

Public Service Association of New South Wales
General Secretary: Anne Gardiner ♦ President: Sue Walsh
160 Clarence Street, Sydney
GPO Box 3365, Sydney NSW 2001

Telephone: 1300 772 679
Facsimile: 02 9262 1623
Internet: www.psa.asn.au
ABN: 83 717 214 309



In reply please quote: **ROS:ljm: A16/0672**

The Hon. Stuart Ayres, MP
Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events and Sport
Parliament of NSW
GPO Box 3541
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister,

Re: Privatisation of Sport and Recreation Centres

The Public Service Association of NSW (PSA) is writing to you out of concern for the future of Sport and Recreation Centres under the Office of Sport NSW (the Office). The Newcastle Herald article on 26 August 2016, states that "*the state government appears to be well advanced on plans to bring in private operators for at least 8 Sport and Recreation Centres across NSW*".

We understand that the Office now plans to go to Cabinet to seek approval to privatise centres. We also understand that the proposal now applies to eleven centres.

The PSA seeks all information regarding this proposal. We are strongly opposed to any privatisation of Sport and Recreation centres. We submit that there has been little consultation with the PSA about this. To our knowledge, no other stakeholders have been consulted with either.

Many groups in the community utilise the facilities and services of the Sport and Recreation Centres in NSW, including: schools, disability services, Family and Community Services and many other community groups. The Centres offer a cost effective program with highly qualified staff, who have the experience and capabilities to cater for and adapt specific programs to meet the needs of a variety of different clients and organisations.

They play an important part in the delivery of the Outdoor Education Curriculum for students across the state.

A move to privatise Sport and Recreation Centres will be detrimental to the job security and conditions of our members. The staff are hardworking, dedicated to serving their clients and proud of the service they provide.

We are urging you keep the Sport and Recreation Centres in the capable hands of the highly qualified staff in the Office of Sport.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Gardiner
General Secretary

31 August 2016