

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

The 2014-15 ACT Budget is investing more than \$13 million in new initiatives to help Canberrans live healthier and more active lifestyles. Chief Minister Katy Gallagher, Treasurer Andrew Barr and Minister for Territory and Municipal Services Shane Rattenbury announced today.

Sport and recreation play a vital role in keeping people fit, active and healthy and overall the ACT Government is spending \$53.9 million in new and ongoing funding for our high quality sport and recreation facilities, programs and services.

*Towards Zero Growth* sets out the ambitious goal of zero growth in obesity within the ACT focused on strategies that make active and healthy lifestyle choices easier. The 2014-15 ACT Budget delivers a range of initiatives aimed at ensuring Canberrans are as healthy and active as possible.

### Healthy and active

- **Healthy weight action plan**

\$3.6 million is being invested over the next four years to achieve a 'zero growth' target in the rate of obesity and numbers of people overweight in our community. A range of programs will assist to reduce the burden on our health services and make active and healthy lifestyle choices easier.

- **Walking and cycling network**

\$4.8 million over the next two years is allocated to improving and expanding walking and cycling infrastructure. This funding will deliver improved connectivity to public transport and schools and help achieve a number of targets under the Transport for Canberra Plan and the Healthy Weight Initiative, including the Ride or Walk to School Program. The funding will also provide for design and construction of local cycling and walking links, accessibility audits in one south and one north Canberra suburb and delivery of new separated cycling infrastructure.

### Sport and Recreation

- **Lyneham Sports Precinct – stage 4 tennis facility enhancement**

Funding of \$3.0 million over the next two years will support the final stage construction of the Tennis ACT facility including a four court indoor tennis centre and junior courts. This investment will leverage a range of additional Tennis Australia events to activate this important regional tennis facility.

- **Increased sports grants – asset repair and maintenance scheme**

Provision of \$500,000 in extra funding for the Sport and Recreation Grants Program will continue to support community sporting organisations undertake repairs and maintenance to facilities that they own, manage or lease.

- **Sportsground irrigation**

An additional \$500,000 will supplement the existing appropriation for the water costs associated with irrigating ACT Government sportsgrounds to ensure that the quality of sportsgrounds in the Territory is maintained.

- **Tuggeranong Lakeside Leisure Centre – water play park**

\$600,000 has been allocated for the design and preliminary work on a children’s water play park within the Lakeside Leisure Centre, similar to areas enjoyed by patrons of Dickson Pool and the Gungahlin Leisure Centre.

- **Active Kids Challenge**

Funding of \$330,000 over the next three years for the Active Kids Challenge will help reduce the impact of childhood inactivity and promote healthy lifestyle habits to primary school children.