

Hon Winston Peters

Minister for Racing



Media Statement

Racing Safety Development Fund open for applications

Minister for Racing, Rt Hon. Winston Peters, has today announced that the second round of applications for the \$1 million Racing Safety Development Fund will open on February 5.

The Fund, which has been operating for eleven years, has two funding rounds per year. The second funding round for the 2018/19 year opens for applications on 5 February, with \$389,351 available for allocation.

Mr Peters says the Fund is an opportunity to improve race course safety, and benefits clubs and racing bodies across the country.

"Racecourses are an important part of communities across New Zealand, so it's important we help ensure the health and safety aspects," Mr Peters says.

"The Fund is available to help with vital activities such as updating equipment, repairing grandstands, and improving the safety of running rails". "While the Messara Report highlights that changes are needed in the racing industry, the health and safety of the racing animals, riders, spectators, officials and others involved in racing will always be of the utmost importance," Mr Peters says.

New Zealand has about 150 active racing clubs and 60 racecourses. All racing clubs and racing code bodies should consider the condition and standard of their facilities and equipment, and assess whether they are safe for animals, staff, and customers.

The Racing Safety Development Fund covers up to half the costs of a project, with \$7,500 – \$50,000 in funding available for each project.

Applications must be submitted by 2 April 2019, through the Department of Internal Affairs online system.

Further information is available from: www.communitymatters.govt.nz

Media contact: 027 535 8639

RACING SAFETY DEVELOPMENT FUND

You are invited to submit a funding application for the second round of the 2018/19 Racing Safety Development Fund (Fund).

The Fund supports projects that improve racecourse health and safety and the upgrade of racecourse facilities. You are encouraged to consider whether your facilities and equipment are safe for all racing personnel, your customers, and racing animals.

\$1 million (GST exclusive) was available for distribution across two funding rounds in the 2018/19 financial year. \$610,649 was allocated to 25 projects from the first round of the Fund in November 2018 and \$389,351 is available for the second round which opens on 5 February 2019 and closes on 2 April 2019.

All club secretaries are aware that the Department of Internal Affairs has implemented an online application process for the Fund. Please re-familiarise yourself with the process by updating any of your organisation or personnel profiles as needed. If you need assistance please contact the Department of Internal Affairs.

Online applications to the Fund should be completed and submitted by 2 April 2019.

If you wish to discuss your application for funding, please contact Dalpat Nana on 0800 824 824. Further information on the application process is available on www.communitymatters.govt.nz



Rt Hon Winston Peters
Minister for Racing
