



**The Hon Anika Wells MP**  
**Minister for Aged Care**  
**Minister for Sport**  
**Member for Lilley**

Ref No: MS23-001630

Mr David Sharpe APM OAM  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sport Integrity Australia  
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Dear Mr Sharpe *David,*

I am pleased to issue a Statement of Expectations to outline the Australian Government's policies and priorities, and my performance expectations, of Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) over the next 12 months, in line with the Department of Finance's *Regulator Performance (Resource Management Guide 128)* and good governance practice.

The Statement reflects the Albanese Labor Government's commitment to strengthening oversight, accountability and transparency in Australia's public institutions, as well as effective governance and performance of regulatory functions, which is guided by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

I would appreciate your response to this letter in the form of a Statement of Intent, outlining how SIA proposes to meet these expectations. In the interest of public accountability, both statements will be published on the Department of Health and Aged Care's website, and I ask that they also be placed on SIA's website.

I look forward to receiving your response and working with you to protect the integrity of Australian sport and the health and welfare of those who participate in sport.

Yours sincerely

Anika Wells

*29* November 2023

Encl (1) Statement of Expectations, Sport Integrity Australia

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA**

### **VISION**

Sport and physical activity are important to Australians because it brings people together to build stronger communities and healthier citizens.

The Australian Government is investing in sport, from the grassroots through to the elite level, to help build a healthier nation and economy. The Government is committed to driving structural change in the sport sector to support gender equity and increase opportunities for girls and women to participate, lead and excel in sport.

Sport has the power and the platform to promote and help achieve a wide range of Government policy priorities including community sport participation, preventive health, social inclusion, high performance success, international and regional engagement (particularly in the Pacific), economic recovery, trade and tourism.

During the 'green and gold decade' Australia will host a series of top-tier international sporting events leading up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This provides a great opportunity to deliver impactful growth in sport participation, enable our top athletes to achieve podium success and create broader socio-economic benefits.

Australia is a leading nation in addressing integrity threats to sport. The Government recognises ongoing effort is necessary to achieve cultural change in sport to address abuse, racism, bullying, intimidation and harassment, from grassroots through to the elite level.

The Government is committed to developing and implementing systems that protect the integrity of sport, provide confidence that Australian sport is fair, safe, inclusive and enhance our international reputation.

### **ROLE OF SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA**

The agency was established in 2020 following the Review of Australia's Sports Integrity Arrangements (the Wood Review) to draw together and develop existing sport integrity capabilities, knowledge and expertise and to coordinate the national sport integrity threat response.

The Government recognises the role and functions of the agency as they relate to sport integrity policy and program delivery; monitoring, intelligence and investigations; and regulation as set out in the *Sport Integrity Australia Act 2020*, the *Sport Integrity Australia Regulations 2020* and the National Anti-Doping Scheme.

The Government supports your strategic objectives to:

- achieve fair and honest sporting performances and outcomes;
- promote positive conduct by athletes, administrators, officials and supporters;
- achieve a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment; and
- enhance the reputation and standing of sporting contests and of sport overall.

Sport Integrity Australia provides a single point of contact for athletes, sporting organisations, law enforcement bodies and other stakeholders for matters relating to sports integrity.

I expect you to progress a program of work with the sport sector and key stakeholders to protect Australian sport from threats including:

- the use of prohibited substances and methods in sport;
- the abuse of children and other people in a sporting environment;
- the manipulation of sporting competitions; and
- bullying, abuse, intimidation, discrimination or harassment in a sporting environment.

## **PRIORITIES**

### *Safe and inclusive sport*

Sport has an important role in Australian society to promote and uphold inclusion, equality and fairness. Sport should always be safe for participants and supporters, particularly children and other vulnerable population groups.

The Government is committed to protecting sporting participants from discrimination based on race, culture, sexual and gender identity as well as abuse and mistreatment across all levels of Australian sport.

The Government is taking strong action to ensure sporting participants are protected. The establishment of the Safety in Sport initiative within the agency, along with an expanded complaints hotline, provides an avenue to listen to participants about their experiences and to receive reporting of wider racial and cultural issues in sport.

I will be looking for your advice on the operation of these expanded services and how they are being used to support cultural change in sport. I also ask that reporting systems inform Government policies, including prevention and creation of safe sport for young people and athletes on the path to elite status.

### *National Integrity Framework*

I acknowledge the work undertaken to develop the National Integrity Framework (the Framework), comprising integrity policies setting out behaviours that have no place in sport such as racism, bullying, harassment and abuse. I expect you to continue working with sporting organisations on the adoption and implementation of the Framework in line with legislation.

### *Anti-doping*

As Australia's national anti-doping organisation, I expect Sport Integrity Australia to implement the World Anti-Doping Code and deliver a comprehensive anti-doping program to protect the health of Australian athletes and the integrity of sport. I note the challenges posed by changes in doping methodologies and acknowledge your focus on continuous improvement, supporting the athlete voice and finding creative ways to engage with the Australian sporting community.

### *Macolin Convention*

I expect you to continue developing work toward ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Macolin Convention). This treaty will support Australia's work to develop an effective national platform to address competition manipulation and corruption in sport. I also expect Sport Integrity Australia to continue to address threats posed by competition manipulation and corruption in sport, including unregulated wagering.

### *Australian sports gambling integrity*

Australian sport is at an increased risk of competition manipulation and sports betting related corruption. I expect you to continue working with Sports Controlling Bodies, Wagering Service Providers and State and Territory governments to develop a streamlined operating framework for sports wagering that prioritises sport integrity outcomes.

### *Regulatory functions*

The Government expects Sport Integrity Australia to operate under the best practice principles as described in the Department of Finance's *Regulator Performance (Resource Management Guide 128)*. I expect you to incorporate regulator performance reporting into the entity's reporting processes, as required under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*.

The Regulatory Reform Agenda is a key component of the Government's plan to boost productivity through reducing unnecessary or duplicative regulatory costs. Cooperating with the states, territories, other Commonwealth agencies and working with international partners can identify opportunities to improve the quality of regulation and lower the cost of living for Australians. I expect you to contribute to this Regulatory Reform Agenda.

### *International and regional engagement*

I recognise Sport Integrity Australia's international standing and I support you to drive continuous improvement to protect sports. I expect the agency to continue in its international and regional engagement responsibilities as they relate to anti-doping, international fora on competition manipulation and proposed obligations under the Macolin Convention.

I would also ask you to continue working with both the Department of Health and Aged Care, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide input on sport integrity policy and activities under the Government's sports diplomacy strategy and programs.

## **ORGANISATIONAL GOVERNANCE**

I value your leadership of Sport Integrity Australia in performing the Chief Executive Officer functions set out in the *Sport Integrity Australia Act 2020* and the National Anti-Doping Scheme. I recognise the important role of the Sport Integrity Australia Advisory Council and the Australian Sports Drug Medical Advisory Committee in delivering their legislated functions, including provision of strategic and expert advice.

The Government expects Sport Integrity Australia to be a responsible employer with a positive work culture, in accordance with the Public Service Code of Conduct and the *Public Service Act 1999*. I ask that you continue to engage in the Government's Australian Public Service Reform agenda to build a stronger APS that delivers better outcomes for the community, acts as a model employer and contributes to a fairer and more inclusive Australia.

The Government appropriated \$49.514 million to Sport Integrity Australia in the 2023-24 Budget. The Government expects you to exercise prudence in financial management in the context of your legislative framework and the requirements of the PGPA Act. I expect you to work collaboratively with the Department of Health and Aged Care to develop proposals for Budget processes that address Government priorities.

## **ADVICE TO GOVERNMENT**

I expect Sport Integrity Australia, along with other agencies, to work collaboratively to leverage effort and resources, problem solve and provide proactive, strategic and coordinated advice to Government. I expect you to have processes for addressing critical issues in a timely, responsive and integrated manner.

The Department of Health and Aged Care is leading the development of an overarching sports strategy to replace the outdated Sport 2030 plan, along with a strategic framework for Government involvement in staging major sporting events. As a non-corporate Commonwealth entity in the Department of Health and Aged Care portfolio, I expect Sport Integrity Australia to collaborate on these projects and work closely with the Secretary of the Department and the executive team to provide the Government with policy advice.

Finally, I look forward to meetings with your leadership and other sport entities to discuss strategic direction in what is a defining period for Australian sport.

*Issued by:*

The Hon Anika Wells MP

Minister for Sport

November 2023