

20. FIFA (FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION) U-17 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP DRAW, WELLINGTON 1 JUNE 2008



General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8986
Officer responsible:	Recreation and Sports Manager
Author:	Kevin Roche, Assistant Council Secretary

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Council be represented by two councillors at the FIFA u-17 Women's World Cup Draw announcement in Wellington on 1 June 2008.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The first ever FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup is being held in New Zealand from 28 October to 16 November 2008. A total of 32 matches will be played at the four confirmed venues: Auckland's North Harbour Stadium, Hamilton's Waikato Stadium, Wellington Stadium and Christchurch's QEII Park.
3. All FIFA tournaments are run the same as the main FIFA World Cup – the biggest sporting event in the world. Some 16 of the world's best footballing nations will be taking part after a qualification process involving more than 100 countries. The event also provides an opportunity to showcase New Zealand, with at least 150 territories taking the broadcasting rights and over 100 million people expected to watch the event worldwide.
4. Football is now the largest female sport in the world, with an estimated 40 million players participating in over 150 countries. The growth of women's football in New Zealand mirrors this trend with football being the most popular sport for New Zealand youth and every third junior player being a girl. There are around 35,000 female players in this country and the senior national team – the Football Ferns – have a world ranking of 23. Hosting this brand new FIFA event offers New Zealand a further opportunity to boost player numbers and raise the profile of the sport.
5. The u-17 new Zealand women's football team is known as the Young Football Ferns and 2008 is a landmark year for the girls.
6. Christchurch will host the two semi-finals and the final will be held in the North Harbour Stadium. The programme for the matches is set out below:

Auckland North Harbour Shore		Hamilton Waikato Stadium		Wellington Wellington Stadium		Christchurch QEII Park	
Date	Kickoff	Date	Kickoff	Date	Kickoff	Date	Kickoff
28 Oct	7pm	30 Oct	12pm	30 Oct	12pm	29 Oct	12pm
29 Oct	12pm		3pm		3pm		3pm
1 Nov	1pm 4pm	2 Nov	1pm 4pm	2 Nov	1pm 4pm	1 Nov	1pm 4pm
5 Nov	4pm 7pm	4 Nov	4pm 7pm	4 Nov	4pm 7pm	5 Nov	4pm 7pm
16 Nov (Final)	1pm 4pm	9 Nov (Quarter- finals)	1pm 4pm	8 Nov (Quarter- finals)	1pm 4pm	13 Nov (Semi- finals)	4pm 7pm

7. This event will not only be good for the city by generating an excellent economic impact figure it will be great for the sport itself and the development of our young and potential players.
8. This tournament is one of the biggest sports events for the city this year and the Council has a significant input into the event.

9. The programme in respect of the draw on 1 June 2008 is as follows:

1845	guests arrive at Te Papa
1900	pre ceremony (greeting and reception) Te Papa
1925	guests to be seated
1930	Draw ceremony
2045	Press conference 'ICON Room'
2100	Draw banquet, Te Papa

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

10. Sufficient funding is available within the provision for mayor and Councillor travel within the 2007/08 annual plan to cover the estimated travel, accommodation and other costs amounting to approximately \$900.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

11. The expenses and allowance rules approved by the Remuneration Authority in respect of members of the Christchurch City Council require prior Council approval for travel of this nature.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?

12. Page 113 of the LTCCP, level of service under Democracy and Governance refers.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

13. Not applicable.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

14. Not applicable.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

15. Not applicable

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council grant approval for two councillors to visit Wellington on 1 June 2008 as official representatives of the Council, for the purposes set out in this report.