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**Report 02.574**

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Report to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee  
from Greg Schollum, Chief Financial Officer

## **Stadium Trust - 2002/03 Business Plan**

### **1. Purpose**

To receive the final 2002/03 Business Plan from the Stadium Trust (refer **Attachment 1**).

### **2. Background**

The draft 2002/03 Business Plan from the Stadium Trust was considered by the Committee on 27 June 2002.

Key features of the draft business plan which were noted on 27 June included:

- A consistent pattern of events planned for the 2002/03 year.
- Projected operating surpluses and positive cashflows in each of the next three years.
- Improving financial position with planned reductions in external debt in each of the next three years.
- A list of modest capital expenditure projects designed to further enhance the quality of the Stadium as a venue.

The Stadium Trust has since finalised the 2002/03 Business Plan which retains the above key features. The final Business Plan now becomes the primary accountability tool by which the two settlors (WRC and WCC) can hold the Stadium Trustees accountable.

### **3. Comment**

The Business Plan represents a strong commitment by the Trustees to run a highly successful Stadium that is financially autonomous. Interestingly, the Business Plan (p1) refers to other stadia around the world where financial problems seem to be the norm.

The Business Plan includes a relatively high proportion of confirmed events for 2002/03 (58%) which augurs well for another successful year. The projected net surplus for

2002/03 is \$1.54 million which higher than the level achieved in 2001/02. Surpluses are also forecast in 2003/04 and 2004/05.

External debt is projected to reduce to \$25 million over five years, a reduction of approximately \$7 million. As expected, there are no planned repayments against Council's \$25 million advance over the next five years and no realistic prospect of repayment starting within the timeframe of the Council's next Long-term Strategy.

#### 4. **Communications**

Public comment on the Stadium Trust Business Plan is really a matter for the Trust. However, the fact that the Stadium Trustees are projecting another successful year reflects well on the Council.

#### 5. **Recommendation**

*That the Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report and note its contents.*

GREG SCHOLLUM  
Chief Financial Officer

**Attachment 1: Stadium Trust – 2002/03 Business Plan**