


Australian Government
**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

To: The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (for decision)

Subject: Finalisation of commitments in the Investing in Our Communities and Priority Community Infrastructure Programs.

Action required by: Please action by 3 November 2023, if possible, to enable a response from the Prime Minister prior to 30 November 2023 when the programs close.

Recommendations:

1. s22(1)(a)(ii)

Agreed / Not Agreed

2. s22(1)(a)(ii)

Agreed / Not Agreed

3. That you **agree** to seek authority for the projects at **Attachment A** being delivered through other arrangements —proposed to be Federation Funding Agreements, as they are not able to be delivered within the parameters of the Priority Community Infrastructure Program.

Agreed / Not Agreed

4. That you **sign** the letter to the Prime Minister at **Attachment B** seeking authority for the proposed arrangements above and providing an update on the status of the programs.

Signed / Not Signed

The Hon Catherine King MP

Date:

Comments:

Key Points:

1. s22(1)(a)(ii) this briefing seeks your agreement to a number of actions to finalise the delivery arrangements for election commitments included in the Investing in Our Communities (IIOC) program and the Priority Community Infrastructure Program (PCIP).

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Complex PCIP projects unlikely to be delivered within current program parameters

6. The department has also identified through discussions with grantees a small number of larger, more complex projects in PCIP that are unlikely to be able to be delivered under the current parameters of PCIP (largely due to the project construction timelines continuing beyond the program appropriation period). Details of these projects are included at **Attachment A**.
7. To ensure the commitments can be delivered, it is recommended you seek authority from the Prime Minister for these projects to be delivered through an alternate mechanism —proposed to be through the Federation Funding Agreement arrangements, subject to discussion and

negotiation with the relevant State Ministers. This is reflected in the draft letter at **Attachment B**.

8. If you agree to this approach, authority will be required from the Prime Minister prior to 30 November 2023, when the PCIP program closes for applications. ^{s47C}

Financial impacts:

9. ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

10. ^{s47C}

Legal/Legislative impacts: Nil

Stakeholder Implications:

11. Resolution of these proposed changes will enable nominated organisations, including other portfolio agencies, to commence the relevant processes for delivery of these commitments.

Sensitivities

^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

Consultation:

13. ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}

The department and your Office have also had initial discussions with ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} regarding the potential options for delivery of the complex PCIP projects, on a no prejudice basis.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Projects unlikely to be delivered under PCIP

Attachment B: Letter to Prime Minister

MS23-004331

Cleared By: Clare Chapple
Position: First Assistant Secretary
Division: Regional Development and Local
Government
Ph: 02 s22(1)(a)(ii)
Mob: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cleared Date: 2 November 2023

Contact Officer: Katrina Kendall
Section: Major Projects and Governance
Branch
Mob: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Instructions for MPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser: s22(1)(a)(ii)

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, David Mackay, Clare Chapple, Katrina Kendall, s22(1)(a)(ii)

Projects recommended to be delivered through an alternate mechanism as they are unable to be delivered within the parameters of PCIP.

Election commitment	Nominated Organisation	Funding Commitment	Comments
s22(1)(a)(ii)			
Armstrong Creek Stadium	s22(1)(a)(ii)	\$6,000,000	<p>Commitment is to construct a sporting facility including highball, basketball, netball, badminton and volleyball.</p> <p>The facility was initially intended to serve as a venue for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.</p> <p>The s22(1)(a)(ii) has also committed to the project and has indicated its intention of proceeding with Games venues in regional Victoria, however the project planning may not be sufficiently progressed to meet the PCIP application close date of 30 November 2023.</p> <p>Informal discussion underway with s22(1)(a)(ii) to test willingness to deliver the project through an FFA if a solution under PCIP cannot be found.</p>



The Hon Catherine King MP

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
Member for Ballarat

Ref: MS23-004331

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

I am writing to you to seek your urgent agreement to a small number of actions to finalise the list of commitments within the Investing in Our Communities (IIOC) program and the Priority Community Infrastructure Program (PCIP). As both programs close to new applications on 30 November 2023, I would appreciate your consideration and agreement to the proposals in this letter as soon as possible, to ensure all of our election commitments can be delivered.


s22(1)(a)(ii)



Released under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

In addition, there are a small number of larger, more complex projects under PCIP where the commitments are unlikely to be able to be delivered under the current parameters of the program. For these commitments (outlined in Attachment A), I seek your authority to begin processes to deliver the projects through an alternate mechanism — likely to be through the Federation Funding Agreement arrangements, subject to discussion and negotiation with the relevant State Ministers.

s22(1)(a)(ii)



Should you agree to these proposals, my department will work with the Department of Finance, the Treasury, your department and relevant state government agencies to ensure the commitments can be delivered in a timely manner.

Yours sincerely

Catherine King MP

/ / 2023

Enc

Attachment A

Projects recommended to be delivered through an alternate mechanism as they are unable to be delivered within the parameters of PCIP.

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