

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Witness:	The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Committee Member:	Mr Danny O'Brien MP
Page/s of transcript:	3,12

Relevant text:

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Mr D O'BRIEN: Sure. Could I also ask: the government contributed to the 11 July game between GWS and Gold Coast at Ballarat last year for the AFL. How much did the government put into that?

Mr PAKULA: Pete has just indicated to me that there is a separate arrangement with the Western Bulldogs but there is also some support out of the Regional Events Fund which supports other events at Mars Stadium. We will get that to you.

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Mr D O'BRIEN: If you could. You did say at the time that the Andrews Labor government is bringing more AFL games, so I assume that means the government had an involvement. And I just note there were 2592 people at the ground on the day, so I am interested to know how much taxpayer support there was to get more people at Sale and Maffra. What about more broadly? There was a lot of chopping and changing throughout the year. Was there any other support provided to stage AFL games throughout the 2020–21 season?

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Mr PAKULA: I just wanted to indicate before you closed, since an earlier answer I have been advised that when Sydney was in lockdown and Melbourne was not in the middle part of last year there were some AFL games that would otherwise have been played in Sydney that were sent to regional Victoria and there was some support provided for that.

Mr D O'BRIEN: Can you tell us how much, Minister? That was the question.

Mr PAKULA: On notice.

ANSWER:

In the 2021 Australian Football League (AFL) season, four AFL games were supported through the Victorian Government's Regional Events Fund to take place in regional Victoria:

- Western Bulldogs vs Brisbane Lions at Mars Stadium (Ballarat) on 10 April 2021
- Western Bulldogs vs Adelaide Crows at Mars Stadium (Ballarat) on 31 July 2021
- Sydney Swans vs West Coast Eagles at Kardinia Park (Geelong), on 4 July 2021
- Gold Coast Suns vs Greater Western Sydney, at Mars Stadium (Ballarat) on 11 July 2021

The terms of the arrangements relating to these games are Commercial-in-Confidence. Revealing this information would be against the public interest as it would compromise the Victoria Government's future negotiations with the AFL, AFL Clubs and other sporting bodies.