

Subject: Response to Community assets not just for Eagles

I refer to Mr Glen O'Brien's letter and confirm I am only trying to ensure fairness and equity in the allocation of ratepayers money.

Yes Mr O'Brien the Sea Eagles are the only privately owned company with some players earning in excess of \$100k a year that use community assets for a pepper corn rent.

I'm all for upgrading community facilities as long as they can be used equally by our community. I acknowledge the great entertainment the Sea Eagles provide our community and that they are a part of us but should other community services be cut and amateur sporting organisation not receive funding so Council ratepayers can pay for the short falls at Brookvale Oval between the Sea Eagles actual payments and the actual costs?

G Redmond is correct in his letter stating "the future of any sport can be seen in its participation rate". The growth of soccer on the northern beaches is our community's most popular sport. Over 17,000 amateur soccer players are crying out for funding and more facilities from Council. This is a fair request considering it is the largest sport. Should Council deny this sport money to subsidise other sports with less membership? Is that fair? I think not.

I will continue to oppose any proposition to charge volunteers Life Savers exorbitant leasing fees and other charges to use the club houses in which they perform selfless civic duties and I will not support charging amateur mountain bike riders or anyone else performing an amateur sport to use a public park!

As an elected representative I believe I have been fair in insisting on the efficient, equal and fair allocation of rate payers money.

Cr Vincent De Luca OAM