



Basin Reserve Trust

Statement of Service Performance

2019/20

Introduction

The iconic Basin Reserve has a rich history. The first game of cricket was played at the Basin on 11 January 1868, making it is the oldest cricket ground in New Zealand. The ground not only hosts cricket games, but sporting fixtures of every variety. It has hosted national events and competitions including VE Day celebrations, Royal Tours, exhibitions, Scout jamborees, concerts and festivals. In 1998, the Basin Reserve was listed as a Heritage Area, becoming the first sports ground to receive such a designation and further enhancing its heritage significance. The Basin is also home to the William Wakefield Memorial that was erected in 1882 and commemorates one of Wellington's founders, William Wakefield.

The Basin Reserve plays a role in assisting Wellington City Council to achieve the recreation and leisure participation aims signalled in the 2018-28 Ten Year Plan and the "Living WELL" Wellington Sport & Active Recreation Strategy. The redevelopment will reposition the Basin as New Zealand's premier cricket venue and help attract national and international events to Wellington.

The day to day management of the Basin Reserve is undertaken by Cricket Wellington under a management agreement with the Basin Reserve Trust (BRT). This Statement of Service Performance highlights the achievements of the Trust for the period July 2019 to June 2020.

Objectives

The objectives of the trust are stated in the Trust Deed as agreed between the Wellington City Council and the BRT and are highlighted below:

1. to manage, administer, plan, develop, maintain, promote and operate the Basin Reserve for recreation and leisure activities and for the playing of cricket for the benefit of the inhabitants of Wellington
2. to establish a long-term policy for the further development of the Basin Reserve as a recreational facility and as a facility for the playing of cricket, other sports and as a venue for other community-based activities;
3. to enter into management agreements and other contracts that are necessary or desirable to achieve the objects of the Trust;
4. to promote and co-ordinate the raising of funds to assist the management, administration, maintenance planning, promotion and further development of the Basin Reserve;
5. generally, to do all acts, matters and things that the Trustees consider necessary or conducive to further or attain the objects of the Trust set out above for the benefit of the public of Wellington;
6. to operate as a successful undertaking, managed on a not-for-profit basis;
7. to preserve and enhance the significant and recognised heritage value of the Basin Reserve; to comply with all legislative and regulatory provisions relating to its operation and performance including statutory and general Council objectives for Council controlled organisations, and to acknowledge the Councils contribution where appropriate

2019/20 Highlights

There were several significant highlights during the 2019/20 year, they include

- Reopening of the Old Pavilion (Museum Stand) by Mayor Foster on first day of the Blackcaps v India Test in February 2020

- Convincing Blackcaps Test Match victory vs India
- Naming of the Ewen Chatfield Player Pavilion after Wellington and New Zealand cricketing great – Ewen Chatfield
- Two well attended International T20's games between the White Ferns and South Africa in February 2020
- Record crowds for the Super Smash men's and women's T20 double headers including the 'Christmas at the Basin' event and the double header Super Smash finals day with Wellington winning both finals!
- The Basin was awarded the NZC domestic cricket pitch of the year
- The ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2021 launch event attended by Jacinda Ardern and confirmation that the Basin will host six games during the event including a blockbuster – the White Ferns vs Australia on Saturday 13 February 2021
- A successful Beers at the Basin event, showing the best craft breweries, local wineries, street food and music to a sold-out crowd of 6,500
- A wide range of corporate functions and conferences with 76 held throughout the year
- Toitu Carbon Zero status awarded on 19 December 2019

2018/19 Performance

In-line with the objectives of the Trust Deed and the 2019/20 Statement of Intent the BRT performed well in 2019/20 and were on-track to exceed all targets until COVID-19 which led to the cancellation of numerous events including the Night Noodle Markets.

The table below provides a comparison between 2019/20 targets and actuals.

Measure	2019/20 Targets	2019/20 Actuals
Community Events Days	21	6
Cricket Events Days	50	53
Other Sports Events Days	25	12
Practice facility usage (Days)	100	67
Functions	25	76
Numbers attending events	41,000	54,415
Event Income (\$)	290,200	203,856
Council Operating Grant^ (\$)	422,250	430,438
Cash subsidy (grant) per attendance (\$)	10.30	7.90

Events Days, Practice Days and Functions

The Basin Reserve continues to be a very well utilised community venue. In 2019/20 the Basin Reserve hosted 71 event days, 67 practise days and 76 functions. An overview of the wide range of events is outlined below;

Community Events

The Beers at the Basin, a popular festival that showcases Wellington’s craft beer industry, has become an annual feature on the BRT’s event calendar. A sell-out crowd of 6,500 attended the November 2019 event.



Beers at the Basin

The BRT continues to support its local community with use of the ground enabling neighbouring school’s cross-country events to take place. A wide range of community events that take place at the end of each cricket season (March – May) were cancelled due COVID-19 – the most significant event that was cancelled was the 2020 Night Noodle Markets.

Domestic Cricket

As the home of Cricket Wellington and the home ground of the Wellington Firebirds in the Plunket Shield, Ford Trophy and Men’s Super-Smash, as well as the Wellington Blaze in the Hallyburton Johnston Shield and Women’s Super-Smash, the Basin Reserve features a busy schedule of games and practise days. In total 44 days of Domestic Cricket were held in 2019/20 and 67 practise days.

Over the past few seasons, Cricket Wellington’s innovative marketing strategies has led to significant growth in the fans attending the Super Smash men’s and women’s T20. The successful ‘Christmas at the Basin’ event on 21 December 2019 was backed up with an unforgettable double header Grant Final. The day showcased the Basin to a wide audience and created lasting memories as both Wellington teams won their respective games and were crowned Super Smash Champions.



Wellington Blaze Victory Lap

The Basin also contains an indoor practise facility (under the RA Vance Stand) that features two training nets that were developed and are maintained by Cricket Wellington. These facilities are in use 250 days a year and are accessible to players and teams of all ages and abilities.

International Cricket

February 2020 was a busy month of International Cricket. The White Ferns played two well attended International T20's games vs South Africa. The Basin also hosted the Blackcaps vs India first Test. A strong crowd of over 15,000 attended the game that was won convincingly by New Zealand. The game also marked two key milestones for the Basin – the reopening of the Old Pavilion (Museum Stand) and the naming of the Ewen Chatfield Player Pavilion after Wellington and New Zealand cricketer great, Ewen Chatfield.

The Basin pitch again received a good rating from the ICC and New Zealand Cricket were pleased with the event delivery and venue presentation across all international matches.

Other Sport Events

In recent years the BRT has repositioned the Basin as a multi-sport venue providing year-round access to the community. Through a partnership with Wellington Rugby and Capital Football, 6 junior rugby and 6 junior girls football events were held during the 2019 winter months. Over 50 games were played with approximately 2,000 children involved with many more parents and caregivers enjoying, from the side-lines, their children playing on the Basin Reserve.

To prepare for the Women's Cricket World Cup, the Basin turf underwent a significant renovation which prevented junior rugby and football from being played at the Basin in the 2020 winter. This led to a reduction in actual other sport event days vs the 2019/20 Statement of Intent target.

Functions

The BRT has contracted Black and Gold Events (a division of KAPURA) to manage and promote the recently refurbished Norwood Room and Long Room in the RA Vance Stand as a venue for conferences, meetings, weddings, celebrations, Christmas functions and team building workshops. In total 76 functions were held in 2019/20 with many more cancelled from March – June due to COVID-19.

Basin Reserve Redevelopment

A significant milestone was achieved this reporting year with the completion of the earthquake strengthening and redevelopment of the Old Pavilion. The stand was seismically strengthened and refurbished enabling the 1,000-seat grandstand and public toilets to be available to fans attending events at the Basin Reserve. The 95-year-old building also provides a home for the New Zealand Cricket Museum and Cricket Wellington administration offices.

An update on future projects is as follows;

- Council's plans for the upgrade of the embankment, toilet blocks and the perimeter fence and ground entrances are on hold pending discussions with the Get Welly Moving project.
- The BRT is progressing initial planning for replacement floodlights and is confident of securing funding so that the consenting process for replacement floodlights can commence in 2020/21.

ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2021

The Basin hosted the CWC21 launch event on 11 March 2020. The Trust via its relationship with Cricket Wellington worked on a competitive bid document with Wellington NZ. The BRT is delighted to have secured six games to be played from 13 February 2021 to 27 February 2021.

The Basin is the only venue to have secured two White Ferns games – this includes the game of the tournament, New Zealand vs Australia on 13 February 2021. The venues exclusivity period for this event commences on 23 January 2020 (21 days prior to the first game) and concludes on 9 March 2020 (10 days after the last game).

Sponsorship

The Trust are continuing to look for a naming rights partner for the ground. Over the past two years 75 companies have been approached. Whilst mindful of the impact that COVID-19 will have on the corporate sponsorship dollar the Trust are hopeful that the completion of the Old Pavilion redevelopment will create a more attractive commercial proposition to take back to market following the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2021 which requires a clean venue.

Fundraising

The BRT was successful in securing funding from four major class 4 trusts as well as the Lotteries Commission to support the Museum Stand Redevelopment. At financial year-end \$720,000 had been distributed from the BRT to Wellington City Council. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the BRT had \$175K of granted funding from class 4 trusts cancelled before it was paid out.

Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST) Turf Services Partnership

The BRT continued its positive partnership with the WRST. Under a partnership agreement the WRST provides turf management services that ensures that the Basin Reserves outfield, wicket blocks and practice wickets are maintained to international standards. The work of the WRST Turf team was recognised with the Basin picking up the prestigious domestic cricket pitch of the year award at the New Zealand Cricket Annual Awards.

Governance

The Trust Deed establishes the BRT under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 for the purposes of managing and administering the Basin Reserve. Wellington City Council has appointed the BRT to manage the Basin Reserve under a Management Deed. These two key documents set out how the BRT will manage the Basin Reserve.

The BRT is governed by a Board comprising four Trustees, two appointed by Cricket Wellington and two by Wellington City Council. The Board meet at least four times a year and appoint subcommittees as appropriate to fulfil its obligations. The Trustees set the strategic direction for the BRT and approve the Statement of Intent and the Annual Business Plan. The Trustees monitor the organisational

performance and ensure that the Trust has appropriate policies and procedures to mitigate its risks (including compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015).

Trust Membership

- Alan Isaac (Chair) (appointed by Wellington City Council)
- Mike Horsley (appointed by Cricket Wellington)
- Councillor Sean Rush (appointed by Wellington City Council)
- John Greenwood (appointed by Cricket Wellington)