

**Cathy McGowan AO MP**

Federal Member for Indi

Mr Grant Hehir  
Auditor-General  
Australian National Audit Office  
GPO Box 707  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Hehir

**Re: Politicisation of Community Sport Infrastructure Grants (Round two)**

I am writing on behalf of a constituent who has written to me about this matter.

Enclosed is a copy of correspondence to my office dated 13 March which expresses concern that recent Federal funding announcements related to round two of the Community Sport Infrastructure Grants program were made by the Minister, Senator Bridget McKenzie, accompanied by an unelected Nationals candidate, Mr Mark Byatt.

The constituent is appalled Federal funding announcements had bypassed the office of the sitting Federal Member for Indi. There are further concerns the lighting redevelopment project for the Wodonga Football & Sports Club at Martin Park, which received \$205,360 had become a first priority for Wodonga when it was not listed as such in the city's recreational master plan. The question is whether the selection of recipients and the management of announcements is politically motivated and timed, rather than announced on a transparent, competitive and fair process.

Could you please investigate my constituent's concerns and advise me of what action you can take? In particular can you please refer to the announcement of these grants, without due process and transparency, giving the appearance the government has used taxpayers' dollars for their own political purposes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cathy McGowan'.

Cathy McGowan AO MP  
**Independent Federal Member for Indi**

8 April 2019

Ref: CM81855/DT  
cc: Mr Brian Collins