Minister Welcomes Independent Sport Panel Report

Sport Minister Karl Hampton today welcomed the release of *The Future of Australian Sport* from the Rudd Government’s Independent Sport Panel.

“Territorians love their sport and today I welcome the findings of the Independent Sport Panel,” Mr Hampton said.

“I met with the Independent Sport Panel last year where I promoted the Territory’s passion for sport and the need to provide access to those in remote and regional areas.

“The Territory Government is already working on an integrated sport and active recreation policy to benefit all Territorians.

“Our policy will provide a framework for future planning, identifying priorities for the community and provide the basis for the Territory Government’s strategic direction in sport and recreation.

“It will also maximise government investment in sport and active recreation programs and facilities, as well as align with other priorities such as improving physical health and wellbeing.

“As the policy continues to undergo its development I will look at how it can incorporate some of the key findings of *The Future of Australian Sport*.

“One of the key recommendations from the Independent Sport Panel is measures aimed at increasing participation levels and reducing the cost of participating in sport.

“The Territory has the equal second highest participation per capita in sport and recreation activities and we will continue to deliver more facilities, infrastructure upgrades and major sporting events to encourage Territorians to be more active.

“Sport and recreation activities deliver major health benefits throughout the community and will play a particularly strong role in Closing the Gap in Indigenous disadvantage.”

Go to [www.sportpanel.org.au](http://www.sportpanel.org.au) to obtain the full report.