



Basin Reserve Trust

Statement of Intent 2024-2025

Introduction

The Basin Reserve: *Our Village Green* – It is the Basin Reserve Trust and Wellington City Council’s vision that the Basin Reserve is highly valued as a public reserve of unique character and is recognised as the premier international cricket venue in New Zealand. The journey to this point has been years in the making with the 1884 Trust Deed conveying the area to the Wellington City Council in Trust so that the Basin Reserve would be “*forever used for the purposes of a cricket and recreation ground by the inhabitants of the City of Wellington*”. 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 and recreational significance to Te Whanganui-a-Tara.

Today, the Basin Reserve has seen more New Zealand Test matches, and Test victories, than any other ground. It has also been the venue for some of the most remarkable performances in our cricketing history; from JR Reid’s 15 sixes in a first-class innings, to Martin Crowe and Andrew Jones’ World Record partnership of 467 in 1991, and Brendon McCullum’s historic score of 302 in 2014. But 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.

The Basin Reserve Trust (BRT) plays a role in contributing to the Wellington City Council 2024-2034 long-term plan and we understand our role in the vision for “*Poneke – the creative capital where people and nature thrive.*”

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.
8. 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.

2024-25 Activities

In-line with the objectives of the Trust Deed, the BRT will focus on the following initiatives in 2024-25;

Events and Functions

The Basin Reserve is now a major venue of choice for the people of Wellington when it comes to events and functions. The venue plays host to a wide variety of users, including corporate days, family celebrations and of course is enjoyed by many when cricket is played. In total approximately 70 event days, 100 practice days and 80 functions will be delivered making the Basin a highly used space for the city.

An overview of the wide range of events that are planned for 2024-25 are outlined below:

Community and other Sport Events:

The BRT is proud to be a venue for everyone and key events for 2024-25 include:

- **Junior Rugby and Football** – partnerships with Wellington Rugby and Capital Football and now well established with the Basin Reserve serving to provide these two codes with three well used junior rugby and girls' junior football fields that enable each sport to play nine junior games each weekend throughout winter.
- **Beers at the Basin** – the popular festival that showcases Wellington's craft beer industry will continue to be a summer feature on the Basin's busy event calendar.
- **Summer Sessions at the Basin** – following a successful inaugural Summer Sessions at the Basin in March 2023, this food and wine festival is in the planning to be back for 2025. Much like Beers and the Basin the BRT is looking to establish this event as a regular fixture in February / March each year with Beers at the Basin operating annually in November.
- **Community Cricket** – a wide range of community cricket events will be held including various club competitions finals, the boys and girls Primary School and Secondary School finals, a Disability Sport day, Deaf Cricket and junior cricket field days.
- **Ethnic Community Festival** – Cricket Wellington has established an Ethnic Community Festival that brings culture, music, food and cricket together. In 2024 we will hold the inaugural Kilikiti Cricket Festival. This will be the biggest community event of the year and is eagerly anticipated by the Pacific Community as well as the Cricket Community of Wellington

The Trust remains committed to increasing and diversifying the utilisation of the Basin Reserve and will continue to seek opportunities to increase usage of the venue by community and corporate groups, other sports organisations, and event hirers to drive the utilisation of the Basin Reserve as a function venue of choice.

Functions

The BRT has contracted Black and Gold Events to manage and promote the Norwood Room and Long Room in the RA Vance Stand as a venue for conferences, meetings, weddings, celebrations, Christmas functions or team building workshops. In total, 80 functions are expected to be hosted at the venue for 2024-25.

Domestic Cricket

The Basin Reserve is 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 also accommodates Cricket Wellington development teams. The Basin is planning to host 56 days of cricket events, with 100 days of use planned for the practice facilities.

International Cricket

In partnership with Wellington NZ and Cricket Wellington, the BRT has won the right to host the second English test match in December 2024. We are still waiting for information about further international games in the summer of 24/25 but are ready and prepared to host any team that comes to New Zealand, as an example we have bid for the White Ferns vs Australia games pre-Xmas.

Critically, The Trust has identified that securing international cricket fixtures is crucial for generating revenue and ensuring the ground remains at the forefront for New Zealand Cricket as a venue of choice. Future investment in facilities and general upgrades need to be considered in alignment with enhancing the venue as a modern cricket facility that is fit for purpose for hosting international cricket.

Capital Projects

The major redevelopment of the Basin Reserve is into the final stages. The picket fence project was largely completed during the 2023 winter with only the area in front of the cricket museum still to be finished. Additional storage is being completed early 2024, with the sight screen project to be done during the winter of 2024.

The security review has now been completed and the additional CCTV and Lighting recommendations will be installed during the winter of 2024. We will then move over to the council monitoring service which will greatly enhance the security of the venue moving forward.

We are also working on a project to renew the big screen at the Basin. The one we currently bring in every summer is approx. 16 years old, is the oldest LED screen in New Zealand and the parts are no longer available. This will greatly enhance the Basin as a venue, we will be able appeal to more users, as an example Relay for Life, and hold events such as movie nights which will increase revenue.

Installation of permanent camera platforms are also being investigated in partnership with New Zealand Cricket and their new broadcast partner TVNZ. Permanent camera platforms as opposed to the temporary structures that are erect each summer have a significantly reduced footprint; they will provide a revenue opportunity (advertising) for the Trust and will also enhance the Basin's ability to secure international cricket (by reducing costs to the broadcast partner).

Sponsorship and Fundraising

The BRT remains committed to assisting with fundraising and sponsorship, while remaining dedicated to exploring further commercial opportunities for the venue generally.

Key opportunities that the BRT are progressing:

- **Naming Rights Partner** – the Trust has extended its naming rights sponsor with Cello for a further two years.
- **Digital Billboards** – the Trust have signed an Agreement to Licence and are also investigating digital billboard opportunities at the Basin Reserve to grow a more sustainable revenue base

that would provide the BRT with additional income to support the redevelopment and on-going maintenance

- **Electronic big screen** – as above the Trust is working on a project to renew the old screen that is currently only brought in for the summer. This will increase revenue due to the additional events that can be held as a result of having a more user-friendly screen, this will also give us more advertising opportunities which again will help drive more income.

The Trust will report on progress each quarter.

Cricket Wellington and The New Zealand Cricket Museum

The Basin Reserve is the home of Cricket Wellington, the Regional Sports Organisation for cricket in Wellington, and the New Zealand Cricket Museum. The Old Pavilion Stand is home to the Cricket Wellington offices and the national Cricket Museum, which officially reopened in December 2021. The New Zealand Cricket Museum records the history of cricket and tells the story of the Basin Reserve through its newly developed and modernised storytelling and displays.

The Trust recognises the significance of being the home of the New Zealand Cricket Museum as it aligns with the Council’s objective of having fit-for-purpose community, creative and cultural spaces. The Museum is a place where people can come to connect, develop, and express their arts, culture, and heritage. This drives additional and diverse visitation to the venue via private group tours, educational school trips, cricket match day experiences and will be open every Sunday to the public.

Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST) Turf Services Partnership

The BRT will continue to work in partnership with the WRST to ensure that the Basin reserve outfield, wicket blocks and practice wickets are world class. A significant proportion of the operating grant provided to the BRT from Wellington City Council covers the costs associated with the Turf Services Agreement between the BRT and WRST which are costs that continue to increase year on year.

1. Strategic Alignment to WCC

The BRT aligns its strategic and service delivery to Wellington City Council in the following ways:

Strategy	BRT Alignment
Tupiki Ora and Takai Here	<p>The Trust is committed to being an exemplary partner in championing the Māori strategic objectives. We are dedicated to building our relationship with the city’s two mandated mana whenua organisations, and actively contributing to the realisation of the Māori well-being strategy in partnership with the Council and other CCO’s. The Trust is dedicated to being on the waka and supporting the key pillars identified, while also being acutely aware that we must respect the journey and develop trusted relationships with our mana whenua partners. The Trust propose the following focus areas for 2024-25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Align with the Te Tauihu – to reo Māori Policy to update all venue signage – this has some challenges due to the Heritage status of the ground and the limitations to what we can do in this space but we will continue to try and find solutions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Collaborate with WCC City Design Project and mana whenua partners to tell the story of the Basin and reflect its cultural heritage visibly in venue · Partner with events at the venue to ensure inclusion of te reo Māori i.e., cricket event days · To work with Cricket Wellington to embrace WCC's Whare Kura learning management system as the key mechanism for Cricket Wellington staff to be upskilled in Te Reo Māori and Te Tiriti training · To work with Cricket Wellington's Maori development officer to ensure all staff who work at the Basin Reserve understand Te Ao Māori and use those learnings to enhance the mana of the ground
Te Atakura - First to Zero	The BRT was first awarded the Toitu Carbon Zero status on 19 December 2019 and will ensure that we remain a carbon zero footprint venue to contribute to the Council's aim of being a zero-carbon capital by 2050. This includes the introduction of bike storage areas at the venue, promotion of scooters and e-bikes as a form of transport to events and being an advocate for key actions within the Te Atakura First to Zero plan.
Aho Tini 2030 – Arts, Culture and Creativity Strategy	The trust will play an active role in identifying any suitable opportunities that may exist for the arts and culture sector to better utilise the Basins assets. We will actively engage with the trustees of the Cricket Museum to see what opportunities we can partner together on to showcase the arts using the museum as a backdrop. We will also work with existing and new partners to bring concerts, exhibitions etc to the Basin REserve
Strategy for Children and Young People	The BRT will ensure it aligns with the strategy for Children and Young People by ensuring the venue is a safe place at all times, specifically by partnering with events that focus on our youth
Economic Wellbeing Strategy	The Trust will support the Council regarding the development and implementation of new strategies in the areas of economic wellbeing by partnering with Cricket Wellington on such things as their young leader's programme aimed at Rangatahi boys and girls and developing their leadership skills. We will use their graduates to provide a resource when events are being held at the Basin e.g international tests.
Accessible Wellington, The Accessible Journey Action Plan 2019	The BRT will continue to support the Accessible Wellington, The Accessible Journey Action Plan 2019, and continue to allow free lounge access to the Basin Reserve Long Room on match days. Advancing our commitment to the plan, the Trust will support Cricket Wellington through achievement of the Rainbow Tick diversity and inclusion certification process which will be completed in 2024. We will also host disability groups on the Basin through our community days and work to ensure everyone can access the Basin Reserve facilities in a safe and welcoming manner.

Our Strategic Relationship

The Trust expects to be involved with the strategic development of the venue, in particular the investment in the development/upgrade of key infrastructure in venue and involvement with the annual asset management plan. The Trust intends to play an active role in the CCO collective and understands our position in supporting other CCO strategies and objectives.

2. Specific Expectations

Poneke – the creative capital where people and nature thrive, with the following initiatives:

Strategy	BRT Alignment
Asset Management Plan	The Trusts anticipates that for the 2024/25 reporting year WCC will have in place an Asset Management Plan for the Basin that will set out expectations and timelines enabling the BRT to ensure that the Basin’s infrastructure is adequately maintained. After significant capital investment in recent years, the BRT views this as a critical project for WCC to finalise and then work with the Trust to deliver. The introduction of the Asset Renewal Budget has helped considerably in the ability for the BRT to be able to achieve it’s objectives in this area.
Zero-carbon and zero-waste	The BRT will continue to support the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan in conjunction with venue caterers and hirers. This includes utilising specific bins throughout the venue for recycling, glass, and general waste, as well as using a specific bin for grass waste. Furthermore, we now adhere to the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw for events of 1,000 people or more. Additionally, we will continue to align with Black and Gold to minimise waste generally, which has seen a significant reduction in plastic waste due to vendors using compostable packaging and the introduction of goblets to replace plastic cups at events
Walking and cycling network	The BRT has played an active role in supporting the Newtown to City cycleway project that passes through the Basin Reserve. This includes the Commonwealth walkway improvements as well as appropriate signage and safety measures for a mixed pedestrian and cycle area. We will continue to work with the council to address the issues of speed and safety that have resulted due to the new cycle lanes to achieve a solution that will ensure the best outcome for all users of the Basin Reserve

3. Performance Targets

In-line with Wellington City Councils 2021-31 Ten Year Plan, the BRT aims to deliver the following performance measures for 2024-25:

Measure	24-25 Forecast	24-25 Q1	24-25 Q2	24-25 Q3	24-25 Q4	24-25 Total
Quarterly Targets						
Ticketed Cricket Events at the Basin*	13	0	7	5	0	12
Practice facility usage (Days)	100	15	45	40	0	100
Functions*	80	20	20	20	20	80

**Measured as number of functions held at the venue and events held, not as days as per other performance targets*

Measure	2024-25 Forecast
Numbers attending events*	40,000
Event Income (\$) –	390,000
Council Operating Grant ^ (\$)	842,438
Cash Subsidy (grant) per attendance (\$)	21.06

^includes turf management fee

4. 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 (relating to the Basin Reserve). These two key documents set out how the BRT will govern 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 it deems appropriate to fulfil its obligations. The Trustees set the strategic direction for the BRT and approve the Statement of Intent and 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)
- Councillor John Apanowicz (appointed by Wellington City Council)
- Mike Horsley (appointed by Cricket Wellington)
- John Greenwood (appointed by Cricket Wellington)

Performance Management

The performance of the Trust is measured in part by achievement of agreed KPI's, with regards to operational activities. The Chair of the Board will undertake an annual evaluation of Trustee performance and will provide an update to Council by 30 September 2024. Further, the individual performance of Trustees is monitored by the Wellington City Council (in respect of the two Council-appointed Trustees), and Cricket Wellington (with regards to the two Cricket Wellington-appointed Trustees). Additionally, the Trust Board will supply the Council with a skills matrix in 31 March 2024.

The Trust acknowledges the need for ongoing professional development opportunities for Trustees and encourages the undertaking of specialist training for identified needs. The Board will, on an annual basis, implement a programme that supports the identified needs. This may include programmes such as that offered by the NZ Institute of Directors (or similar) or specialist knowledge building from appropriate agencies.

5. Finance

The budget is generally conservative which is developed on the basis of breaking even and in line with the activity outlined in this document.

Analysis

The following are the key details and assumptions for the budget that results in an operating loss of \$53,579.00 for the 2024/25 financial year.

Revenue - \$1,357,737 is forecast in the budget.

Revenue	Forecast 2023-24*	Forecast 2024-25	Comment
Council Funding	\$764,548	\$842,438	
Sale of goods and services	\$407,000	\$509,299	
Interest	\$5,724	\$6,000	
Total	\$1,177,272	\$1,357,737	

*Forecast until end of FY2023-24

Expenditure

Expenditure of \$1,411,316 is included within the budget.

Expenses	Forecast 2023-24*	Forecast 2024-25	Comment
Depreciation	\$90,830	\$98,900	
Costs relating to providing goods and services	\$963,084	\$1,189,668	
Other expenses	\$115,230	\$122,748	
Total	\$1,238,803	\$1,411,316	

*Forecast until end of FY2023-24

The expense side of the budget has been developed based on business as usual and a realistic estimate of the costs associated with operating the BRT.

Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure is forecast at \$118,148.00. in line with the WCC Asset Renewal Budget

Cashflow

Cashflow varies throughout the year as key revenues from grants are received quarterly.

Risks

The main financials risks are as follows:

- Inability to host Beers at the Basin and Summer Sessions at the Basin
- Concession agreement with Black and Gold is terminated
- Inability to secure international cricket fixtures
- The domestic cricket season doesn't proceed as planned
- Increased repairs and maintenance are required

Estimate of amount intended for distribution

There is no intention to pay out reserves to stakeholders.

Acquisition procedures

There is no intention to make any acquisitions.

Estimate of commercial value of stakeholder's investment

N/A