



Report 00.583

28 July 2000

File: CFO/27/9/1

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

Change to the Stadium Empowering Act

1. Purpose

To update the Committee on progress towards achieving change to the Wellington Regional Council (Stadium Empowering) Act 1996.

2. Background

Report 00.237, considered by the Committee on 13 April 2000, outlined the issues associated with the Stadium Trust being deemed to be a LATE, and outlined the options for resolving the matter.

The Committee resolved that seeking amendment to the Empowering Act was the preferred option and officers were instructed to pursue this in conjunction with the Chairman.

Officers have been working with Wellington City Council (WCC) officers and with the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST) and advisors in order to achieve the desired outcome.

3. What is the current position?

A Local Bill has been drafted (refer to **Attachment 1**) which has been reviewed and cleared by both WCC and WRST.

This followed the presentation of the “Case for Change” document to the Regional MP’s on 26 May 2000 and subsequent discussions with officials from all key affected parties:

- Internal Affairs
- Treasury
- Inland Revenue
- Office of the Treasurer/Minister of Finance

- Office of the Associate Minister of Finance

In addition, discussions have been held with opposition MP's from the Region.

4. **Where to from here?**

The Committee needs to indicate its comfort with the proposed Bill so that we can complete any outstanding consultation (e.g. Regional Mayors).

After that, officers can instruct our legal advisors to initiate the formal process of introduction of the Bill into the House which will be commenced with a formal public notice.

It is our understanding that Hon Marion Hobbs, MP for Wellington Central, is willing to introduce the Bill, a local Bill, into Parliament at the appropriate time.

5. **Communications**

Not at this stage

6. **Recommendations**

- (1) *That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) *That the Committee recommend to Council that:*
 - a) *it approve the draft Wellington Regional Council (Stadium Empowering) Amendment Bill (attached as **Attachment 1**)*
 - b) *officers, in conjunction with the Chairman, complete the necessary consultation with interested parties prior to beginning the formal processes for introducing the Bill into Parliament.*

GREG SCHOLLUM
Chief Financial Officer

Attachment 1: Wellington Regional Council (Stadium Empowering) Amendment Bill