



For reply please quote: MN124164/MD32/ES

2 8 FEB 2007



**Queensland
Government**

**Premier of Queensland
and Minister for Trade**

Mr Ryan Ginard
4/11 Woodstock Avenue
TARINGA Q 4068

Dear Ryan

Thank you for your petition requesting that the Australian soccer team be brought to Queensland.

In order to support and encourage football in Queensland, the Queensland Government has provided one of the best dedicated football stadiums in the world, Suncorp Stadium.

The Football Federation of Australia (FFA) is the national body who manages the development of football in this country and, as such, it is their responsibility to organise matches within various Australian cities.

Queensland Events Corporation is not responsible for the allocation of cricket test matches and one-day matches to Queensland, the various levels of soccer matches, or for the international rugby league matches to Queensland such as the ANZAC test match or tri-nations series.

The national bodies accountable for the administration and development of sporting events across Australia recognise their responsibility to ensure that supporters of their code have access to international competition as part of the ongoing development of their sport.

Should the FFA decide to launch a bid for a major international event such as the World Cup, then the Queensland Events Corporation would be prepared to consider support along with the other States. This is consistent with the State Government's long term strategy of attracting major events to Queensland that can demonstrate their capacity to return significant economic benefits to the State.

Yours sincerely

**PETER BEATTIE MP
PREMIER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE**

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