

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **FOOTBALL WEST SUPPORTS PERTH GLORY REVIEW**

Football West welcomes the outcomes of the Perth Glory Review and Tony Sage's long term commitment to the club.

The Chairman of Football West, the Hon Bob Kucera and Chief Executive, Peter Hugg, today welcomed the outcome of the recent review of Perth Glory conducted by local sports consultant Mr David Hatt and well-known hockey coach, Mr Ric Charlesworth.

In supporting the outcomes and key recommendations, Football West also welcomed the news that Perth Glory owner and Chairman, Mr Tony Sage has once more reaffirmed his commitment to the team and remaining as their owner and number one supporter despite the performances of the last season.

Kucera noted: "It is absolutely fantastic both for Perth Glory and the whole of football in Perth and WA that Tony has decided to stay involved. It is a matter of fact that professional sport these days and particularly football in this country, needs people like him who are prepared to show leadership and a willingness to literally put their hand in their very own pocket to fund the team. For this reason alone he, the club and the team as a whole has our full and utmost support."

The review made a number of recommendations that concerned a closer working relationship between Perth Glory and Football West including working together to establish a base and find a 'home of football', closer alignment with respect to community engagement and development programs and a clearer pathway for players from the various local leagues.

Both Kucera and Hugg participated in and provided input in to the review meeting with Hatt several times in recent months. Hugg was not surprised with the findings and reaffirmed that much of what was recommended has in fact already commenced, but will now be given greater impetus, stating "Football West and Perth Glory were the first state federation and A-League club to enter into a cooperative agreement to work with each other for the mutual benefit of the sport and since then, we have both created a number of initiatives."

"Whilst many of the recommendations clearly relate to the conduct of the club and its day to day operations there are clearly several benefits to the local football scene. These include a more definitive pathway for our local State League players into the A-League and more community programs that will undoubtedly benefit our younger players throughout the state."

Kucera and Hugg also took the opportunity to meet with FFA Chief Executive Mr Ben Buckley who was in Perth during the week to meet with Mr Sage and other Glory representatives. Mr Buckley was presented with a status report on current national initiatives such as the NTC and FFA Curriculum implementation as well as being briefed on various other activities being implemented by Football West.

The Board of Football West will now consider and discuss the full implications of the report at its forthcoming meeting on 15 March.

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