

**SENATOR KATY GALLAGHER  
MINISTER FOR FINANCE  
MINISTER FOR WOMEN  
MINISTER FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
MINISTER FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES  
SENATOR FOR THE ACT**

**ALICIA PAYNE MP  
MEMBER FOR CANBERRA**

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT SECURES FUTURE OF HOCKEY IN  
CANBERRA**

A re-elected Albanese Labor Government will invest \$1.55 million to upgrade the Carter Field at the National Hockey Centre in Lyneham, ensuring it remains a top-tier venue for community and elite hockey.

As Canberra's premier hockey pitch, the Carter Field has hosted major international events and is home to the Canberra Chill.

However, after nine seasons, the surface has deteriorated, posing safety risks to players and falling below international standards.

This election commitment will deliver a full pitch replacement, including a new International Category 1 surface - the same used at the 2024 Paris Olympics - along with upgrades to irrigation, fencing, and other key infrastructure.

The new surface will reduce water use by 45 per cent and support over 10,000 community fixtures and training sessions over the next decade.

This investment secures the future of hockey in Canberra, ensuring players at all levels have access to a world-class facility.

Consistent with past practice, election commitments will be delivered in line with Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles.

**Quotes attributable to Minister for Finance, Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher:**

“The whole federal Labor team is out batting for Canberra every day, and this is another great outcome for our city – supporting local sport and local athletes.

“As a team, we've already delivered more funding for Canberra's NBN, invested in roads and light rail and restored funding for our national institutions. If re-elected, we'll contribute funding to a new convention centre, a new aquatic centre and open a new Urgent Care Clinic in Woden.

“Labor invests in Canberra. The Liberals ignore us at best and at worst, they cut.”

**Quotes attributable to Federal Member for Canberra, Alicia Payne:**

“Hockey is one of the most popular and inclusive sports in Canberra for juniors, men and women and it’s important that the National Hockey Centre is safe and fit for purpose.

“There is a great need for this upgrade, and I am so pleased that the Albanese Labor Government has supported my advocacy and will deliver this election commitment.”

**Quotes attributable Hockey ACT CEO, Rob Sheekey:**

“Hockey ACT is delighted and welcomes the commitment from Alicia Payne and the Labor Government to upgrade the Carter Field back to international standard.”

“The Carter Field is the premier hockey surface in Canberra and the announcement would ensure the Canberra Chill, future Australian athletes and most importantly the ACT community have a premier field to play on.”

“ACT is currently the only state in Australia without an international playing surface and it is hoped that this announcement will return Canberra to one of the premier international locations in Australia.”

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