



## PCYC NSW Acquires Dubbo Sports World

PCYC NSW has purchased Dubbo Sports World to ensure the continued provision of vital recreation services and community programs in Dubbo and western NSW.

The decision was taken by PCYC NSW amidst uncertainty around the future of the Dubbo Sports Hub after Government withdrew \$33M in promised funding.

PCYC NSW CEO, Ben Hobby said, "We remain deeply committed to supporting the communities and young people of Dubbo and western NSW. We share in the disappointment of regional residents upon learning funding for the long-awaited Dubbo Sports Hub had been withdrawn by the Government.

"We know how critical this infrastructure is to the Dubbo community, who need and deserve a sporting facility to enable access to recreation activities and youth programs that could change lives for the better. It is because of this that we have acted immediately and invested in the Dubbo community and their rising generation."

Mayor of Dubbo Clr Josh Black commended the youth charity on this purchase and is calling on the Government to recommit the funding promised.

"I congratulate the PCYC on this smart purchase and on their vision. This won't be the longpromised Sports Hub, and I am still calling on the NSW Government to commit to funding and delivering that important project.

"Communities and sporting bodies right across NSW have called for this strategic investment in infrastructure to provide programs for vulnerable youth and to support high performance pathways for our sporting stars of the future.

"This is an equity issue. Postcode shouldn't dictate opportunity. We want to see the NSW Government invest in the future of regional communities, not just our metro counterparts, and there is still the opportunity for the government to fund and build the Sports Hub.

"This move by the PCYC shows their dedication to regional youth and western NSW and we want to see that same dedication from our Government – we are calling on the NSW Government to recommit the funding they promised to deliver important outcomes for our communities," said Clr Black.

Dubbo Sports World will continue to offer its current sport and recreation activities and, in the future, PCYC NSW will further expand and enhance this offering, alongside providing a safe space to deliver PCYC's valuable youth wellbeing and leadership programs.

PCYC NSW already operates a Club in Dubbo and is making a positive difference in the lives of young people who attend through the programs offered there.

PCYC NSW, CEO, Mr Hobby said the youth charity is excited to increase their social impact in the region, "As many of the community know we already operate a Club in Dubbo and we're making a positive difference in the lives of young people who attend through our youth programs offered there.

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"In 2024 the PCYC Dubbo Club delivered Fit for Life to more than 60 young people in Dubbo, with attendances hitting more than 500 by the end of the year – Fit for Life is an early morning intervention program engaging at-risk young people to improve their wellbeing by developing healthy habits and building their resilience.

"With two clubs now in Dubbo, PCYC can further strengthen our work with the Police and the community to deliver more programs like this that help build skills and agency in young people and reduce and prevent crime by and against young people."

Greg King, former owner of Dubbo Sports World said, "I have received generous support from the community for more than 20 years, so thank you.

"I am pleased that PCYC is making the commitment to our town and its youth. A commitment which will certainly provide a brighter future for our greater community".

The change in ownership to PCYC Sports World Dubbo will not impact the sports and recreation activities currently offered at the site, including Inflatable World and sport competitions.

## About PCYC NSW

PCYC NSW is a registered charity, whose mission is to empower young people to reach their potential through Police and community partnerships.

With over 60 clubs across the state, PCYC provides quality activities and programs in a safe, fun and friendly environment. Our aim is to engage with, and positively influence our 70,000+ youth members through mainstream sport, recreation, education, leadership and cultural programs.

In addition, we work with at-risk youth to break the cycle of disadvantage through crime prevention, vocational education, youth capacity building and social responsibility programs to change the life outcomes of over 7500 youth per year.

## **Media Contact**

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