

25 October 2022

The Hon. Ros Spence Minister for Community Sport

By email: ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Minister Spence

Re: South-East Sports Hub

The South-East Sports Hub (SESH) represents a once in a generation opportunity to address the significant shortfall of football facilities within a key region of Victoria.

As the governing body for Football in Victoria, we are continually striving to deliver the best possible football experience for the community – with the current focus of providing suitable facilities for the significant growth in women and girls participation.

Further, with the Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand in 2023 this demand is set to increase exponentially and it is critical that infrastructure like the SESH is planned and built to ensure access to the sport of choice is available.

Enabling this project to be delivered will generate the following benefits for the community, the sport, region and state:

- The SESH will create approximately 70 hectares of new community recreation facilities in Bangholme (City of Greater Dandenong).
- The SESH has been master planned and designed to specifically address immediate and forecast needs for the region over the next 25+ years, particularly for the nearby municipalities of Dandenong, Kingston, and Frankston.
- SESH will deliver 11 physical football pitches (up to 33 equivalent pitches with lighting and synthetics), assisting FV to deliver infrastructure across the state to meet the needs of participants.
- SESH will assist Football Victoria in addressing its 2026 target of 420 new full-size pitches to meet the growing demand for football in Victoria.
- Once approved the first phase of development is <u>not reliant on any public funding</u> and will support the Government's economic stimulus and job-creation priorities.

Football is the largest participation sport in Australia and we have a captive audience of clubs and members in this region, which we will be encouraging to publicly advocate for this project.

We are seeking formal support from yourself and your colleagues to enable this project to be delivered for the community.

More information about the SESH and the broad community, social and environmental benefits of the project can be found at <code>(https://sesportshub.com.au/)</code> and we would welcome an opportunity to discuss this project further with you.

Kind regards

Kimon Taliadoros Chief Executive Officer