



THE HON KATE ELLIS MP MINISTER FOR SPORT

MEDIA RELEASE

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Funding to improve Geelong region sports facilities

The Rudd Government today announced a \$390,000 funding boost to upgrade local sporting facilities in the Geelong region.

Visiting sports clubs with local members Richard Marles and Darren Cheeseman, the Minister for Sport, Kate Ellis said the Government was delivering on election commitments to encourage greater participation in sport and recreation.

“Investment in community sport and recreation is an investment in the health and wellbeing of the nation,” Ms Ellis said.

“Each of these grants will help to improve local facilities and make it easier for people to participate in local sports and recreational activities.”

The Corio Bay Rowing Club on the Barwon River will receive \$250,000 over two years to assist repairs and upgrades following a balcony collapse in 2006. The money will be used to extend the club’s social room and gym, render the building exterior, and improve toilet block amenities.

Mr Marles said the Corio Bay Rowing Club had been a much valued and successful Geelong sporting and social organisation since its formation in 1873. “The Government hopes this funding will provide many more decades of success for both the Club and the greater Geelong rowing community,” he said.

Quay Reserve, Torquay will receive \$50,000 to support the installation of six lighting towers. The Surf Coast Shire Council, the Victorian Government and the club will also contribute to the project.

The South Barwon Football Club at McDonalds Reserve, Belmont will also receive \$70,000 to improve lighting for the growing number of teams using the facilities.

The Rudd Government was also committing \$20,000 towards a feasibility study for the possible development of a soccer facility for the Geelong region.

Mr Cheeseman said the funding would help towards Corangamite’s aim to become Australia’s healthiest region.

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