



\$2.5 MILLION BRINGS BULLDOGS BACK TO BELMORE

Monday 11 October 2010

The NSW Government will invest \$2.5 million for the upgrade of Belmore Sports Ground to provide the Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs with a permanent training base.

The funding from the NSW Government will go towards the completion of Stage 1 of the \$8.4 million Belmore Project.

The Federal Government and Canterbury City Council have contributed a combined \$5.9 million for the project.

Stage 1 of the redevelopment will include:

- Permanent training facilities for the Bulldogs;
- Upgraded change rooms and amenities;
- Conversion of old office and function rooms into multi-purpose facilities for community use;
- New ticket offices and entry gates;
- An upgrade of Peter Moore playing fields; and
- General works to the roof, fencing, and lighting.

Works are expected to be underway by December 2010 and be completed by the end of 2011.

Premier Kristina Keneally today joined Lakemba MP Rob Furolo, Canterbury MP Linda Burney, Bankstown MP Tony Stewart, Attorney General John Hatizistergos, Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs Chairman, Ray Dib and former and current players to announce the funding.

“This \$2.5 million grant will be used to upgrade the Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs’ home turf at Belmore Sports Ground and will bring major benefits to the game and local community,” Ms Keneally said.

“The redevelopment will give the Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs new facilities for a permanent training base as well as creating new opportunities for other users.

“This funding will give local community organisations, clubs and sporting teams’ access to contemporary facilities at Belmore Sports Ground.”

Member for Lakemba, Robert Furolo, welcomed the funding from the NSW Government for further upgrades of the iconic Belmore Sports Ground.

“This funding will help further improve the range and quality of local sporting facilities and will add to the \$5.9 million upgrade funded by the Federal Government, Canterbury Council and the Bulldogs League Club,” Mr Furolo said.

Member for Canterbury Linda Burney said the upgrade was a major boost for Bulldogs fans and supporters.

“The Bulldogs natural home ground is here at Belmore and this upgrade will ensure the players, officials and fans will have access to state-of-the-art facilities,” Ms Burney said.

“This is great news for the Bulldogs, firmly establishing Belmore Sports Ground as a key sporting and community asset in the local area.”

Bulldogs Chairman Mr Ray Dib said: “We are extremely fortunate to now have the support of all levels of government in our efforts to bring the Bulldogs back home to Belmore Sports Ground.

“The Premier is a great supporter of Rugby League and we are extremely grateful to her for helping make the Belmore redevelopment a reality.

“We are moving closer to the day that construction begins, and we know that with the support we have received from the Federal and NSW Governments, along with Canterbury City Council, we are another step closer towards one of the best training facilities in Australian sport.

“In addition, we are another step closer to giving the people of Belmore and the wider Canterbury-Bankstown district a sporting facility of distinction, one they can be proud to have in their back yard.”