# ITEM 10. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

# CITY OF SYDNEY UNOCCUPIED BUILDINGS (S103148)

1. By Councillor Forster

#### Question

Can the Lord Mayor please provide a list of Council-owned properties that are currently unoccupied? Can the Lord Mayor also provide the reasons as to why these properties are not currently occupied?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

Unoccupied buildings are defined as those buildings that are currently uninhabitable due to the following circumstances:

- (1) property is a Capital Works Corporate Plan item, with significant construction activity underway/planned to commence;
- (2) property is earmarked for imminent upgrade works, scope of such upgrades is often defined during the process of being leased with scope matching the intended enduse;
- (3) property is listed for delivery of strategic infrastructure and/or allocated for disposal.

Eighteen buildings fall within these definitions and are listed below:

<u>Capital Works Corporate Plan Items</u> (construction activity underway/planned to commence)

1-5 Flinders Street, Surry Hills, 2010

Royal South Sydney Hospital Building (former), 3 Joynton Avenue, Zetland, 2017

Esme Cahill Building, 3 Joynton Avenue, Zetland, 2017

Tram shed Hyde Park, 110 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, 2000

East Sydney Community and Arts Centre, in Albert Sloss Reserve, 225-245 Palmer Street, Darlinghurst, 2010

Juanita Nielsen Community Centre, 31 Nicholson Street, Woolloomooloo, 2011

277-279 Bourke Street, Darlinghurst, 2010

Taylor Square Pumphouse, 136 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst, 2010

Imminent Upgrade Prior to Leasing/Occupation Stage or Demolition

The following buildings cannot be occupied in their current state. These properties have been matched against customer needs. The City is currently undertaking feasibility to determine cost of works.

WBG Incinerator, Glebe Foreshore Walk East, 53 Forsyth Street, Glebe, 2037 Status: formal Council approval being sought at the October 2015 meeting to lease this building. Pump Room- Sydney Park, 167-169 Euston Road, Alexandria, 2015 Status: minor update planned to permit occupation by City Farm for storage use.

Club Room - Jubilee Park, 2 Federal Road, Glebe, 2037 Status: update planned to permit use by local Community Sporting groups.

17A Albert Street, Erskineville, 2043 Status: update being considered to permit use for Creative City.

Annex - Kellett Place, 66-68 Kellett Street, Potts Point, 2011 Status: demolition being considered due to poor condition which permits reclamation of park land. (Note a tree is growing through the roof.)

#### Listed for Delivery of Green Square Infrastructure and Facilities

Mandible Industrial, 41 Mandible Street, Alexandria, 2015

330-332 Botany Road, Alexandria, 2015

334-336 Botany Road, Alexandria, 2015

338 Botany Road, Alexandria, 2015

#### <u>Divestment</u>

75-77 Kellick Street, Waterloo, 2016 Status: scheduled to go to auction in November, 2015.

#### **ARCHWAY 1 THEATRE COMPANY (S103148)**

#### Question

2. By Councillor Forster

How much funding assistance and/or grants has the City provided to Archway 1 Theatre Company since 2006? Has the company been known by any other name and been given financial assistance by the City under this/these name(s)?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

Council has not provided a grant or any financial assistance to the Archway 1 Theatre Company. City staff could not identify any grants to Archway 1 Arts Studio, and are unaware of any other name this organisation might have had.

# CONSULTATION METHODS (S103147)

#### **3.** By Councillor Vithoulkas

## Question

When the City is consulting with the community about changes that will impact their daily lives, does the City have a procedure for identifying and connecting with local hubs such as Community and Business groups during the consultation process that is in addition to the Have Your Say portal and letterbox drops?

What are the five key consultation methods used to gain feedback from local businesses and residents in this process?

What is the average rate of reply to letterbox drop methods of consultation?

What is the average rate of reply to the Have Your Say portal consultation method?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City's approach to consulting the community is informed by the City's Community Engagement Strategy available on <u>Sydneyyoursay.com.au</u> under "our approach".

A broad range of approaches as outlined in the Community Engagement Strategy are used to engage the community in decisions that impact their lives. For any consultation, a combination of techniques and channels is used to ensure our diverse community is reached.

Targeted approaches are used to engage local businesses, including doorknocking, surveys, the work of the City's precinct co-ordinators, the City's bi-monthly business enews that goes to 1,900 business subscribers, and forums and workshops on specific issues.

Recent examples include workshops on business activation during light rail construction and the Eora Journey Economic Development Plan.

The City undertakes drop-in sessions on local projects at times and locations that suit businesses as well as residents. When businesses are directly impacted, face-to-face discussions are the preferred method of consultation.

The City's online consultation portal, <u>Sydneyyoursay.com.au</u> is an increasingly important and well-utilised channel for consultation. Sydney Your Say enables people who can't make workshops or meetings to easily participate and share their views.

All members of the community can sign-up to the Sydney Your Say monthly enews, which has a very high open rate of 35% and a click through rate of 25%.

The community is also informed of opportunities to have their say through Sydney Your Say via social media (@sydneyyoursay twitter account and CoS channels), public notices, advertising, pop-up stalls at events, notification letters and invitations.

The City's homepage (<u>cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au</u>) has an automatic feed from Sydney Your Say to ensure all consultation projects have a presence on the corporate site.

Letterbox drops are an important mechanism to ensure people have information about projects in their area.

# POWERLINES AND TREES (\$103147)

**4.** By Councillor Vithoulkas

#### Question

Does the City have a policy or set of guidelines about the types of flora planted below powerlines in residential areas? Is the maximum height of the trees and bushes taken into consideration when planting seedlings under powerlines?

What was the cost to Council in the financial year 2014-2015, 2013-2014 and 2012-2013 of pruning, trimming or removing trees and shrubs under powerlines?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City's Street Tree Master Plan, adopted by Council in 2012, outlines the species of tree to be planted in every street within the Local Government Area.

The Master Plan outlines the numerous factors considered in determining tree suitability, including the tree's mature height and ability to prune the tree around powerlines, buildings and allowing for road and pedestrian clearances.

Ausgrid assume responsibility for pruning trees around the powerlines. They engage contractors to perform these services, which occur on an annual basis. Therefore, Council has not occurred expenses for the powerline pruning work over the requested financial years.

# SUPPORTING CREATIVE INDIGENOUS WOMEN (S103147)

**5.** By Councillor Vithoulkas

#### Question

What is the City doing to help support, celebrate and encourage female indigenous artists and artisans?

Does the City provide assistance with helping female indigenous artists and artisans to develop financial and business skills so they can make a living from their creativity?

What opportunities does the City support to develop the business and creative skills of these women? Are mentoring programs supported by the City whereby existing successful creative businesswomen can share their experience, know-how and financial skills with emerging female artists and artisans?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

City support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists has been an ongoing focus of the City's Grants and Sponsorship programs and through development of our civic collection.

The Eora Journey program, in particular, has sought to ensure opportunities are made available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and entrepreneurs. The Recognition in the Public Domain public art program has been proactive in building capacity and providing opportunities for artists. Through all of these initiatives, many female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists have been supported.

Additionally, the City's Eora Journey Economic Development Plan (currently in development) identifies actions that will support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander entrepreneurs, employees, and students, and includes a specific focus on the creative sector.

# **CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS (S103147)**

**6.** By Councillor Vithoulkas

#### Question

The very high demand from the established and emerging local creative community for the limited number of locations supported by the City that are suited for creative tenants is growing. The City struggles to meet the growing demand, especially as various types of locations, warehouses, and workshops used by artisans and artists to work are being redeveloped and rapidly shrinking the pool of creative spaces.

The City has been very supportive of the proposed "Phoenix" development at Chippendale that will provide gallery and performance space as well as apartments for visiting artists. This venue is being largely developed with private funds from a local philanthropic supporter of the arts.

Is the City actively looking for opportunities to collaborate with other local artisan and artist supporters to grow the pool of available creative workspaces?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City's cultural policy and action plan, *Creative City*, has as one of its goals to 'deliver an increased number of affordable, accessible, creative workspaces...'

City staff worked with Frasers Property to set up creative spaces in their temporarily empty buildings in Kensington Street, Chippendale. City staff provided Frasers with occupation models and templates, and assisted in the selection of a head tenant who curated a program of artists for several years.

Beyond the City's own programs that increase the amount of creative space in our local government area (such as the Oxford Street Cultural and Creative Space Program, William Street Creative Hub, Student Rehearsal Program, Short Term Empty Property program and the Accommodation Grants Program) staff regularly provide advice and guidance on creative use of space to a range of third parties. This includes individual artists, arts organisations, private property owners, developers, other levels of government and representative bodies. Organisations that staff have advised include Mirvac, Lend Lease, UrbanGrowth, Double Bay Chamber of Commerce and Walsh Bay Precinct Management.

Staff also regularly explore other opportunities for the delivery of infrastructure. One example is the Bathurst Street Greenland development, which was developed through the Voluntary Planning Agreement process and will provide a range of work spaces for music, visual arts, dance, theatre and media workers.

# POTENTIAL MERGER WITH WOOLLAHRA COUNCIL (\$103142)

7. By Councillor Scott

## Question

Does the Lord Mayor support the City of Sydney Council merging with Woollahra Municipal Council?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

No. My Lord Mayoral Minute to the Council meeting of 26 October 2015 seeks endorsement of the following resolution.

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) Affirm that the City of Sydney is 'Fit for the Future' and that no major structural change be undertaken to the City's boundaries at this time and confirm our position in the NSW Government's online portal; and
- (B) Note the IPART Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals and in particular the statement that the '*City of Sydney meets the financial criteria overall as a stand-alone council and its current and projected financial performance is strong.*'

# NO WESTCONNEX STEERING COMMITTEE (S103142)

8. By Councillor Scott

#### Question

How many times has the steering committee overseeing the work of the No WestConnex Community Organiser met?

Who attended the meeting of the steering committee on behalf of the City of Sydney?

Can Councillors be provided with minutes of the meeting via CEO Update?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

The steering committee has met twice.

The Lord Mayor is the City of Sydney's representative on the Steering Committee. When unable to attend, a delegate attends on her behalf.

Yes.

# REVIEW OF THE SYDNEY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN (S103142)

# **9.** By Councillor Scott

#### Question

On 18 May 2015, Council noted that "a review of the Sydney Development Control Plan and Local Environmental Plan is currently being undertaken, expected to be completed mid-2015, which includes consideration of controls for solar power".

Has the review been completed?

When will the results of the review be presented to Council for consideration?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City is currently reviewing the planning controls that apply to the conservation areas. This work will ensure that effective planning controls are in place to manage development in these complex and important areas. Staff have completed a survey of the areas, which comprise about 20,000 properties. The findings and recommendations are being prepared. The review has been extended is expected to be reported to Council in 2016.

# ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER DUAL NAMING SIGNAGE (S103142)

**10.** By Councillor Scott

#### Question

Will a separate feasibility report on installing permanent, appropriate dual naming signage be presented to Council?

If so, when? If not, what is the estimated timeframe for the installation of dual naming signage?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

As advised at the last meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee, this matter is currently being considered by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel. A report will be provided to Council at a later date.

# STREET ART POLICY (S103142)

**11.** By Councillor Scott

## Question

When will the City of Sydney's Street Art Policy be presented to Council?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

As advised in my response to a Question on Notice in August 2015:

"The Street Art and Graffiti Review is not finalised. Street art raises many complex issues about which there are greatly divergent views. Some of these complex issues still need to be fully worked through. Staff are committed to a carefully considered position and avoiding hasty implementation."

## CHILDCARE CENTRES (S103142)

**12.** By Councillor Scott

# Question

The City of Sydney is committed to funding six new childcare centres.

What is the address and location of each new childcare centre?

When will each of the six new childcare centres be opened?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

In 2013, the City's Child Care Needs Analysis identified a gap of 3,000 childcare places in the City. In response, Council endorsed the development of six new childcare centres, and allocated up to \$55 million in the City's long term financial plan to enable their construction.

The City has also worked to encourage development of childcare centres in the LGA. Since 2013, 553 additional childcare places have been created. At March 2015, 95 childcare centres were offering a total of 5,055 childcare places across the City LGA. In addition, development applications either approved (but not operating) or under assessment project a potential supply of an additional 2,588 places.

There are currently eight new child care centres under construction/proposed. They are:

- Bourke Street 277 Bourke Street, Darlinghurst Complete construction, March 2016 Opening, mid 2016.
- The Crescent 7 The Crescent, Annandale Complete Construction, March 2015 Opening, mid 2016.
- Huntley Street 67s Bourke Road, Alexandria Complete Construction, March 2016 – Opening, mid 2016.
- Sydney Park Sydney Park Road, Alexandria; pending Development Application approval.
- Green Square 3 Joynton Avenue, Zetland Complete Construction, October 2016 Opening, Jan 2017.
- 503-505 George Street, Sydney through a planning agreement, the City will receive at no cost, <u>2 child care centres</u> in a stratum lot of internal and external floor space on the highest level of the proposed building podium. The space will front George Street and be sufficient to accommodate two child care facilities each having a minimum capacity of 65 children ages 0-6 years. The City is yet to receive a Development Application however it is expected soon.

• Dunning Avenue, Rosebery - the City has conditioned the sale of its property located at this location with the provision of a 45 place child care centre.

# SKATEBOARD FACILITIES (S103142)

**13.** By Councillor Scott

## Question

In December 2013, Council noted a petition of over 3,000 signatures supporting increased investment and maintenance of skate facilities in the City of Sydney. At the same Council meeting, Council unanimously supported a notice of motion on skateboard facilities.

Have any further sites been identified in the City of Sydney for the location of skate facilities?

What is the address and location of sites for the location of skate facilities?

When will each of the four new skate facilities be opened?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

On 27 April 2015, Council resolved to note:

- (A) the Resolution of Council 'Skateboard Facilities' of 9 December 2013;
- (B) the completion of the Waterloo Park Youth Facility in 2012, the provision of skate facilities at Eddie Ward Park in 2009, and the development of plaza-style skate space during the renewal of Redfern Oval;
- (C) the scoping report for The Crescent of Johnstons Creek, adopted on 8 December 2014, which includes the provision of a skate park;
- (D) the Sydney Park Plan of Management, adopted on 12 May 2014, which includes a scoping study on skate facilities within Sydney Park; and
- (E) the design work to locate skate facilities and "skateable moments" within the Green Square renewal area, including Gunyama Park and Green Square Aquatic Centre, the South Sydney Hospital site and Matron Ruby Park.

The new skate facility at the Crescent Lands, Johnstons Creek is being designed in consultation with the community and is scheduled to commence construction in mid-2016.

City staff are preparing a brief to engage consultants to prepare a feasibility study for additional skate facilities in Sydney Park, and suitable locations within the Green Square urban renewal area, which will also involve consultation with the skate community and local stakeholders. The study is expected to be completed by June 2016 and will provide the basis for constructing facilities at these locations.

The feasibility study will also look at the use of portable skate facilities which can be moved between suitable sites in the council area.

A pop-up skate park, including supervised skate sessions, will be set up on the open space outside the Peter Forsyth Auditorium, Glebe on a monthly basis (one day per month) during January, February and March 2016.

# ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT (S103142)

**14.** By Councillor Scott

#### Question

In October 2013, Council resolved to support and provide requisite funds for the goal of removing asbestos from all Council-owned buildings and properties by 2030 as per the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency's National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management 2013-2018.

How many Council-owned buildings are contaminated by asbestos?

Since October 2013, how many Council-owned buildings have been completely decontaminated of asbestos and at what cost?

Over the City's Long Term Financial Plan, how much has been set aside to fund the removal of asbestos from Council-owned buildings?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

As advised in my response to a Question on Notice in October 2013:

"The City of Sydney owns approximately 220 buildings. Several of these were constructed during an era when asbestos was a common building material. Consequently, the City conducts formal periodic hazardous materials (asbestos) audits based on a risk assessment of the property portfolio, with reference to known instances of the presence of asbestos and results of previous audits.

In all known cases of the presence of asbestos, it is in a location where it is not possible for staff or the public to come in contact with it, for example, in a roof or other confined spaces. For this reason, the City has not costed its removal. However, all building refurbishment projects consider the safe removal of asbestos and fund this where appropriate."

Since October 2013, the City has continued with asbestos removal as part of our buildings capital works program. Several projects have reduced asbestos within City-owned buildings, (e.g. Sydney Town Hall (Clock Tower), Paddington Town Hall, Pyrmont Community Centre).

As these projects only upgraded parts of the building and not the entire building, asbestos removal only occurred in the parts upgraded. Therefore, the total number of buildings being monitored remains at similar levels to October 2013, however, the amount of asbestos in the buildings has been reduced.

The City's Long Term Financial Plan accommodates the capital works future years' program, including projects which will address asbestos removal as part of overall projects.

# **BOARDING HOUSES POSITION PAPER (S103142)**

**15.** By Councillor Scott

# Question

In March 2014, Council requested that the Chief Executive Officer prepare a position paper on boarding houses in the City.

When will the position paper be presented to Council for consideration?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City has prepared and invited feedback on its Housing Issues Paper to encourage debate on key issues associated with housing supply, diversity and affordability and to inform a new Housing Policy for the City of Sydney.

Boarding houses, along with affordable rental housing, social housing, student housing and private market housing, are an important part of the range of housing types and tenures needed for a diverse community. All of these housing types, including boarding houses, are addressed through the Housing Issues Paper.

Boarding houses, typically delivered through the private housing market, can provide lowcost, temporary and crisis accommodation. They are a rental housing model that typically provides smaller private living spaces coupled with communal spaces. "New generation" boarding houses can also contribute to the supply of rooms for students and young professionals wanting to live closer to the city centre. Boarding houses do not necessarily constitute affordable housing supply, in that rents may exceed 30 per cent of a lower income household's income.

The City's Housing Policy, which is in development and scheduled to come forward in the second half of next year, will look to deliver the City's vision of an increased diversity of supply to meet the diverse housing needs of a global city to 2030 and beyond.

Recommendations to improve the supply of affordable, quality boarding houses, any need for further research and a specific action plan for boarding houses will be considered through the Policy.

# SAFEWORK NSW (S103141)

**16.** By Councillor Mandla

#### Question

The City of Sydney has recently been the subject of media attention concerning investigations by SafeWork NSW. Can the Lord Mayor inform us:

- 1. Have notices to produce documents been served upon the City of Sydney, its Officers or Agents in respect of inquiries by SafeWork NSW?
- 2. Have notices to give evidence to provide information been served upon the City of Sydney, its Officers or Agents in respect of inquiries from SafeWork NSW?
- 3. Have the notices (should they exist) been complied with?

The City cooperates with all external statutory agencies, including SafeWork NSW, and complies with requests for information as required by legislation.

- 1. Yes. The City received two S155 notices under the WHS Act from SafeWork NSW (formerly Workcover) on 7 July 2015 to provide documents.
- 2. No notices to give evidence to provide information have been served upon the City of Sydney, its Officers or Agents in respect of inquiries from SafeWork NSW.
- 3. Yes the City has complied with the S155 notices.

# EAST VILLAGE - GADIGAL AND WOLSELEY INTERSECTION (S103141)

**17.** By Councillor Mandla

#### Question

Following ongoing collaboration with staff from the City of Sydney since December 2014, a final Traffic Control Signal (TCS) plan has been approved by RMS for the intersection of Gadigal Avenue and Wolseley Grove, Zetland, on September 17 2015.

The RMS has stated that they met with the City of Sydney to provide guidance to Council on their expectations for TCS plans and to assist in solving technical issues in order to expedite approvals, but the initial plan submitted by the City of Sydney had issues, contributing to lengthy delays.

- 1. How many similar projects (TCS plans) in the last 24 months has the City of Sydney worked on with the RMS?
- 2. What was the average completion time of these projects?
- 3. Why did the City of Sydney not work further with the RMS to ensure that the submission had no issues, to ensure an expedited process for this new intersection in Zetland?
- 4. Has the City of Sydney had any complaints or correspondence from residents in regard to this intersection?
- 5. How many people have contacted the City of Sydney in regard to this intersection in the last 12 months?
- 6. How many people have contacted the City of Sydney in regard to this intersection in the last 6 months?
- 7. How many people have contacted the City of Sydney in regard to this intersection in the last 3 months?
- 8. How many people have contacted the City of Sydney in regard to this intersection in the last 1 month?
- 9. Were there any other factors, such as money, resources or manpower that contributed to the situation?

- 1. Between October 2013 and October 2015, the City has delivered four new signalised intersections across the Local Government Area.
- 2. The time taken for Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to approve a Traffic Control Signal (TCS) Plan is significantly dependent on the complexity of the project and subject to RMS resourcing, priorities and administrative procedures. Given each project is different in both complexity and scale, it is difficult to quantify an "average time" for RMS approval.

However, once the City receives RMS approval, the average completion time for each project is eight weeks.

- 3. City staff worked collaboratively with representatives from RMS throughout the project and were in weekly communication to achieve approval of the Traffic Control Signal Plan.
- 4. The City has received multiple enquiries about the intersection of Gadigal Avenue and Wolseley Grove, Zetland. City staff have proactively provided regular updates through various mediums about the new traffic signals to local residents, businesses, Councillors and the Member for Heffron. City staff have also attended the Green Square Infohub on multiple occasions to meet with local residents and businesses face-to-face and discuss their concerns.
- 5-8. The cumulative total of formal written correspondence is shown below:

| Timeframe | 12 months | 6 months | 3 months | 1 month |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Total     | 73        | 24       | 6        | 2       |

9. It is unlikely that any additional City resources or budget would have expedited the project.

# RANGERS' UNIT SECONDMENTS (S103141)

**18.** By Councillor Mandla

#### Question

In August 2015, I asked a question about the Management of the Rangers Unit, where it was stated that, on 30 September 2015, there would be three secondments in the Rangers' Unit ending, including Manager, City Rangers, Operations Manager, City Rangers and Operations Co-Ordinator, City Rangers.

In September 2015, I asked a question about the City of Sydney Employee Development Opportunities and Statistics, and it was answered that "there is one employee currently on secondment within the rangers unit" and "no secondments in the Ranger's Unit finished early."

Could the Lord Mayor please answer:

- 1. Which Question on Notice answer is correct?
- 2. Why were these answers not consistent?

3. Are there any other answers included in either of these Questions on Notice that you would like to amend?

# Answer by the Lord Mayor

The information provided for the August 2015 Question on Notice comprised all acting arrangements including both secondments and higher duties arrangements. The information provided for the September 2015 Question on Notice was specific to secondments only.

# ELIZABETH STREET, ZETLAND (S103141)

**19.** By Councillor Mandla

# Question

Could the Lord Mayor please answer:

- 1. Is the Cleansing team rostered to clean the strip of Elizabeth Street, Zetland, between Joynton Avenue and Merton Street?
- 2. If so, how often do they attend this specific area? Are there specific days or times that they are required to attend the area?
- 3. Has the frequency of visits from the Cleansing team increased in the last month?
- 4. If a constituent was wanting to increase the visits from the Cleansing team, how would they do this?

#### Answer by the Lord Mayor

Yes. The bus stops on Elizabeth Street are serviced daily prior to 8.30am and the street section of Elizabeth Street from Joynton Avenue to Bourke Street receives a weekly detailed clean each Friday.

The bus stops have been added to the weekend schedule and the area is inspected daily to ensure cleansing standards are being maintained.

Requests for additional cleaning can be made to the City's Customer Call Centre on 9265 9333. All requests are then assessed by the cleansing team and adjustments made to the cleaning schedules, if required.

# **ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FUNDING (S103141)**

**20.** By Councillor Mandla

# Question

Recently, the City of Sydney instated a Resilience Officer that is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of the 100 Resilient Cities initiative.

Could the Lord Mayor please answer:

1. Does the Rockefeller Foundation fund the full salary of the Resilience Officer?

- 2. Does the Rockefeller Foundation fund any expenses of the Resilience Officer, such as travel, conference attendance, stationery etc.?
- 3. Have any roles within the City of Sydney been created to assist the Resilience Officer?
- 4. Does the Rockefeller Foundation fund any other roles within the City of Sydney that have been created to assist the Resilience Officer?
- 5. Has the City of Sydney funded any costs in relation to the hiring/retention of the Resilience Officer and the department?
- 6. Was there any public consultation regarding this position?
- 7. Was there any public consultation regarding the funding of this position by the Rockefeller Foundation?
- 8. In the future, would there be public consultation regarding similar circumstances?

The Rockefeller Foundation funds the full salary of the Resilience Officer and travel and attendance to 100 Resilient Cities Conferences.

One existing position has been revised to provide project support. The Rockefeller Foundation does not fund other roles and the City funds overheads associated with the position.

In 2006, Sustainable Sydney 2030 was produced after the most comprehensive community consultation in the history of our city. Sustainable Sydney 2030 touches on many of the issues that will be addressed by the Resilient Cities initiative, including housing, transport, innovation and sustainability.

The Lord Mayor and Councillors were notified in January 2015 through a CEO update of the City's successful application to become a member of the program, including the plan to recruit a Chief Resilience Officer. The role was publicly advertised for three weeks, via the City's usual recruitment channels.

# FILLING THE POSITION OF MANAGER, RANGERS' UNIT (S103141)

**21.** By Councillor Mandla

#### Question

- 1. Lord Mayor, I seek your confirmation that Judith Carpenter and Associates have been retained by Council to advertise, interview and recommend a selected person to be appointed as the next Manager of the Rangers' Unit of Council. Is this the case?
- 2. Lord Mayor, I seek your assurance that the advertising of this position has occurred Australia wide. Is this the case?
- 3. What is the timeline for the selection and appointment to this position?
- 4. Lord Mayor, could you please indicate:

- a. Will Judith Carpenter and Associates solely decide which candidates will be offered interviews for the position of Manager Ranger with Council?
- b. Will any Council staff be involved in the selection and interview process?
- c. What will be the process for selecting the candidates to be interviewed for this position?
- d. Will a short list of candidates be made available to the City of Sydney; if not, what other process will the recruitment of this position entail?
- 5. Lord Mayor, will you give your assurance that only candidates with tertiary qualifications and a proven record of achievement will be considered for selection?
- 6. Lord Mayor, will you give your assurance that only the best possible candidates will be considered to drive the necessary cultural change desperately needed to lead and turn around the performance of the Rangers' Unit which is an important operation of Council?
- 7. Are there any specific key performance indicators that have been set for the new person to be appointed to this position? If so, what are they?
- 8. As part of the selection and / or appointment process and / or criteria, what qualitative and quantitative key performance indicators will be set?
- 9. The advertisement for this position suggests the requirement "delivering commercial outcomes to ensure Council provides value for services." What does this mean?
- 10. How long will the contract for this position be?
- 11. Is it possible for the contract to be for a maximum of two years with a renewal clause to be ratified by Council after a report on the results achieved?

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the recruitment, selection and appointment of staff. The recruitment of the position will be conducted in accordance with the City's Recruitment and Selection Policy.