



STEPH HODGINS-MAY

SENATOR FOR VICTORIA

10 September 2026

Dr Caralee McLiesh PSM
Auditor-General for Australia
Australian National Audit Office
GPO Box 707
Canberra ACT 2601

Via email: ag1@anao.gov.au

Dear Dr McLiesh,

URGENT: Major and Local Community Infrastructure Program

I refer to recent analysis by the Centre for Public Integrity and subsequent media reports in relation to the allocation of funding under the Major and Local Community Infrastructure Program.

The analysis raises concerns that a significant proportion of funding under the program was allocated to predominantly Labor-held electorates, while a large number of electorates were excluded from the program altogether. It also appears that funding was allocated through an invite-only process, rather than through an open, merit-based grants process.

These reports raise serious questions about the decision-making process used to determine which electorates and organisations were invited to participate, and the basis on which funding decisions were made.

We are particularly concerned about whether appropriate safeguards were in place to ensure that political or electoral considerations did not influence the allocation of public funds, and whether the program was administered in accordance with the principles of transparency, accountability and proper use of public resources.

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These concerns are particularly significant given reports that funding was allocated to a golf club in the Prime Minister's electorate, where the Prime Minister reportedly holds an honorary membership.

We therefore add our voice to those asking that you please investigate the decision-making process under this program, including the criteria and processes used to determine eligible electorates and recipients, and the conduct of any relevant parties in relation to this matter.

Given the serious questions raised about the allocation of public funds, we would appreciate your advice as a matter of urgency on whether the Australian National Audit Office will investigate these matters.

Kind regards,



Steph Hodgins-May
Senator for Victoria
Australian Greens spokesperson for democracy

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