

3 February 2011

FUNDING EXTENDED FOR SPORTS CLUBS IN FLOOD-AFFECTED TOWNS

The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth) has committed extra funding to sporting organisations in flood-affected areas under a special extension of its **2010/2011 Active Club Grants** funding round.

Applications from local sporting clubs, regional sporting leagues and associations and local active recreation clubs in areas of Victoria affected by the January 2011 floods will be prioritised.

These organisations now have until 28 February to apply.

The grants of up to \$2,500 can be used to buy essential sporting equipment, injury prevention equipment, portable shade and volunteer training.

VicHealth will also waive the eligibility criteria that would normally prevent clubs in flooded regions that have already received an Active Club Grant in the past three years from applying again this year.

VicHealth CEO Todd Harper said communities deserve a helping hand in the face of adversity.

“We realise that these clubs are often more than just places to get fit, particularly in rural areas. They’re the heart of the community, a place where friends and neighbours gather, and provide a strong sense of community,” Mr Harper said.

“This will be important for the long term health of flood affected communities.”

Mr Harper said almost half of rural and regional Victorian municipalities had been impacted by flooding in January.

“The VicHealth website – www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/activeclub – is a good place to check whether your area is on the list, but of course, VicHealth staff will be happy to answer questions about eligibility,” Mr Harper added.

Active Club Grants applications from non-flood affected areas will be processed as usual and must be submitted before the original closing date of 9 February, 2011.

Apply online at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/activeclub or post completed applications to:

VicHealth, 15-31 Pelham Street, Carlton, VIC 3053.

Clubs seeking more information or assistance with applications can call 03 9667 1308.