

Wasps and Blues face £1.5 million hurdle

QPR will want £1.5 million if Wasps stay in Wycombe rather than return to Loftus Road, it has been revealed.

Rangers reckon their long-term agreement with Wasps, that says the Zurich Champions must return to Loftus Road by 2005, can be enforced and say they want £1.5 million if Wasps fail to honour it.

But at a Wasps fans' forum on Wednesday, held at Wycombe Rugby Club, Wasps chief executive David Davies said the claim was a shot across the bows.

And owner Chris White told the Evening Standard that the clubs were yet to begin negotiations over a return.

He said: "There's an agreement but we haven't had any conversations. We want what's best for Wasps and QPR."

Meanwhile, fans at the forum voted almost unanimously to remain in Wycombe. They believe the move has been great for Wasps, who have put down roots in the area with their community schemes.

Attendance have also risen and, though travel to and from Wycombe is an issue for many long-established, QPR's ground is viewed of having poor facilities, inadequate leg-room and a lack of atmosphere.

Wasps are looking to make a decision on where they will play their rugby by the end of this year.