

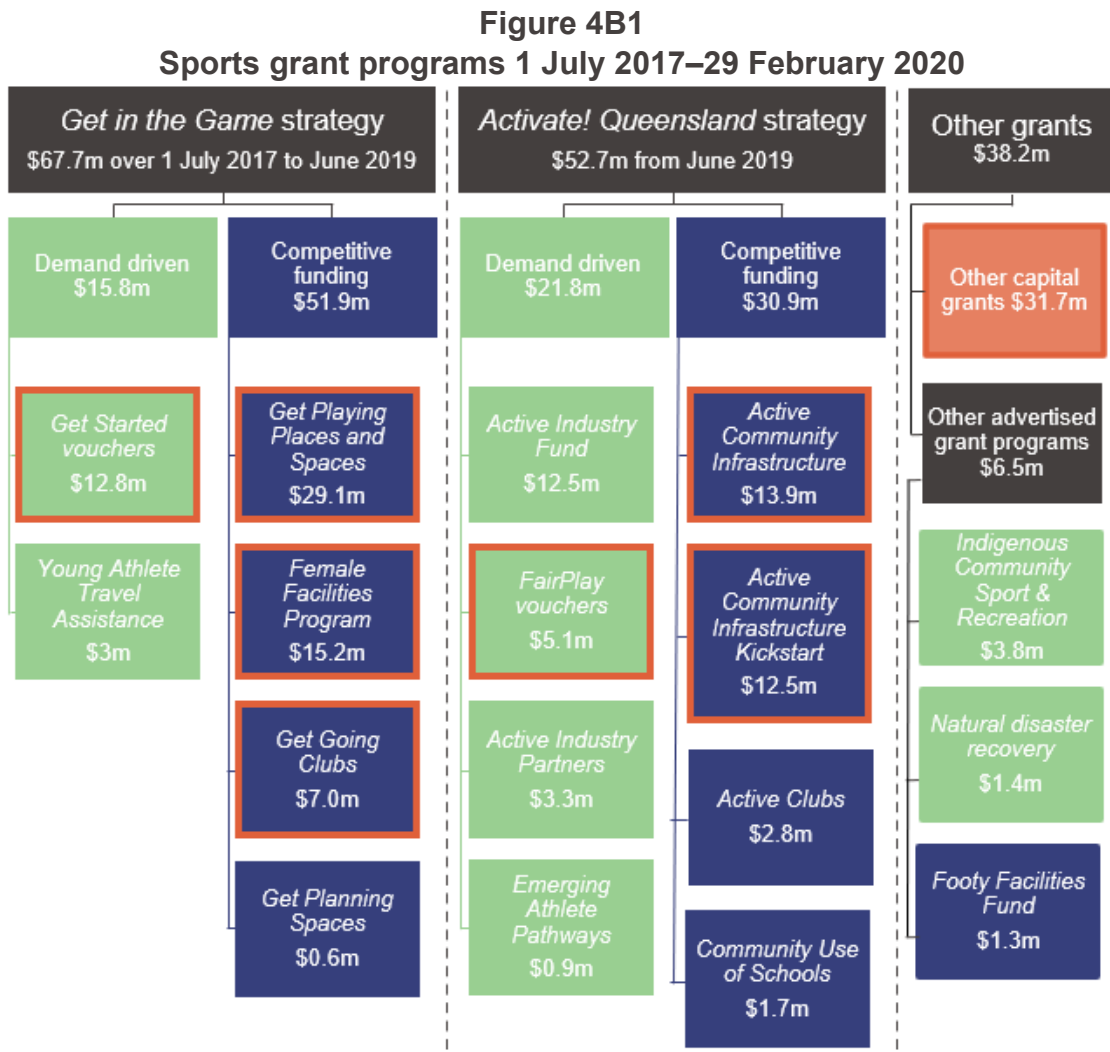
B. Sports grants by strategy

During the period from 1 July 2017–29 February 2020, sports grants were delivered under two strategies—*Get in the Game* and *Activate! Queensland*.

The department awards funding in two ways:

- It awards demand driven funding to applicants who meet eligibility criteria. There is no subjectivity in assessing these grants, or opportunity to exercise discretion.
- It awards competitive funding, largely for infrastructure projects, to eligible applicants who best satisfy the grant criteria, within the approved budget.

Figure 4B1 shows the different programs under both strategies, classified as demand driven or competitive funding, as well as other grants delivered outside these strategies. The values included in Figure 4B1 represent those grants awarded, but not necessarily paid, during the period.



Note: The eight programs outlined in orange were included in our analysis for this information brief, although not all have been commented on specifically within the report. We chose these programs because they were higher value and provided examples of different strategies and grant types.

Source: Queensland Audit Office.

In addition to the programs in Figure 4B1, election commitments of \$38 million made by the Australian Labor Party when campaigning for the 2017 state election were delivered through sports grants over the following three years. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet publishes election commitments made by the government and their status.

Grants administered by the department, including grants paid to Stadiums Queensland or on behalf of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority for disaster recovery, have not been included in this report. The department is responsible for payment but not for assessment or management of these grants.

Figure 4B2 provides a description of the eight programs analysed for this report.

Figure 4B2
Description of sports grant programs analysed for this report

Grant program	Grant description
Competitive grants	
<i>Get Playing Places and Spaces—rounds 6 and 7</i>	<p>This program aimed to assist local sport and recreation organisations with the development of places and spaces, so Queenslanders would be encouraged to become involved in sport and active recreation.</p> <p>Eligible organisations could apply for funding of up to \$150,000 over an 18-month construction period. The program also required a minimum applicant contribution to the project of 20 per cent.</p>
<i>Female Facilities Program—round 1</i>	<p>This program aimed to develop functional and inclusive female change rooms and amenities, with grants of up to \$500,000.</p>
<i>Get Going Clubs—rounds 6 and 7</i>	<p>This program supported local and regional sport and active recreation organisations by improving club capabilities to better deliver activities in Queensland communities.</p> <p>Eligible organisations could apply for funding of up to \$7,500. An organisation could request any combination of education, training, and participation equipment.</p>
<i>Active Community Infrastructure—round 1</i>	<p>This program aims to provide infrastructure to communities that need it the most, focusing on community collaboration, supporting diverse and inclusive needs, and encouraging active Queenslanders. Grants were awarded up to \$1 million.</p>
<i>Active Community Infrastructure KickStart</i>	<p>This program was used to launch the <i>Activate! Queensland</i> strategy.</p> <p>Rather than opening a new application process, the department largely relied on existing eligible applications that had not been funded under previous grant rounds, including from the <i>Get Playing Places and Spaces</i> and <i>Female Facilities Program</i>.</p>

Grant program	Grant description
Demand driven grants	
<p><i>FairPlay vouchers</i> <i>Get Started vouchers</i> (renamed to <i>FairPlay vouchers</i>)</p>	<p>This program provides parents, carers, or guardians with vouchers redeemable up to \$150 to go towards sport and recreation memberships for children aged between 5 and 17 years.</p>
Grants provided outside an advertised program	
<p>Other capital grants</p>	<p>These are targeted grants for developing community infrastructure. Typically, there is no competitive assessment process involved.</p> <p>Nine capital grants valued at \$32 million were awarded by the government outside of a demand driven or competitive assessment process. Three provided funding to match contributions from other levels of government or sporting organisations for significant projects (three grants worth \$29 million).</p> <p>The largest awarded amount of \$15 million is for the construction of a new stadium and training facility for the Brisbane Lions AFL club. The new facility is under construction in the suburb of Springfield and the new stadium will be the home of women’s AFL matches in Brisbane. At a total cost of \$70 million, it is jointly funded by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Queensland Government (\$15 million) • the Australian Government (\$15 million) • Ipswich City Council (\$12 million) • the Brisbane Lions and AFL (\$10 million) • a privately owned development company (\$18 million).

Source: Queensland Audit Office.

