold Coast SuperGP event [[1459](#)].

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 18 November 2009, from the Auditor-General to the Director-General, Department of Communities regarding the review of the Gold Coast SuperGP event [[1460](#)].

This morning I would also like to inform the House that this weekend Brisbane will host the 16th annual First Contact Sports and Cultural Festival. More than 10,000 people, including Indigenous sports stars, from across Australia and New Zealand are expected to attend this popular two-day sports festival. Touch football teams from across Australia will compete alongside visiting Maori teams in a friendly, alcohol-free family environment. Rugby league stars including Steve Renouf, Sam Thaiday and Justin Hodges will also be on hand to show their support for this wonderful event.

The festival is widely recognised as one of the premier Indigenous sports and cultural events in Australia, with more than 1,600 players from 120 teams vying for \$30,000 in prizes as well as the title of top Indigenous touch football team. The festival is also a great forum to promote the benefits of physical activity and healthy living. That is why the Queensland government has provided funding for this festival for the past nine years. Most recently, in 2008 we signed a three-year \$190,000 sponsorship agreement. I encourage everyone to get down to Whites Hill Reserve near Coorparoo to enjoy the atmosphere, the culture and the fantastic sporting talents on display.