



Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

Hearing Date: 27 February 2024

Questions taken on notice

Directed to: Greater Shepparton City Council, Anthony Nicolaci

Received Date: 20 March 2024

1. **Melina BATH, page 60**

Question Asked:

Thank you. You mentioned – moving along in time – that you had an MOU. Can you provide us a copy of that draft MOU if that is possible?

Anthony NICOLACI: Yes. I am happy to follow that up. If these can be sent through, we can follow up that stuff.

Response:

Please find attached a draft Games City Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was developed prior to the cancellation of the Games. This was never executed and was only a first draft.

(Ref: 2023/34520)

2. **Melina BATH, page 60**

Question Asked:

Also your submission to the VAGO audit – if there is any information from that that you can provide to us, that would be great. I had lots of other questions, but I hear the buzzer.

Response:

The following includes the Funding agreement - 2030 Greater Victoria Commonwealth Games Bid Pre-Feasibility study document that was provided during the VAGO audit. Other information including the 2030 Greater Victoria Commonwealth Games Bid Pre-Feasibility Final report has been included in other responses within this Questions On Notice document.

Pre-feasibility study agreement

This agreement confirms all the specific amounts including a grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) and contributions from supporting regional councils.

(Ref: 2018/38481)

3. Michael GALEA, page 60

Question Asked:

You mentioned obviously that Shepparton is one of the cities that will still benefit from the council support package and the \$3 million that you identified. What are Greater Shepparton's priorities for that funding?

Anthony NICOLACI: There were some guidelines that came with that package, so we needed to adapt our projects to suit that to make sure that our projects submitted fit the guidelines. We submitted a number of different projects last week. I will try to remember them off the top of my head if I can. Initially, as I mentioned in my remarks, a sport and events centre is our main priority. But that is a \$30 million state contribution. We obviously know that \$3 million and \$30 million does not quite work, so we went back to the drawing board. The projects we submitted were some enhancements for our visitor economy, so some shared path network projects. We have also got some projects we have submitted around First Nations arts and culture to suit the demographic of our region. Obviously we have one of the most populated First Nations communities in regional Victoria. We have also submitted some projects for arts and culture around our multicultural community as the most diverse city in regional Victoria. There is a number of other projects to support accessibility within our sports precinct and major events venues to support more accessible event access for our events program. I am just trying to remember what else we have got on there. We can get that list for you.

Michael GALEA: Thank you. Happy to get that on notice, the rest of that. That is fine.

Response:

The following table outlines projects that Greater Shepparton City Council submitted under the Council Support Package. Please note we are currently working through this further to finalise the final list of projects to maximise benefits for the Greater Shepparton region.

Project Name	Amount
Sports City Precinct Major Event Enhancement Package: Walkability, Accessibility, Signage and Amenity Improvement	\$493,000

Yahna Gurtji Shared Path - Route 2 (Gemmill's Swamp Mooroopna to KidsTown Shepparton) Expansion	\$1,062,000
Dookie Youth Spot Activation Space	\$25,000
Shepparton Sports Stadium Accessibility, Inclusion and Amenity Project	\$100,000
Major Event Stock and Capacity Building Package	\$250,000
Small Town and CBD Streetscape Night Time Activation Project	\$270,000
Aboriginal Street Art Project	\$150,000
Multicultural Street Art Project	\$400,000
Business and Visitor Economy Major Events Booster Package	\$100,000
Greater Shepparton Elite Training Camps Programs	\$150,000
Total	\$3,000,000

4. **Rikkie-Lee TYRRELL, page 65**

Question Asked:

How much has Greater Shepparton City Council expended on the Commonwealth Games from early scoping works through to today? For example, we have heard from Geelong that they expended \$8 million. What is Greater Shepparton City Council's outlay?

Anthony NICOLACI: Ours would not be in that vicinity. It is not a figure that I have right to hand, but we can get that figure. But I would say it is more in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, more in resource staff time as opposed to any other detailed project deliveries or anything like that, just because the nature of what Shepparton was going to host was pop-up events as opposed to permanent events, so it is probably slightly different for other regions.

Rikkie-Lee TYRRELL: Thank you. Can we have that on notice when you have got the opportunity?

Response:

The following more broadly provides Greater Shepparton City Council's best estimates of costs to support a regional Commonwealth Games.

Staffing costs have been estimated for key staff across the organisation who have worked on the concept since 2017. This includes various support work from the CEO, Directors, Managers and Officers across a number of different departments in advocacy, planning, attending meetings and working groups etc. These indicative costings are broadly based on estimates of staff hours worked on the Commonwealth Games concept.

- 2017/2018 Concept Development estimated employee costs: \$57,747 (salary and oncosts)
- 2026 Commonwealth Games estimated employee costs (cost related to staffing once the event was announced in April 2022): \$104,553 (salary and oncosts)
- Additional other expenses (travel, food, plans, materials etc.): \$3,626

Total indicative estimated expenditure to \$165,926.

We also note that Council's Executive approved additional resources in July 2023 to support work on the Games but due to the cancellation of the Games these resources were never advertised or completed any work.

5. Additional Question from Dr Sarah MANSFIELD:

Question Asked:

Could you please provide the Committee with a copy of the April 2017 Regional Commonwealth Games concept for 2030 or 2034.

Response:

- Greater Shepparton City Council (the City) created the concept of a regional Commonwealth Games around 2016-2017. The City envisioned the Games would take place in 2030 or 2034.
- The City received funding managed by Sport Recreation Victoria for a pre-feasibility study. This funding was matched with a \$50,000 contribution from 14 regional councils including Greater Shepparton.
- This pre-feasibility study was completed in early 2020.
- A detailed full business case was to follow, but this work was not progressed nor did the City secure funding for it.

The 2030 Commonwealth Games Pre-feasibility Final report document is attached.

(REF 2019/53878)