



Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Commonwealth Games Association Open Day

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (2.40 pm): Late last month I had the pleasure of meeting Commonwealth Games Association delegates on the Gold Coast. The delegates were here for a Commonwealth Games Association open day which was organised and delivered by the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation, the organising committee for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, better known as Goldoc. This event took place on the Gold Coast on 28 and 29 April and was an important part of our preparations for the games.

The Commonwealth Games Association open day is a new Commonwealth Games initiative implemented by Goldoc designed to help other Commonwealth countries understand the environment, infrastructure and opportunities of the host city. The Commonwealth Games Association participated in joint meetings and presentations from Goldoc's functional areas. The workshops and venue tours helped open dialogue on planning challenges and solutions. In total, eight Commonwealth Games Associations with 11 delegates from two regions, the Caribbean and Oceania, participated in the Commonwealth Games Association open day.

I am pleased to confirm and advise the House that the Commonwealth Games Associations were very happy with the progress and preparation for the games. In fact, many Commonwealth Games Associations expressed great interest in organising pre games training for their teams in Queensland in the lead-up to the April 2018 games. Pre games training camps bring a range of economic and social benefits to host communities, representing another great opportunity for the people of Queensland to benefit from the games.

The next Commonwealth Games Association open day will occur in April 2017 and we anticipate that the delegates will be able to visit completed venues and get a full picture of what the Gold Coast, Queensland and Australia will have to offer athletes, officials, tourists and delegates in 2018.