



International Sporting Events – support for Paralympic sports

The Government will provide funding to the Australian Paralympic Committee to support Paralympic sports including preparing for and attending the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. This funding will contribute to meeting costs involved in preparing and sending the Australian Paralympic Team – one of the largest ever – to the Tokyo 2020 Games. It will provide a training environment for some of Australia's best Paralympic prospects, including wheelchair rugby, para-canoeing, swimming, cycling and rowing.

The Government will also fund the Essendon Football Club, in partnership with the Australian Paralympic Committee, to develop new facilities in the Community, Education and Events Centre in Tullamarine, Melbourne. This investment will further support development programs for Paralympic sports, people with disability, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes.

Why is this important?

Millions of Australians are touched directly by Paralympic sport every year – 96 per cent of people say they are inspired by the performances and achievements of Paralympic athletes, and 82 per cent say the Paralympics change negative perceptions to disability.

The Summer Paralympics is one of the largest sporting events in the world. At the Rio 2016 Games, 4,136 athletes competed in 22 sports for 528 medal events.

The Essendon Football Club and the Australian Paralympic Committee already have an established working relationship, sharing vital administration, training and recovery facilities in support of elite and aspiring athletes with a disability, and the new Community, Education and Events Centre will enable them to further increase this support and cooperation.

Who will benefit?

Paralympians will be supported and prepared for competition at the Tokyo 2020 Games.

Paralympic sports, people with a disability, and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander athletes will all have greater access to new development programs through the new facilities at the centre.

How much will this cost?

This will cost \$12 million from 2018–19 to 2020–21.