

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr Higgins to the Minister for Tourism and Culture:

**Sport and Recreation**

1. When can Territorians expect to see remedial works on Richardson Park commence given that the Government has committed \$2.9M to the project?
2. Will you release a plan of what the new Richardson Park will look like and whether Rugby League clubs will be able to use the new site?
3. What is the cost of asbestos removal from the Warren Park development site? Is this cost coming out of the \$25 million budget or is it a separate cost?
4. What is the cost to government over the life of the project to cover the cost of maintenance, power and water at the new Warren Park?
5. The urban and regional lights program appears to have a budget allocation of \$3.5 million dollars annually on an ongoing basis, is that correct? How many facilities does that equate to?
6. What sporting facilities have been upgraded this financial year in Alice Springs at a cost of \$6.2 million?

Answers

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*Question 1 has been answered by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics*

1. The community will be consulted on the future of Richardson Park, before works commence.

*Question 2 has been answered by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics*

2. All feedback will be considered in forming options for the future of the site. Rugby League is a key stakeholder and will be consulted directly, as will residents, the community, and the Ludmilla Primary School.

3. The cost of managing asbestos at Warren Park to date is \$889 340, with the cost being met through the existing \$25 million budget appropriation. A majority of the material containing asbestos, which has been assessed as low grade, will not be removed from site but managed in consultation with the Environment Protection Authority, through containment in a bury pit in an appropriate location onsite.
4. Assuming that the question refers to the life of the lease, not the project construction phase, then it is anticipated there will be a recurrent cost to the Northern Territory Government of approximately \$500 000 per year. This includes grounds maintenance, offsetting of some utilities, and repairs and maintenance. NRLNT will be responsible for their costs such as cleaning, staffing and general costs associated with the facility.
5. \$7 million has been committed in 2017-18 and 2018-19 to light up ovals in urban and regional areas. The number of facilities to be lit up through this initiative is subject to final project costings being developed for each project. To date, confirmed commitments include:
  - \$3.5 million to the City of Darwin, Gardens Oval 1, Nightcliff and Bagot Ovals;
  - \$0.6 million to the Alice Springs Town Council for Albrecht Oval; and
  - \$0.5 million to upgrade lights at the Marrara Hockey complex.
6. The NT Government is investing \$6.2 million to upgrade community sporting infrastructure in Alice Springs, based on priorities identified by the community. The investment has been provided to Alice Springs Town Council as a capital grant. The approved projects include:
  - \$0.6 million to resurface the hockey pitch at Traegar Park. Works completed in June 2018;
  - \$1 million to construct new change rooms and canteen facilities at Ross Park (Tender to be awarded soon);
  - \$1 million to construct new change rooms and canteen facilities at Jim McConville Oval (Tender to be awarded soon);
  - \$1 million for storage and canteen facilities at Flynn Drive Oval (Tender to be awarded soon);
  - \$0.3 million for the upgrade of the track and field facilities at Rhonda Diano Oval (Scoping and planning to get underway);
  - \$0.54 million for the installation of evaporative cooler fans at the Alice Springs Basketball Centre (Scope of works being developed and tender to be released soon);
  - \$1 million for additional change room and facilities at Albrecht Oval; and (Tender to be awarded soon)
  - \$0.76 million for project contingency.