



Minister for Tourism Industry Development and Innovation and Minister for Sport

Our ref: CTS 18892/21

Your ref: A756502

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3585/21 tabled in Parliament on 31 August 2021, in relation to a request for the establishment of a statue of Clare Polkinghorne at Suncorp Stadium.

Clare Polkinghorne has been an outstanding player for the Brisbane Roar and Matildas and her career continues in earnest with Swedish club Vittsjo GIK. Her contribution to the sport both here and overseas is deserving of recognition.

Decisions to immortalise Queensland's sporting greats are not taken lightly and any such decision requires enthusiastic public support as well as the input and endorsement of key stakeholders and funding partners. In the case of Ms Polkinghorne, it is noted she has not yet retired, a criteria generally seen as a prerequisite for the commissioning of a statue. On this basis, the installation of a statue can be given further consideration once Ms Polkinghorne has concluded her playing career, the project has the endorsement of the sport of football's governing body, and sufficient funding has been secured.

The Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence recently wrote to mayors across Queensland regarding the Government's ongoing work to address the representation of women and girls in Queensland memorials and monuments and to specifically draw their attention to upcoming funding opportunities available through the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG).

The Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) is Queensland's largest one-off grants program, distributing approximately \$59 million per year to Queensland communities. The program allocates funding of between \$500 and \$35 000 to projects delivered by eligible not-for-profit community groups. From next year, the GCBF will move to four funding rounds a year with one round accepting applications for grants of up to \$100 000. In 2022, applications for this larger grant round will close in February 2022.

Community groups can apply for any eligible items up to the larger funding limit as stipulated in the funding guidelines, including facility improvements such as statues, monuments or memorials.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

In accordance with Standing Order 31, I request that this letter be tabled today.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stirling".

STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP
**Minister for Tourism Industry Development
and Innovation and Minister for Sport**

17 September 2021