

The Secretary
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
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A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
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13 May 2015

Dear Mr Smyth,

Re: Inquiry into elements impacting on the future of the ACT Clubs Sector

On behalf of **Karinya House Home For Mothers & Babies Incorporated** I wish to comment on the Inquiry mentioned above.

The **Canberra Southern Cross Club** has been a great supporter of our organisation since a Trust was established to inaugurate Karinya House in 1993. The support of the Club at that time was a critical factor in promoting and financially assisting our fundraising endeavours, for the Karinya House Trust. The Trust raised the \$250,000 seed funding that was required to found our Incorporated Association and open Karinya House in 1997.

The Club has since supported Karinya House in many ways, including waiving venue hire fees for our Management Committee, Annual General Meetings and our largest annual fundraising event, the Mother's Day Ball. The Canberra Southern Cross Club is therefore acknowledged as a major corporate sponsor of our Mother's Day Ball each year.

Further, the Canberra Southern Cross Club co-funds a Caseworker position (0.50FTE) at Karinya House. This position is essential to our service delivery and has been co-funded by the Snow Foundation for the past 9 years to the value of around \$30,000 per annum. As costs have increased, we do intend to ask for the annual sponsorship amount to increase to \$40,000 to fund this position into 2015/2016. We are meeting with the Club's Board of Directors next week to discuss their ongoing commitment to funding this position and their support in assisting with our transition to Karinya House's new purpose built facility next week.

It would be difficult to put a figure on the in-kind support the Club has given us through promotion, one-off donations and the costs they have covered on our behalf for other events.

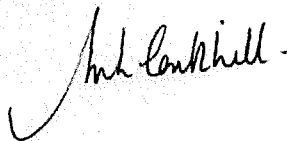
Without this partnership with the Canberra Southern Cross Club, Karinya House would simply not be able to provide the full extent of services we currently provide to the Community. Corporate sponsors at this level are extremely hard to secure in a competitive market for the philanthropic dollar.

To find a replacement sponsor in the amount of \$40,000 per annum, plus invaluable in-kind support, would be extremely difficult, if not impossible.

The assistance provided by Clubs sector in the ACT is reflected through our partnership with the Canberra Southern Cross Club and this is something that can only be maintained by the Club if they are able to remain a viable community asset.

We trust that your Committee will see the invaluable role that Clubs do play in our community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Marie-Louise Corkhill', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marie-Louise Corkhill
Director